
U.S. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Bamako-Senou Airport Expansion Feasibility Study

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U.S. Firm: AAROTEC, Inc.
Main Contact Name: Mr. Guillermo Ubilla
Current Phone: 703-573-0500
Fax: 703-573-0503
E-Mail: gubilla@aarotec.com

Project Sponsor: Ministry of Transportation & Public Works
Main Contact Name: Mr. Harouna Niang
Current Phone: 223-21-92-08
Fax: 223-21-21-34

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1. INTRODUCTION

AAROTEC Infrastructure Group, Inc. in association with the local architectural office of Cabilass and Groupement D'Ingenieurs Conseils pour le Development (GID) were selected by the Ministry of Transportation and Public Works of the Republic of Mali as the consultants to carry out the feasibility study of the, expansion and modernization of the Bamako-Senou International Airport.

1.1 Background

Mali is the largest country in Western Africa, with a total land area of 1,240,192 square meters. The great Niger River traverses the southeastern section of the country. It has a diverse topography and boasts such natural resources as gold, untapped copper deposits, phosphates, uranium bauxite and iron ore. Despite the large land area and the subtropical climate, only 2% of the land is arable. Bamako is the capital and the country's chief administrative, commercial, financial and transportation center. The population of Bamako is currently around 1,100,000.

1.2 Airport Background

The first airport to serve Bamako with a 500 meter long runway was established in the region of Hamdallaye.

The introduction of wide-body aircraft rendered the old airport in Hamdallaye obsolete. In 1961, the present airport site was selected (15 kilometers south of Bamako) and overall construction begun in 1968. The first aircraft landed in October, 1974 and the terminal was inaugurated in December, 1975. The new airport's name was changed to "Bamako-Senou" due to its proximity to the city of Senou. The airport covers an area of approximately 7,000 hectares. Subsequent construction by the Belgian company AST added the technical block (control tower, ARFF, etc.) and the air cargo building.

1.3 Study Goals, Objectives and Tasks

Today, the following air carriers operate scheduled flights at Bamako-Senou: Air Mali, Air Afrique, Air France, Air Algerie, Royal Air Maroc, Air Guinee, Ghana Airways, Air Burkina, Air Mauritania, Sabena, and Ethiopian Airlines.

The goals of the Bamako-Senou Airport expansion are:

- To increase the infrastructure capacity of the airport,
- To increase aviation and airport-related revenues, and
- To meet existing and future demand for passenger and air cargo traffic.

The goals of the feasibility study are:

- To recommend construction phasing of the proposed airport development,
- To determine costs associated with the proposed development plan,
- To determine the financial viability of the project and sources of funding, and
- To determine any adverse environmental effect of the proposed development.

A main objective of this project is to establish a firm basis for modernizing and upgrading the airport to enable its long-term development,

The tasks contained in the Terms of Reference for the Study, which were addressed in this report, include:

- Collecting and compiling existing data on the airport.

Preparing air traffic forecasts.

Comparing demand with the condition and capacity of existing airport facilities, and determining airport facility and infrastructure requirements.

Developing preliminary layouts for airport facilities to include airport and passenger terminal layout plans for phased development over a twenty-year period.

- Developing capital costs estimates.
- Providing information on U.S. airport suppliers and manufacturers
- Performing a preliminary environmental impact assessment.
- Developing operations cost estimates and revenue estimates.
- Conducting a complete financial analysis and preparing a financing plan.

1.4 Conclusion

The study concludes that the needed expansion and modernization of the Bamako-Senou Airport can be financed through a twenty-year BOT type concession for its development and operation.