

French civil aviation authority

Department of INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



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DE LA TRANSITION
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Ministry for an ecological and solidary transition

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INTRODUCTION

Convinced of the benefits of civil aviation on the development of exchanges between countries, France is eager to share her experience on the matter extensively. France relies on more than a century of aeronautical history, as well as on many world leading companies employing over 180,000 people, but also on top level academies recognized by all the biggest organizations worldwide. Consequently, the General Directorate of Civil Aviation has established the Department of International Cooperation. Its members work as “ambassadors” of DGAC and its 11,000 staff. Each of them, assigned with a specific regional area, acts as a project manager, presenting and offering DGAC expertise overseas, in a spirit of mutual understanding. Their action also highlights France’s commitment to take part in the ICAO initiative “No Country Left Behind”.

Patrick Gandil, General Director





DGAC headquarters, Paris

THE FUNDAMENTALS OF OUR MISSION

EXPERTISE IN ALL FIELDS OF CIVIL AVIATION

Aviation is a complex system, involving many stakeholders. In this regard, the Department of International Cooperation holds an important asset as it can rely on a whole range of expertise gathered at the DGAC and necessary for the organization of air transport: regulatory functions (economic regulation, security), safety oversight and provision of air navigation services.

A STATE OF MIND: WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE LONG TERM

The Department of International Cooperation aims to develop partnerships tailored to the needs expressed by foreign CAAs, to comply with the standards and recommended practices of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), to prepare safety or security audits, or for countries close to the EU, to be in closer compliance with EU and EASA regulation. It envisions cooperation as a long-term action to ensure that each partner country can reinforce, in a sustainable fashion and to the required level, the skills of its civil aviation authorities.

COOPERATION TAILORED TO THE NEEDS AND CONTEXT OF THE REQUESTING COUNTRIES

Each country has its own history, its own organization and its own ambitions. This is why the Department of the International Cooperation offers cooperation which is not based on a "one size fits all principle" but which is tailored to specific needs.

THE CONTENT OF OUR ENGAGEMENT

ASSISTANCE TO CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITIES FOR THEIR REORGANIZATION AND FOR THE COMPLIANCE OF THEIR REGULATIONS WITH ICAO STANDARDS

ICAO elaborates standards and recommended practices (SARPs) and policies on safe and reliable international civil aviation, whose development must be economically durable and ecologically responsible. The DGAC assists many States in making their domestic operations and regulations consistent with these standards.

In Cambodia, from 2007 to 2012, the DGAC helped the authorities to comply with international standards for the certification of Phnom Penh and Siem Reap airports and to develop their own regulations for oversight of their air navigation service provider.

ASSISTANCE TO CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITIES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SUSTAINABLE SAFETY OVERSIGHT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Safety is at the heart of the fundamental objectives of ICAO, which verifies the implementation of its standards, recommended practices and procedures through its Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP). France regularly helps other countries to improve their organization, such as assisting them in establishing their State Safety Program (SSP) and organizations' Safety Management Systems (SMS).

Between 2012 and 2015, the DGAC assisted the authorities of the Philippines to reinforce the system of monitoring the State registered airlines, allowing those operators to gradually get off the European safety list.

SHARING OF EXPERIENCES AND THEMATIC EXPERTISE IN SEMINARS OR WORKSHOPS

Anxious to better adapt to the civil aviation needs of partner countries, the DGAC can organize workshops to exchange experiences with them, in Paris or on site.

In 2015, the DGAC welcomed two delegations of experts from the Brazilian ANAC in Paris to observe, on one hand, the French rules on drones and on the other hand, aircraft maintenance and SAFA controls (EASA regulation).

A STRONG PRESENCE IN EUROPEAN PROGRAMS AND TWINNING

France is one of the most involved countries in twinning programmes developed by the EU as part of its neighbourhood policy. As such, with its experts and an on-site resident for the duration of the contract (usually 2 years), France assists civil aviation authorities in raising their standards closer to those of the EU.

In 2014-2015, the DGAC led a twinning programme with Albania, also in partnership with the Romanian DGAC; this twinning programme mobilized fifty experts and focused on the oversight of air navigation services, the environment, regulatory alignment and safety. In 2017, the DGAC is leading 2 European twinning programmes with Tunisia and Turkey.



Graduation ceremony for the master created with the Airports Authority of India, March 2016

TRAINING EXPERTS FROM CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITIES AND FROM AIR NAVIGATION SERVICE PROVIDERS

Training, whether initial or ongoing, is essential to the functioning of civil aviation. Accordingly, the DGAC provides various forms of assistance, on site or in France.

TRAINING AT ENAC

Europe's largest aerospace academy, ENAC was awarded "ICAO Regional Training Center of Excellence" label in 2014. In just over 60 years of existence, it has trained 12,000 students and foreign trainees originating from some 100 countries. The DGAC receives dozens of foreign trainees at ENAC annually, and subsidizes courses ranging from a few days to a full year. In September 2016, DGAC signed with ICAO an agreement representing a financial involvement of 1 million € over the period 2017-2019.

"ON THE JOB" TRAINING

The DGAC can organize "on-the-job training" on site.

In 2015, the DGAC trained Vietnamese civil aviation inspectors responsible for conducting audits of airlines' on-the-ground and in-flight operations, the control of aircraft airworthiness and the oversight of maintenance workshops.

ASSISTANCE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE ON SITE SOLUTIONS

In order to create lasting conditions for favourable on-site staff training, the DGAC can help civil aviation authorities create or improve their own educational system.

In 2015, the DGAC, ENAC and the AAI (Airport Authority of India) created the specialized master's degree in "Air Navigation Service provider Management" whose classes are conducted at the Civil Aviation Training College of Hyderabad.

A SIGNIFICANT PARTICIPATION IN ICAO AND EASA PROGRAMMES

France supports ICAO and EASA commitment to specifically promote aviation safety around the world, and therefore proposes its expertise through several programmes of these organizations.

The DGAC participates in the programmes COSCAP (Cooperative Development of Operational Safety and Continuing Airworthiness Programmes) for North Asia, Southeast Asia and South Asia, as well as FPP (Flight Procedures programmes) for Asia-Pacific and Africa, ASIAP (Aviation Safety Implementation Assistance Partnership) and the specific technical assistance programme in Madagascar, among others. Moreover, 6 French experts are made available to ICAO on a permanent basis.

CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS WITH LEADING AVIATION INDUSTRY COMPANIES

The DGAC has the ability to connect the authorities of partner countries with the most qualified companies in the fields of civil aviation: Airbus Group, ATR, Thales, Safran, Bureau Veritas, DSN Services, Egis Avia, OSAC, Vinci Airports, Paris Aéroports Group, Cohor, etc.

Some of these companies sometimes sponsor specialized master's courses or support missions. Others are involved alongside the DGAC in thematic seminars, as it was the case in Brazil in March 2015 on the topic of regional aviation development.



From 2011 to 2015, the DGAC funded training at ENAC **463 professionals** of partner civil aviation authorities from **63 countries**.



The DGAC is involved in **47 bilateral technical cooperation agreements**.



Since 2005, the DGAC has conducted **7 European twinning** programmes in the civil aviation field: Lithuania, Ukraine, Serbia, Kosovo, Albania, Turkey and Tunisia.



€ 1 million over 3 years, is the amount the DGAC has devoted to its cooperation agreement with ICAO, signed in September 2016, for its training plan for civil aviation professionals.

SOME ACHIEVEMENTS

ENGAGEMENT WITH KOSOVO

Between 2010 and 2013, the DGAC engaged in a European twinning programme with the civil aviation authorities of Kosovo. Given its success, this twinning was followed by a bilateral cooperation agreement between DGAC and Kosovo CAA. Among the most significant actions in this context, it is worth mentioning regular participation of CAA executives in seminars at ENAC in areas of air navigation and airworthiness as well as in 2 specialized master's degrees. Furthermore, the DGAC has helped certify CAA's air navigation service provider. This active cooperation has allowed Kosovo to be better integrated in the international community of civil aviation.

ASSISTANCE TO MADAGASCAR

Since 2014, Madagascar benefits from an assistance programme to strengthen her civil aviation oversight capabilities. This programme, funded by France through ICAO's SAFE fund, has two components: first, an assistance contract led by the French company Egis Avia, which aims to help the Malagasy authorities to comply with international standards and to recruit airworthiness inspectors and air operations; second, an exchange programme between DGAC inspectors and their Malagasy counterparts. In 2016, Air Madagascar was withdrawn from the EU safety list.

CHINA – THE SINO-EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF CIVIL AVIATION OF TIANJIN

In 2007, the civil aviation authorities of France (DGAC) and China (CAAC) established the Sino-European Institute of Civil Aviation (SIAE) in Tianjin. This highly specialized aeronautical engineering school is the result of an ideal partnership between the University of Civil Aviation of China (CAUC) and the 3 large French aeronautical schools, ENAC, ISAE and ENSMA. When created, it received financial support from the French ministries of education, transport, foreign affairs and defence. It benefits the support of the largest French and European industrial aeronautical companies: Airbus Group, Safran and Thales. This cooperation helps train hundreds of future Chinese airline executives over a time period of 6 years. In 2016, SIAE's graduated its third class.



Official ceremony for the launching of the European twinning with Tunisia, November 2016



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