

INVESTING IN TRANSPORT

Colombia Expands Aviation Hub

EL DORADO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT in Bogota is a key gateway from the U.S. to Colombia — and to the rest of Latin America. BOG is Colombia's main international hub for air cargo and passenger traffic. In fact, passenger traffic is projected to reach 33 million people next year.



This kind of growth in aviation supports sustainable development and drives broader economic growth. Increases in air traffic can create jobs, boost tourism and unlock markets. For these reasons, officials in Colombia have been focused on expanding BOG and other airports for the last several years.

Aerocivil, Colombia's civil aviation authority, recognized the importance of addressing capacity constraints at BOG in order to prevent bottlenecks, which would translate into regional and even worldwide congestion, given the high volume of international traffic. To address this challenge, they asked for USTDA's assistance in updating the airport's master plan to improve capacity and strengthen connectivity between Bogota and the surrounding region.

Aerocivil selected T.Y. Lin International (TYLI), an engineering services firm headquartered in San Francisco, CA, to perform the work under the USTDA feasibility study. After being introduced to this initial opportunity and completing the work successfully, TYLI was able to compete for — and win — subsequent contracts in Colombia.

Their work under the USTDA grant helped TYLI enter and succeed in a key market. In fact, TYLI has since opened its first office in Colombia and hired more staff in the U.S. to support its expansion. As BOG's recent growth illustrates, Colombia remains a promising market for TYLI and other U.S. companies.



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BUILDING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR GROWTH

Well-functioning transportation networks — air, surface and maritime — are critical to an economy’s ability to grow. USTDA has decades of experience in helping its partner countries modernize their transportation infrastructure in order to facilitate the movement of people and goods, both within and across borders. From providing technical assistance that supports trade facilitation, to piloting U.S. technologies for customs systems at borders, to modernizing “hard” infrastructure at ports, railways and airports, USTDA introduces high-performing U.S. solutions that can increase capacity, enhance efficiency and improve safety.

USTDA’s public-private partnerships provide a platform for aviation officials to address safety and security priorities in high-growth aviation markets. They also support the expansion of airport infrastructure and the emergence of

business aviation in these markets. U.S. businesses have generated significant exports as a result of the Agency’s investments in these areas, demonstrating the value of advanced U.S. technologies and services, including security equipment as well as communications and air traffic management systems.

USTDA pursues opportunities to advance the growth of freight rail systems, driving the demand for efficient and reliable locomotive technologies as well as the need for communications and control systems that maintain safe operations. The integration of urban transportation systems and efficient linkages to port infrastructure is also an increased focus.

USTDA expects that intermodal linkages and energy efficient technologies will play even stronger roles in the future, as its partners seek more sustainable communities and increased roles in international trade.

THE GREENING OF TRANSPORTATION

In FY 2015, several of USTDA’s overseas partners undertook efforts to increase the energy efficiency of their transportation systems. The Agency sponsored activities designed to introduce U.S. solutions that could help them improve efficiency and reduce emissions in the air, on land and by sea.



AVIATION

Reduce fuel consumption by introducing air traffic management solutions in Vietnam and the Philippines



TRAFFIC CONTROL

Address congestion by deploying intelligent transportation systems in Guadalajara, Mexico, home of 1.5 million people



PORTS

Pilot communications systems to reduce emissions and improve energy efficiency at up to 6 seaports in China



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