

Press Release – October 12, 2021

Meridiam signs Donsin-Ouagadougou airport concession

Meridiam signed today with the state of Burkina Faso a 30-year concession for the Design, Construction, Financing, Operation and Maintenance of the New International Airport of the country located 35 kilometres Northeast of the capital city Ouagadougou in Donsin region. The engineering-construction, estimated to last 30 months, should start at the end of 2022 after financial close. The new airport will be able to handle 1 million passengers annually, when it comes into service.

Meridiam is partnering with Aéroport Marseille-Provence (AMP), which will bring its expertise to the project through a technical assistance contract, and a minority equity stake in the project company.

The project, which represents a total investment of more than €220 million, is an emblematic flagship example of a large-scale public-private partnership. It intends to contribute to making the Donsin airport a showcase for the country and a catalyst for economic development. The airport aims also at bringing substantial benefits and to improve the living standards of the local communities:

- The new airport will replace the existing Ouagadougou-Taamsê International Airport, first built in the 1960s and located in the densely populated city centre. Moving the airport to Donsin is expected to dramatically reduce the nuisance of air traffic for the inhabitants of the capital city and improve safety;
- 24 km of new drinking water pipelines will be built to serve the new airport as well as the local populations, the Ouaga 2 University and the village of Nomgana/Loumbila;
- A brand new 7-km electric loop will allow the new airport to be connected to the public grid, but also make it possible to connect economic and health infrastructure planned near the new airport;
- More than 130 kilometres of fibre optic will be installed to connect the site to the global high-speed network and support the economic development of businesses located at the new airport platform

The project aims at contributing to the United Nation Sustainable Goals, more particularly:

- **SDG 8-Decent work and economic growth.**

Once in operation, the total economic impact of the new airport is estimated at €420 million. During construction, direct and indirect job creation is expected to amount to

close to 5,000. While the jobs directly generated by airport activities should approximately amount to 1,400 employees during the operation.

- **SDG 13-Climate change.**

The airport will be designed and operated to minimise emissions and reduce energy consumption. A captive solar plant equipped with a storage system will be installed to provide 80% of the airport's electricity requirements.

- **SDG 16-Peace, justice and strong institution.**

Alongside Meridiam and Aéroport Marseille-Provence (AMP), the project is supported by various multilateral development and finance institutions. Project partners are committed to upholding anti-corruption, bribery and anti-discrimination values and strengthening the contracting authority's institutional capacity.

About Meridiam

Meridiam was founded in 2005 by Thierry Déau, with the belief that the alignment of interests between the public and private sector can provide critical solutions to the collective needs of communities. Meridiam is an independent investment Benefit Corporation under French law and an asset manager. The firm specializes in the development, financing, and long-term management of sustainable public infrastructure in three core sectors: sustainable mobility, critical public services and innovative low carbon solutions. With offices in, Addis Ababa, Amman, Dakar, Istanbul, New York, Luxembourg, Paris, Toronto and Vienna, Meridiam currently manages US\$18 billion and more than 100 projects to date. Meridiam is certified ISO 9001: 2015, Advanced Sustainability Rating by VigeoEiris (Moody's) and applies a proprietary methodology in relation to ESG and impact based on United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



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