

FACT SHEET

AIRPORT ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP

Under the recently released National Civil Airport Development Plan, China has announced plans to build 40 new airports by 2010 and an additional 57 by 2020. The CAAC plans to accomplish this steep growth with minimal environmental impact. In order to implement the CAAC's vision of environmentally-friendly aviation sector growth, USTDA, the FAA and CAAC launched the Airport Environmental Partnership which creates a framework for U.S.-China cooperation on reducing the environmental impacts from airport development and aviation practices. The Airport Environmental Partnership will draw on the resources of the U.S. aviation industry, which is highly active in efforts to promote green airports and mitigate environmental hazards from the movement of aircraft to the movement of passengers.

Several U.S. airport authorities, including the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, Chicago O'Hare International Airport, San Francisco International Airport, Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey have volunteered to participate in the U.S.-China Airport Environmental Partnership Program. These airports will exchange best practices from their individual facilities on common airport environmental issues, such as aircraft and vehicle emissions, terminal and airfield energy conservation, airport green construction projects, waste management and water quality. Through this collaboration, the Partnership's goal is to promote aviation safety, environmental protection, and trade between China and the United States. This should also lead to a more coherent and targeted approach in addressing aviation environmental issues of mutual interest to the United States and China.

The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) will provide policy guidance throughout the course of the Partnership, and the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) and the U.S.-China Aviation Cooperation Program (ACP) will identify priority environmental issues for joint cooperation, provide necessary personnel, and help design a U.S. study tour that meets our shared objectives for a cleaner environment. In addition, the U.S. Trade and Development Agency is supporting an Airport Environmental Best Practices study to develop an action plan and recommendations for eco-friendly airports in China. Recommendations will cover land use planning, management of water, waste, resources, energy and emissions, noise mitigation, recycling, alternative energy and indoor environment control. USTDA will also organize a study tour of U.S. airports that are leaders in environmental best practices.