

Press release
For immediate release
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UNOPS participates in kickoff meeting for development of new Mogadishu International Airport

Master Plan, Feasibility Study, ESIA and Preliminary Design Officially Launched, Milestone meeting brings together government institutions and partners to advance Somalia's strategic air transport infrastructure

- UNOPS participated in the official kickoff meeting for the New Mogadishu International Airport Master Plan, Feasibility Study, Preliminary Engineering Design, and Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), organized by the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation (MoTCA).
- The meeting marked the formal commencement of the feasibility study, aligning key government stakeholders and development partners on the project's scope, objectives, deliverables, and implementation approach.
- The project is being developed under the Somalia–Horn of Africa Infrastructure Integration Project (SHIIP), funded by the World Bank, with UNOPS serving as Project Manager and Technical Compliance partner for this initiative, among others.
- Planned for the Maaxaay area, approximately 30 km north of Mogadishu, the new airport will address growing passenger and cargo demand as Aden Adde International Airport reaches its operational limits.

The United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) today participated in the kickoff meeting for the New Mogadishu International Airport Master Plan, Feasibility Study, Preliminary Engineering Design, and Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), organized by the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation (MoTCA). The meeting brought together senior representatives from government institutions and development partners, marking an important milestone in advancing Somalia's strategic air transport infrastructure.

The launch meeting aimed to align key stakeholders on the study's objectives, scope, and implementation approach, while establishing a shared understanding of expected deliverables and institutional coordination. The project is led by the Federal Government of

Somalia in coordination with UNOPS and in alignment with World Bank requirements, laying a technically sound, sustainable, and bankable foundation for the future development of the new airport.

Speaking about the subject, Ala Arman, Head of Programme, UNOPS Somalia, said:

“This feasibility study is the first and essential step. It will help the Government make informed decisions based on sound technical, environmental, and social analysis. It lays the foundation for future investment and long-term development.”

The **Director General of the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation** added:

“This work is fully aligned with the government’s broader development priorities and our commitment to building resilient infrastructure and strong institutions. As MoTCA, we see our role not only as a regulator, but as a partner in shaping sustainable and coordinated development that supports economic growth and improved services.”

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Notes to the editors:

The new Mogadishu International Airport will be developed on a 20 km² site in the Maaxaay area, allocated and protected by the Federal Government of Somalia. The project aims to strengthen regional connectivity, facilitate trade and investment, and reinforce Mogadishu's role as a commercial hub in the Horn of Africa.

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About UNOPS

UNOPS offers practical solutions across peace and security, humanitarian and development operations. We help the United Nations, governments and other partners to manage projects, and deliver sustainable infrastructure and procurement across the world.

Read more: www.unops.org.

About the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation

The Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation of the Federal Government of Somalia is responsible for overseeing and developing the country's transport and civil aviation sectors, supporting safe, efficient, and sustainable infrastructure that contributes to national development and economic growth.