

Client: Equator Investments
Value: \$US 100million
Services: Airport (and terminal) planning and design; market analysis and forecasting; financial analysis
Project Duration: Mar 2010 – Oct 2010

Sao Tome International Airport

Airport Upgrade: Prefeasibility Study

The Task

Nurizon was appointed by the client to assess the financial feasibility of upgrading the existing airport on Sao Tome to capitalise on the island's strategic location and political stability in West Africa; particularly in terms of functioning as a stopover location for Middle Eastern airlines en route to South America, and for West African travel to the United States. The region was also linked to future oil and gas exploration activities.

Design Services

The prefeasibility study for the airport upgrade included a detailed market analysis and forecasting exercise, with the latter used as the basis for the airport and terminal planning aspects of the project. A financial model for the upgrade was also produced.

For the airport to accommodate the anticipated long haul aircraft traffic, the existing runway was to be extended into the sea using an armoured, promontory-type structure. Phased development plans were produced for the airport to safeguard areas in and around the aerodrome for future traffic growth. High level land-use zone plans, including an Industrial Development Zone (IDZ) were also part of the final submission, together with architectural renderings of the passenger terminal building.

The Result

The financial modelling deemed the airport upgrade project to be both profitable and sustainable, with a positive IRR value which was tested against 3 potential negative scenarios (sensitivity analysis).

