

Client: Rio Tinto Coal Mozambique (RTCM)
Value: US\$1.0 million (fees)
Services: Airport planning and design
Project Duration: Jan 2013 – July 2013

Tete International Airport, Mozambique

Airport Relocation: Site Selection and Evaluation

The Task

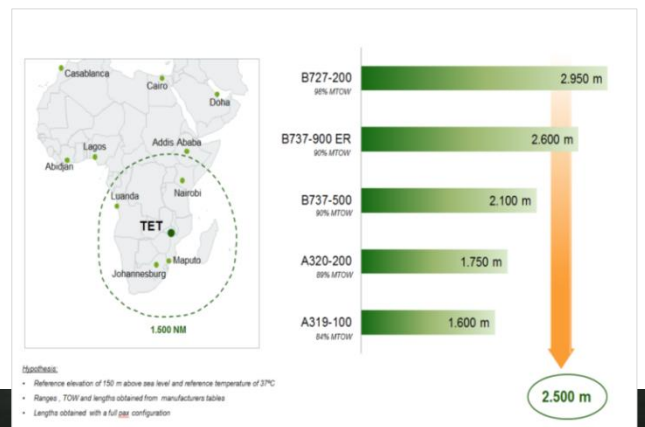
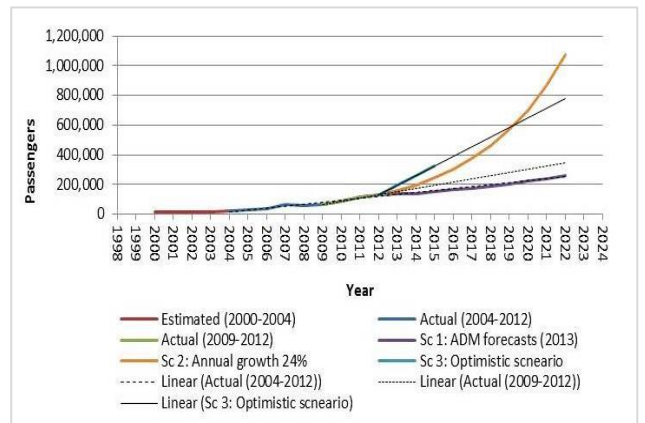
At time of report publication, the existing Tete Chingozhi International Airport was located within an exploratory mining rights concession, which the client proposed to mine in future to gain access to export quality thermal coal. Should explorations have revealed that the coal seam was feasible to mine, the relocation of the airport would have been necessary. Aurecon together with Nurizon was appointed to undertake the site selection and evaluation project.

Design Services

5 possible airport sites for the relocation were identified as part of a site identification desktop study; all within a 50km radius of Tete's CBD. These sites were evaluated against weighted criteria and scored to discount the number of sites to 3 possibilities. The criteria included:

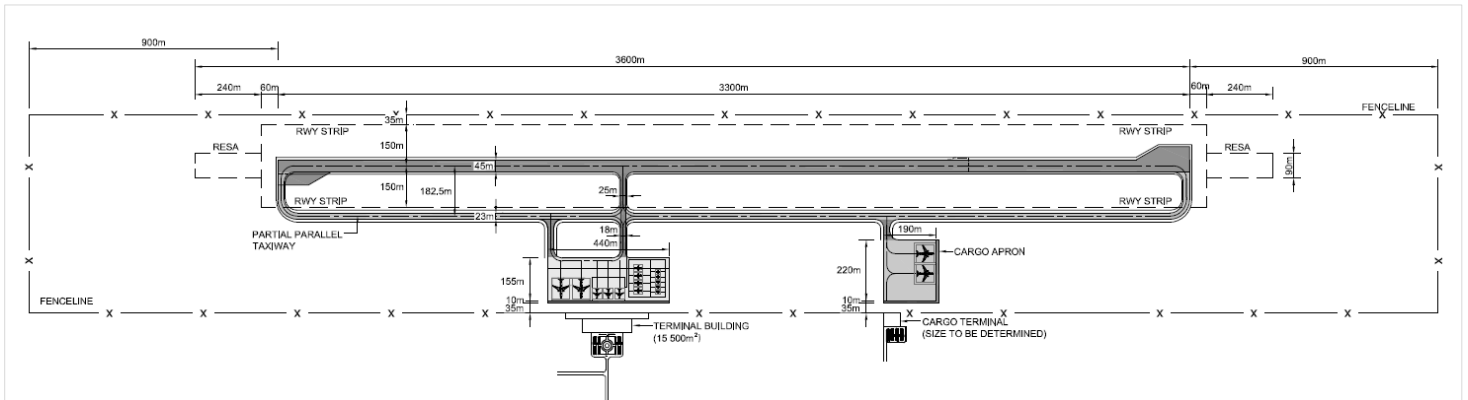
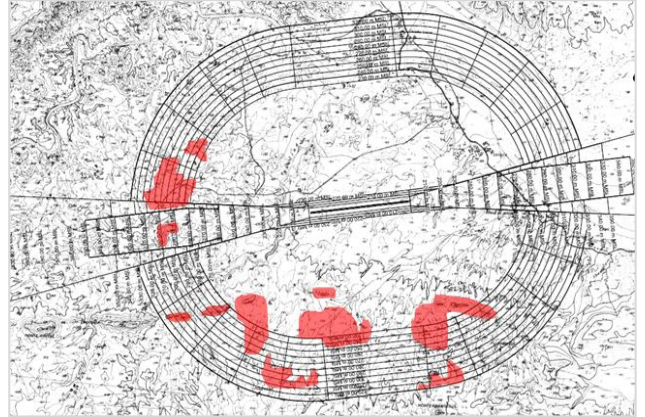
1. Operational capability;
2. Capacity potential;
3. Ground access;
4. Development costs;
5. Environmental factors; and
6. Area wide planning.

The Moatize Basin contains a large number of mining concession stakeholders and to identify a suitable site which took cognisance of concession rights as well as topographical constraints proved difficult. A site visit/data gathering exercise, along with a geotechnical investigation was undertaken in order to further evaluate the 3 remaining sites, along with a high-level airport planning exercise (including market analysis and forecasting exercise) to size airside and passenger terminal infrastructure for the proposed airport.



The Result

Each of the 3 sites was scored using a multi-criteria analysis technique to identify a preferred site for the possible airport relocation.



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