LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Air transport supported 2.6 million jobs and $13 billion in economic activity for LLDCs. That is 1.7% of all employment and 1.6% of all GDP in LLDCs in 2018.

Every person directly employed in the aviation sector and in tourism made possible by aviation supported another 12 jobs elsewhere in LLDCs. Similarly, $3.80 of economic activity was supported elsewhere in LLDCs for every $1 of gross value added directly created by the air transport sector.

The aviation sector in LLDCs directly employed an estimated 201,000 people in 2018 in the following sub-sectors:

- **Airlines**: 145,000 (72% of the total)
- **Airport operators**: 19,000 (10%)
- **Other on-airport**: 30,000 (15%)
- **Air navigation service providers**: 7,000 (3%)

Airlines, airport operators, retailers and other on-site businesses at airports and air navigation service providers and civil aircraft manufacturers also contribute to GDP in LLDCs. In 2018, the operations of these businesses directly generated an $2.7 billion contribution to GDP, equivalent to the entire GDP of Central African Republic.

The aviation sector’s spending with suppliers is estimated to have supported a further 78,000 jobs and a $669 million gross value-added contribution to GDP. In addition, wage payments to staff – by the aviation sector and businesses in the aviation sector’s supply chain – supported 76,000 more jobs and a $649 million gross value-added contribution to GDP.

In total, accounting for the sector’s direct impact, its supply chain impact, its wage expenditure impact, and the impact of tourism made possible by air transport, the aviation sector supported an estimated 2.6 million jobs and a $13.0 billion contribution to GDP in LLDCs in 2018.

Air travel in LLDCs is expected to continue to grow at about 3.6% per year over the next two decades. This increase will, in turn, drive growth in the economic output and jobs that are supported by the air transport industry over the next 20 years. Oxford Economics forecasts that by 2038 the impact of air transport and the tourism it facilitates in LLDCs will have grown to support 4.4 million jobs (67% more than in 2018) and a $32 billion contribution to GDP (a 146% increase).