



EU-South Asia Aviation Partnership Project II

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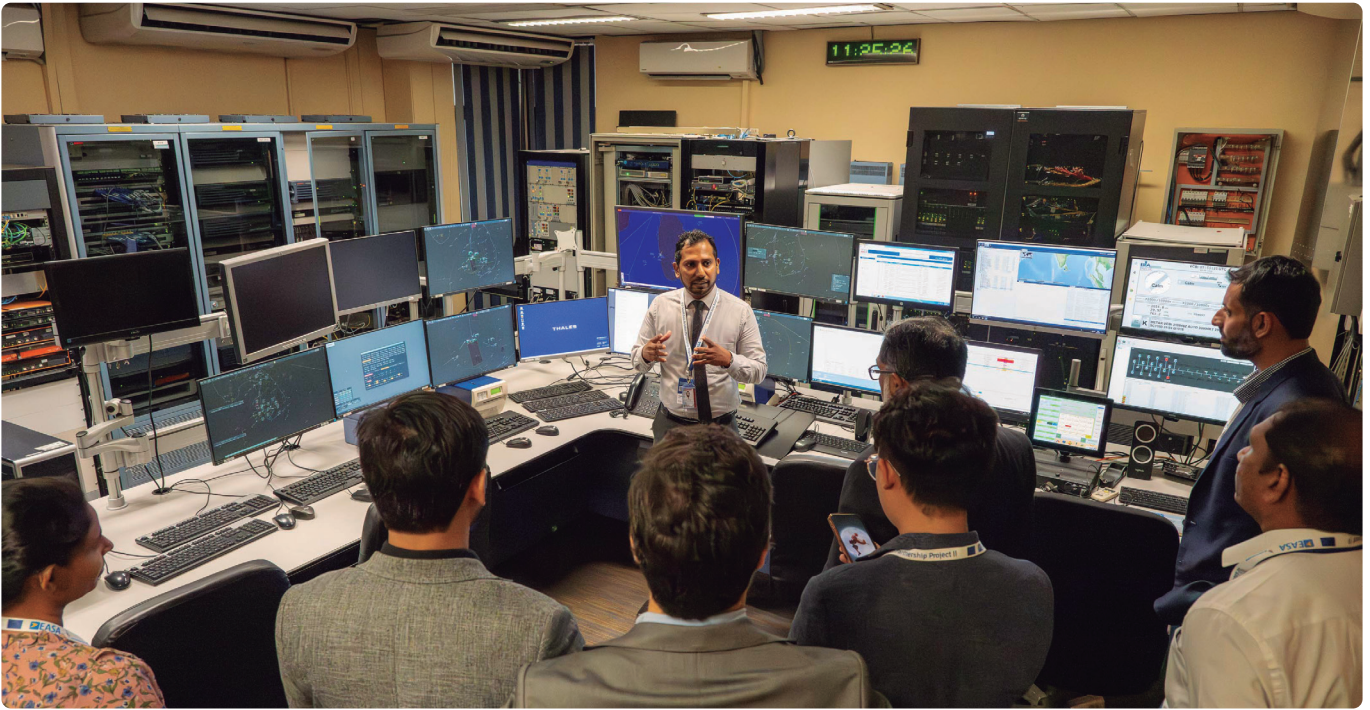


Centralised and Regional Air Navigation Services in Europe Workshop

SRI LANKA, 29 JANUARY – 2 FEBRUARY 2024

A five-day workshop aimed to enhance collaboration and knowledge exchange among South Asian countries with the participants from Civil Aviation Authorities (CAAs) in South Asia and relevant Air Navigation Service Providers (ANSPs) was delivered between 29th January and 22nd February 2024 in Sri Lanka, where the workshop facilitated a holistic understanding of European practices while tailoring discussions to the specific needs and challenges of the South Asian region, thereby fostering a collaborative approach to air navigation development led by the project's ATM/ANS experts, Germán Ignacio Meyer and Peder Alber. The experts covered the topics related





to the Evolution of European ATM/ANS services, Centralised flow and capacity management, CNS evolution, European regional IP communications network, PBN implementation, Civil-Military coordination, and Flexible Use of Airspace (FUA). Onsite visit of Sri Lanka's ATM/ANS facilities, coorganized with Airport & Aviation Services Sri Lanka (AASL) and Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka (CAASL), was a highlight of the activity, as it allowed the member states' participants to explore the facilities of their neighbors and discuss their respective challenges related to ATM and ANS operations and

modernization. Moreover, the participants combined their efforts in an exercise to discover possible ways of regional cooperation in Air Navigation. Throughout the workshop, stimulating presentations were also provided by the participants of the workshop, representing the member states' authorities and providers, as well as from the European industry by Juanjo Cornejo from Startical, Angel Crespo Perez from ENAIRE, and Jorge Minguez from Indra.

In total, over 50 participants attended the activity onsite, representing all of the project's partner countries: Bangla-

desh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation, Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva, have joined the opening ceremony, together with the high-level stakeholders from the CAASL, including Chairman, Vice Chairman and Director General. Chairman and Vice Chairman of AASL have participated, too. The Delegation of the European Union to Sri Lanka and the Maldives was also represented during the Gala dinner organized on the first day of the activity.



South Asia Regional Initiative (SARI)



Assistance to Sri Lanka in the area of Airworthiness

SRI LANKA, 9-29 JAN 2024

A three-week-long activity was conducted as the initial step toward meeting CAASL's requirements. This activity aimed to provide the CAASL with technical support to enhance their safety oversight capability in the Airworthiness domain through the development

of rules in line with the EU standards and ensuring their effective implementation. The first part of the activity focused on the root cause analysis, while the second part focused on differences between the EASA airworthiness regulations currently in force (Part ML,

Part CAMO, Part CAO, Part 145, Part 66, and Part 147) and the related Implementation Standards (IS) in Sri Lanka. The final topic for discussion addressed the management of change for organizations and state-level authorities.



Assistance to Nepal in the area of OPS and Aircrew

NEPAL, 22 JAN – 9 FEB 2024

The objective was to provide onsite support to CAAN officials in the ongoing development of OPS/Aircrew regulations per EASA standards and assist in the implementation process within both the regulatory body and the aviation industry. Following consultation with the EU-SA APP II office, a three-week-long onsite support was conducted. Following the completion of the

activity, the CAAN and the industry gained a comprehensive understanding of the findings related to OPS and Aircrew outlined in the EU mission's 2023 report. This further empowered them to better grasp the root analysis process and effectively address the issues highlighted in the EU report, including observations and recommendations. After the detailed gap analysis

carried out by the combined efforts of the expert and the CAAN officials, the authority will be empowered to initiate reforms and improve their system. The resulting impact on the system will be profound and effective, ultimately leading to a substantial improvement in the state's safety index.



SARI: Part 66 and 147 Working Group Members Meeting

PAKISTAN, 5-7 MAR 2024

After the successful WGM meetings held in the Maldives and in Sri Lanka, with the support of the EU - South Asia Aviation Partnership Project II, SARI organized another activity to update and revise Airworthiness Part 66 and Part 147 regulations of the SARI Member States. The objective of this activity was to align the Part 66 and Part 147 regulations of the SARI Member States with the latest revisions and updates of the EASA Airworthiness regulations.

With the collaboration of the Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority, the activity was arranged in Karachi, Pakistan between 5-7 March and the activity was led by a SARI Airworthiness expert Mr. Asmir Kruhovic. During this three-day event, substantial involvement was observed not just from the Civil Aviation Authorities of the Maldives, Nepal and Pakistan but also from the Pakistani industry. The expert educated the participants in detail on the significant revisions and

amendments introduced by EASA in the Part 66 and Part 147 regulations. He also described the reasons and philosophy behind these changes in the regulations by EASA. It presented a pivotal opportunity for SARI WGM to actively participate in discussions, exchange perspectives on proposed Regulation amendments, and acquire expertise, thereby nurturing a holistic comprehension of the changing dynamics within this field.



SARI: OJT for Aircrew Inspectors to audit ATOs

SRI LANKA, 11-15 MAR 2024

A five-day activity on a Regulatory Conformance audit was implemented by SARI and conducted on Sri Lankan ATO between 11-15 March 2024 by the SARI OPS/PEL expert Capt. Peter Wilczek. During this activity, the expert along with the CAASL team reviewed the audit checklists and educated the team on auditing techniques. The expert supervised the auditing of an ATO by the CAASL team and evaluated the effective implementation of the

requirements in Implementation Standards (IS) 67, IS 72 and the procedures laid in the ATO certification manual and PEL procedures manual) in relation to Manuals of the ATO including the Training records of pilots and Type Rating Instructors, FSTD, Record keeping of TRI/TRE, and Compliance Monitoring System. The scope of the audit will encompass all activities of the ATO Training and Procedure Manual approved by the CAA to ensure compli-

ance with IS 67, IS 72 and procedures in SLCAP 3090 and SLCAP 3010. Over the course of this five-day event, the team allocated three days at an ATO facility for conducting the audit, and two days at CAASL, primarily for audit preparation and conclusions. This exercise presents an opportunity for both CAASL and ATO officials to gain insight into the auditing process and effective implementation of the regulations.

The 3rd Project Management Board Meeting and the 15th SARI Steering Committee Meeting

COLOMBO, SRI LANKA, 18 MARCH 2024

On 18th March 2024, the 3rd Project Management Board Meeting and the 15th SARI Steering Committee Meeting were held in Colombo, Sri Lanka with the representatives of the member states from Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Maldives, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka to discuss the progress achieved since the last gathering, followed up by the endorsement of the work plan for 2024.





Following up on the discussions started last year towards a more independent and sustainable future of SARI, financial data for the different financing scenarios was presented to the participants of the SCM. After reviewing the financial details, all the partner states declared their collective endorsement of the continuation and enhancement of the SARI as an independent initiative, supported by the EU - South Asia Aviation Partnership Project II, and also their wish for a follow up project of the current EU-South Asia APP II to foster

cooperation, innovation, and sustainability in aviation across the region. This recognition signifies the overall benefits and impacts of the #SARI and the EU South Asia APP II and the intent to work closely with relevant stakeholders, including the European Commission, EASA, governmental bodies, industry partners, and international organisations, and was marked as the 'Colombo Declaration' signed on 21st March 2024 by representatives of all South Asian partner States.

This is a collective commitment to advancing aviation cooperation, innovation, and sustainability in the region, with the continued support of both the SARI and the EU - South Asia APP II and underscores the significance of strategic partnerships and collaborative efforts in driving forward aviation initiatives that will ensure the continuity and success of these essential projects in South Asia.





ANSP Certification and Continued Oversight Workshop

COLOMBO, SRI LANKA, 18-21 MARCH 2024

The third regional workshop under our ATM/ANS Initiative with the title ‘ANSP Certification and Continued Oversight Workshop’ was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka between 18-21 March 2024 with 60 participants in attendance from all the partner states.

The workshop provided a detailed and structured understanding of the European civil aviation regulatory and oversight landscape for ATM/ANS, covering various aspects from the regulatory framework to the certification processes and equipment conformity assessment. The agenda unfolded over four days, each focusing on key aspects of air navigation. Target participants included members from the Civil Avia-

tion Authorities in South Asia and relevant Air Navigation Service Providers (ANSPs). The activity was delivered by the project experts Germán Meyer, Peder Alber, Daniel Cruz, and with contributions from EASA ATM/ANS expert Laszlo Kiss and EU industry and services providers Winkelbauer Werner and Rebecca Lindner-Zimmermann from Frequentis, and Jose María Lorenzo from ESSP SAS.



TOGETHER THEY COVERED THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

- Overview of the European Civil Aviation Regulatory Framework
- Organisational Structures for ATM/ANS in Europe
- European ATM/ANS Regulatory Framework for Services Provision and Certification
- ATM/ANS Services Providers Certification Process in Europe
- ATM/ANS Inspections and Safety Management
- Funding and economic oversight of ATM/ANS
- New European Framework on Conformity Assessment for ATM/ANS ground equipment
- Remote / digital towers implementation and change management
- The perspective from EU Industry and Service Providers regarding certification of ANSPs and conformity assessment for ground equipment
- Exercise on Regional Cooperation and Harmonisation

Notably, at the beginning of the workshop, the Airport & Aviation Services Sri Lanka and the Maldives National Air Traffic Service (formerly MACL), signed an operational agreement to deepen the cooperation between the two entities.

Advancing aviation cooperation in the region is at the heart of the EU - South Asia Aviation Partnership Project II, and since its commencement it provides a platform for regional cooperation, underscoring the significance of strategic partnerships and collaborative efforts in the aviation sector in South Asia.



The EU-South Asia aviation Partnership Project II was conceived as a follow-up to the preceding project, which ended in 2020. It will ensure continuing outreach in the aviation sector with the Authorities in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

The main project objective is to enhance the partnership between the EU and the South Asian Region in the domain of Civil Aviation. Global Aviation is facing more and more demanding challenges every day to maintain and increase the level of safety to achieve more efficient, accessible, and environmentally friendly aviation. A regional approach to these challenges has proven to be the best way to address these issues so that experiences could be shared and synergies be created.

IMPLEMENTED THROUGH REGIONAL ACTIVITIES THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT ARE:

- 1- Institutional Links
- 2- EU-SA Market Access
- 3- EU Common Rules and Environmental Protection



At a glance the EU-SA Aviation Partner Project II aligns EU and SA in the field of Civil Aviation.



Implemented by the European Union Aviation Safety Agency.



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