



The 'Clean Sky' Initiative



Objectives, milestones and deliverables

Air transport is of key importance for European growth and competitiveness. The sector generates around 2.6% of EU GDP and employs over three million people. It is currently confronted with important challenges.

These include the need to reduce the contribution of the sector to climate change and noise generation. Air transport is currently a relatively small source of greenhouse gas emissions, but its share is rapidly growing.

Furthermore, the European aeronautics industry is operating in an increasingly strong global market. For example, while private investment in civil aeronautics research is broadly equivalent, public investment in Europe is only a quarter of that in the United States.

In order to rise to these challenges and ensure the earliest possible deployment of clean air transport technologies, the ACARE (Advisory Council for Aeronautics Research in Europe) European Technology Platform has defined a Strategic Research Agenda.

This indicates that the major technological advances needed for the greening and competitiveness of air transport can only be achieved if public and private resources are mobilised and coordinated across Europe. The "Clean Sky" Joint Technology Initiative provides a framework for this to happen.

Clean Sky envisages that innovative, greener technologies will be ready for industrial application within a seven-year timeframe. New technologies will be developed starting in early 2008, and test flights will be conducted from 2012. By 2014, the project should give rise to successful prototypes, whose results can be exploited by aeronautics companies.

Clean Sky aims to reduce CO₂ (carbon dioxide) aviation emissions by 20-40%, NO_x (nitrous oxides) by 60% and perceived noise by half, by 2020. The reduction in emissions and noise around airports will enhance European citizens' health and wellbeing.

In addition, Clean Sky aims to reduce the impact of the manufacture, maintenance and disposal of aircrafts and, by improving the competitiveness of the sector, to have a significant effect on job creation.

By using Community funds to coordinate the public, private and non-profit sectors, Clean Sky will bring technological development closer to the market and will contribute to achieving Europe's strategic environmental and social priorities, as well as sustainable economic growth.



Membership and Structure

In order to develop the new generation of “green aircraft”, Clean Sky is built upon six technical areas: Smart Fixed Wing Aircraft, Green Regional Aircraft, Green Rotorcraft, Systems for Green Operations, Green and Sustainable Engine and Eco-Design.

The Commission’s proposal for a Joint Undertaking, which is the organisation which would be set up to implement the Clean Sky objectives, envisages twelve founding members and the European Community.

74 other organisations participate as ‘associates’ in the Joint Undertaking, including European industry, academia, small and medium enterprises, and research centres.

The associates were selected through an open call for proposals, and additional partners who are able to usefully contribute to the project will be selected by the same transparent process. Support activities will be conducted by organisations selected via open calls for tenders.

The Joint Undertaking is composed of four bodies:

- The **Executive Board** is the main governing body. Composed of representatives of the founding members, the Board defines the strategic orientation of Clean Sky.
- The **Director**, supported by the Secretariat, is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Joint Undertaking, as well as communication activities.
- A **Steering Committee** for each technical area guides the technological development of the JTI.
- The **General Forum**, composed of the Clean Sky founding members and project participants, makes recommendations on technical, managerial and financial issues.

Full title:

Aeronautics and Air Transport Joint Technology Initiative

Founding members:

- European Community (represented by the Commission)
- Industrial partners (Airbus, AgustaWestland, Alenia Aeronautica, Dassault Aviation, EADS CASA, Eurocopter, Fraunhofer Gesellschaft, Liebherr, Rolls-Royce, SAAB, Safran, Thales)
- 74 associate organisations

Budget (2008-2017) is € 1.6 billion

European Community: € 0.8 billion
Private sector: € 0.8 billion

Further information:

- http://ec.europa.eu/research/transport/info/jti_en.html

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Joint Technology Initiatives are a new way of realising public-private partnerships in research at European level. They provide a framework to mobilise and coordinate research efforts across Europe in order to define and implement common research agendas in key areas where research and development can contribute to Europe’s growth and competitiveness objectives as well as to the wellbeing of its citizens.

<http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/jtis>

