

OPENING KEYNOTE

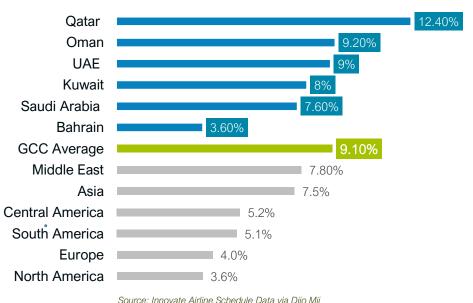
The Changing Global Regulatory Landscape: Leadership Role of GCC Airports

WALA XIV Annual Conference | Manama, Bahrain | May 30, 2024

GCC as evolved into an authoritative player in global aviation

GCC v. other regions | Business model innovation | Customer experience | Adoption of new technologies

Annual growth (CAGR), number of seats, per origin country and region, domestic & international (2004-2019)



Arabian**Business**

Bahrain opens new airport terminal, hails new era for aviation sector



A new vision for Gulf Air, national carrier of Bahrain



Riyadh Air signs strategic partnership with Artefact to innovate with cuttingedge cloud and AI technologies





Dubai announces \$35bn construction of world's largest airport terminal

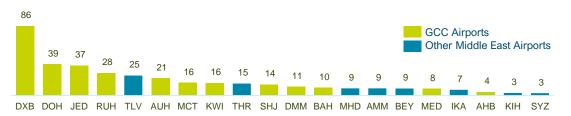
MUSCAT DAILY

Oman's Civil Aviation Authority plans six new airports

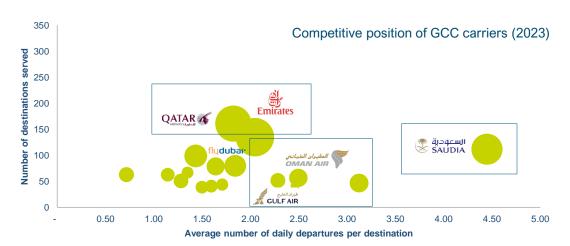
Leaders, trends, and clusters in the GCC aviation landscape

GCC airports are leaders in the Middle East region | Passenger volumes supported by strong airlines

Top 20 airports in the Middle East region by passenger volume (in millions, 2019)



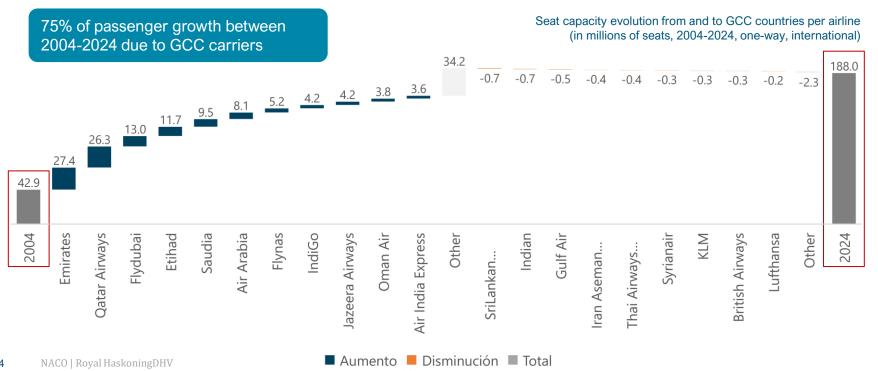
78% of passengers carried by the top 20 airports in the Middle East region use one of GCC's airports



Strong synergetic relationship between national carriers and GCC airports...but there are clusters with their own dynamics

Growth mostly by GCC carriers, foreign carriers reduce capacity

National carriers (and LCCs) linked to GCC airports' success | International tourism still limited | New travel routes



Airport competitiveness and regulatory challenges ahead

National carriers (and LCCs) linked to GCC airports' success | International tourism still limited | New travel routes

Gains in airport competitiveness driven by country national visions and state investments



But airports (and economic regions) are also subject to the typical business life cycle



Synergetic relationship of GCC airports with national carriers likely to remain strong

Synergetic relation with airlines translate into regulatory pressures

Direct, indirect, unforeseen | Regulatory burden on airlines affect airports | Rethink airport-airline relations

- 1 Access to capital
- Costly regulation
- Unilateral government action and regulatory fragmentation
- 4 Taxes, fees, charges
- 5 New Aviation: UAM, Electric & Hybrid

Subject to ESG reporting, financial and reputational risks, funding for long-term sustainability projects

Burdensome/costly regulation affect destination (airport) connectivity, attractiveness, route development

Unpredictable and burdensome doing business environment results in financial & operational pressures

Airports will likely be targeted, effects on future investments, cost recovery and incentives

New untapped markets, commercial opportunities but regulatory hurdles

Leadership Role of GCC Airports Amid Global Instability

TOP BUSINESS RISKS CYBER-SECURITY & BUSINESS CONTINUITY

FINANCIAL RESILIENCE & BLACK SWAN EVENTS

AIRSPACE DIPLOMACY & GROWING CONFLICT ZONES

FUNDING OF INFRASTRUCTURE & AIRPORT CAPACITY RULES

COSTS OF SUSTAINABILITY
AGENDA & ENERGY TRANSITION

UNILATERAL GOVERNMENT (REGULATORY) ACTION

PROACTIVE RISK MANAGEMENT

INFLUENCE & COOPERATE

Think beyond your interests.

Get your house in order.

Your old enemies can be allies.

Challenge common wisdom.

Promote smart regulation.









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