

# ACT-SAF and ACT-CORSIA Programmes overview & recent developments

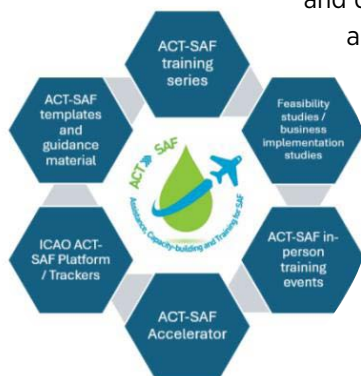
By ICAO Secretariat

## ICAO ACT-SAF Programme

The achievement of the LTAG requires a robust, targeted and tailored capacity-building and implementation support programme, and that ICAO, industry, academia and other relevant stakeholders need to work together to deliver such a programme, taking into account different circumstances of States and regions, and in line with the ICAO's *No Country Left Behind* initiative.

Launched in June 2022, ICAO Assistance, Capacity-building and Training for SAF (ACT-SAF) Programme creates opportunities for States to develop their full potential in SAF development and deployment, as recognized by the ICAO Assembly Resolution A41-21, paragraph 18c), and is aligned with the ICAO Global Framework for SAF, LCAF and other Aviation Cleaner Energies, adopted at ICAO CAAAF/3.

ACT-SAF aims to provide tailored support in multiple initiatives for States in various stages of SAF development and deployment, facilitate partnerships and cooperation on SAF initiatives under ICAO's coordination, and serve as a platform for knowledge sharing and recognition of all SAF initiatives globally.

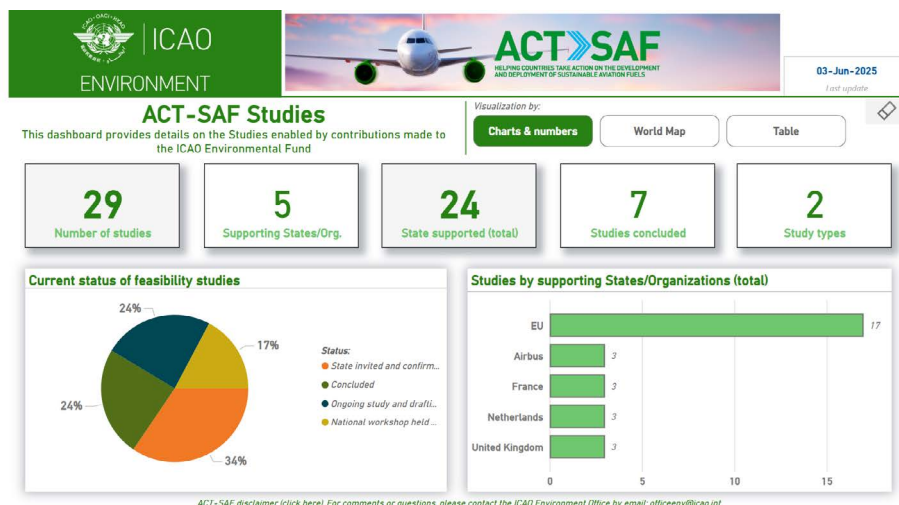


## ACT-SAF Training

A key component of ACT-SAF is the provision of targeted conceptual training on SAF. The ACT-SAF training series offers comprehensive coverage of key SAF-related topics, including sustainability certification, lifecycle emissions, production technologies, policy development, project financing, and downstream logistics. These sessions have benefitted from the valuable contributions of ACT-SAF partner States and Organizations, as well as insights from industry experts referred to ICAO. To date, nineteen training sessions have been delivered, all of which are accessible on ICAO.TV<sup>1</sup>.

In addition to the virtual training series, ICAO has partnered with the United Kingdom to develop foundational SAF training content and policy implementation modules. These were delivered through in-person workshops held in Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, and Tanzania in March and April 2024, with participation from representatives of Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Gabon. Additional workshops have also been delivered in Mexico in coordination with the ICAO NACC regional office. ICAO is currently assessing further in-person training events through resources offered by Austria.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.icao.tv/act-saf-series>



## SAF Feasibility and Business implementation studies

ACT-SAF feasibility studies<sup>2</sup> provide the initial steps for a State in realizing its SAF development potential. This is done through assessments on state-specific feedstock and corresponding conversion pathways, together with identifying financing, capacity building elements, and an action plan for establishing an efficient and sustainable value chain for SAF. Prior to ACT-SAF, support to States on feasibility studies have taken place within the framework of the ICAO and European Union assistance project - Capacity building for CO<sub>2</sub> mitigation from international aviation. Business implementation studies builds upon the work of the feasibility studies, with detailed analysis of the shortlisted feedstock/pathway, supplemented with sustainability and life-cycle assessments, assessments of SAF production costs, market supply/demand, and technical-economic analysis.

To date, seven studies have concluded, and 21 additional studies have commenced, or are in planning stages, thereby operationalizing contributions by France, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Airbus, and the European Union. More studies are projected in coming years.

## Templates and Guidance for SAF feasibility and business implementation studies

ICAO has also developed templates and guidance documents, used by consultants working on the above-mentioned feasibility and business implementation studies. This sets out a consistent approach towards their development. In addition, it also supports self-funded States, embarking on similar work, in detailing key elements expected.

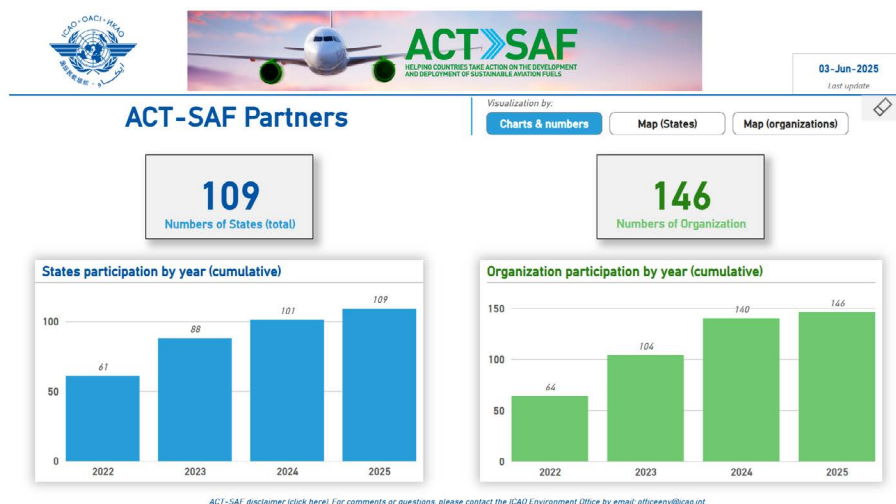


## Information Sharing - ACT-SAF Platform

The ACT-SAF platform<sup>3</sup> recognizes the many ways partners and stakeholders are supporting the implementation of cleaner energies for aviation, including SAF. With the aim of facilitating the coordination of efforts globally, and avoiding overlaps of efforts, ICAO compiles a list of feasibility studies, training/outreach, as well as events.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/Pages/act-saf.aspx>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/Pages/act-saf.aspx>



Updates on ACT-SAF are disseminated to partners through regular newsletters, updating on recently concluded/upcoming trainings, progress on feasibility/business implementation, key SAF developments globally, as well as ICAO events.

fuel producers/industry, academia, financial institutions (e.g., development banks), civil society organizations and associations interested in aviation-related climate change action.

## ACT-SAF Accelerator

This project provides support to accelerate the analysis and approval of life cycle values for new fuel sources and pathways. With resources provided by France, the first ACT-SAF accelerator project will support the analysis of feedstocks with potential to be used for SAF production (cassava/cashew), as identified on the ACT-SAF feasibility study for Cote d'Ivoire. Support has also been extended regarding the inclusion of SAF in the national bioenergy code.

## Participation in ACT-SAF – all are welcome!

ICAO States and organizations interested in taking action to develop SAF initiatives are welcome to participate in ACT-SAF – this can be done by agreeing to the ACT-SAF Terms and Conditions<sup>4</sup>. To date, more than 250 States and organizations are recognized as ACT-SAF partners. ICAO welcomes more participation from Member States (civil aviation authorities, fuel or energy-related authorities), aviation industry (manufacturers, aeroplane operators),

## Beyond ACT-SAF – what's next?

With the successful operationalization of the ACT-SAF programme, ICAO plans to extend the work towards an ACT-LTAG programme – building upon the ACT-SAF approach, and connecting ICAO initiatives on capacity building related to technology and operations.

## ICAO ACT-CORSIA Programme

Launched in 2018 and also as part of ICAO's *No Country Left Behind* initiative, the ACT-CORSIA (Assistance, Capacity-building and Training for the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation) Programme aims to ensure that all States are equally equipped to implement CORSIA, the first global market-based measure developed for any industry sector. More information on CORSIA is in Chapter 6 of this Report.



<sup>4</sup> <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf28JBcRZNR9Xdj-LGB4XCZuhfwfIBSmsI9zjqeBGz5fGoUZA/viewform>

## The ACT-CORSIA Buddy-Partnerships

The “Buddy-Partnerships”<sup>5</sup> initiative lies at the center of ACT-CORSIA, matching supporting and recipient States to enable practical, hands-on support for the implementation of the CORSIA Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) system. These partnerships have proven to be an efficient mechanism for knowledge transfer and institutional strengthening. As of 2025, over 119 recipient and 16 supporting States are engaged in Buddy-partnerships activities, which include training sessions, technical assistance, and the use of tools such as the ICAO CO<sub>2</sub> Estimation and Reporting Tool (CERT) and the CORSIA Central Registry (CCR). In addition, ACT-CORSIA supports States in developing the legal and regulatory frameworks needed for robust CORSIA implementation, including the collection, verification, and reporting of emissions data.

The Buddy-partnerships consider the States’ specific needs to develop appropriate capacity-building and training activities. These activities have been designed in a flexible manner to adjust the delivery of training, offering tailored solutions while maintaining a coordinated approach, with an annual Training of Trainers event hosted by ICAO aimed at keeping the ACT-CORSIA trainers from all Supporting States aligned with the general developments and most pressing matters on CORSIA implementation.

## ACT-CORSIA Outreach material

Over the years, ACT-CORSIA has developed and made available several elements to support capacity building, such as brochures and leaflets<sup>6</sup>; model regulations<sup>7</sup>; and recordings of seminars<sup>8</sup>. It also maintains the CORSIA Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)<sup>9</sup> and monthly issues the CORSIA Newsletter<sup>10</sup>, with a view to continuously inform Member States and the wider public on the status of CORSIA implementation.



## Navigating CORSIA and Training Courses

“Navigating CORSIA - A guide to the scheme’s design and implementation”<sup>11</sup> is an initiative consisting of a package of pre-recorded presentations on CORSIA, prepared for an audience interested in CORSIA but not fully conversant with the scheme’s design and implementation features. The material, which can be accessed through the ICAO TV platform, was updated in 2023 and consists of the following videos:

- Introduction to 2023 Navigating CORSIA<sup>12</sup>;

5 <https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/CORSIA-Buddy-Partnerships.aspx>

6 <https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/CORSIA-communication.aspx>

7 [https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/ICAO\\_model\\_regulations.aspx](https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/ICAO_model_regulations.aspx)

8 <https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/CORSIA-Seminars.aspx>

9 <https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/CORSIA-FAQs.aspx>

10 <https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/CORSIANEWSLETTERS.aspx>

11 <https://www.icao.tv/navigating-corsia>

12 <https://www.icao.tv/navigating-corsia/season:1/videos/introduction-to-navigating-corsia-by-ms-jane-hupe-deputy-director-environment>



- Session 1 – CORSIA Overview<sup>13</sup>
- Session 2 – CORSIA’s Monitoring, Reporting and Verification and related tools<sup>14</sup>
- Session 3 – CORSIA Eligible Fuels<sup>15</sup>
- Session 4 – CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units<sup>16</sup>

ICAO, under the Global Aviation Training (GAT) programme, continues to provide courses on CORSIA; the CORSIA Verification Course, launched in 2019 to train verification bodies, was updated in September 2023 to align its contents with the Second Edition of Annex 16, Volume IV. In light of the increasing interest on aspects of CORSIA implementation such as CORSIA Eligible Fuels and CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units, it is expected that three more courses on CORSIA will be available in the last quarter of 2025.

## The future of ACT-CORSIA

By strengthening institutional capacity, enhancing technical expertise, and promoting cooperation, ACT-CORSIA ensures that all States can actively contribute to addressing the climate impacts of the international aviation sector by facilitating CORSIA implementation. As more States join the effort and new phases of CORSIA unfold, ACT-CORSIA continues to build the foundation for a globally consistent and transparent implementation of this landmark climate measure.

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<sup>13</sup> <https://www.icao.tv/navigating-corsia/season:1/videos/corsia-overview>

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.icao.tv/navigating-corsia/season:1/videos/corsia-s-monitoring-reporting-and-verification-system-and-related-tools>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.icao.tv/navigating-corsia/season:1/videos/corsia-eligible-fuels>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.icao.tv/navigating-corsia/season:1/videos/corsia-eligible-emissions-units>