

Kenya's air travel is growing at 15% annually, highest in Africa

There has been a continuous growth in air travel to East Africa over the last year and Kenya leads the region with 15% year-on-year growth. Airport capacity in the region also grew, with Rwanda set to spend US\$818M to build an airport which will realize an annual rise in passenger capacity from the current 500,000 to 1.7M annually in 2018. This significant development will help Rwanda become a major international conference and business hub. Kenya's US\$600M new terminal to be completed in 2017 will make the airport, which is currently the largest aviation hub in East Africa, the largest in Africa.

The number of international arrivals to Africa saw South Africa (13%) lead the region followed by Egypt (9%), Morocco (8%), Mauritius (5%) and Kenya (4%). Most of the arrivals to East Africa were from the UK (14%), Germany (14%) and the US (12%). This has led to a significant growth in the hotel industry, tourism and more businesses being established in the region. This strong international performance speaks to East Africa's potential for foreign direct investment (FDI), with Kenya and Rwanda leading the way in East Africa.

