



# ARTISTA

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## Kunming Airport Soars to New Heights: *A Blueprint for Green Aviation's Future*



In a landmark achievement for sustainable aviation, Kunming Changshui International Airport has earned a prestigious four-star rating in the 2024 "Dual Carbon Airport" evaluation by the China Civil Airports Association. This top-tier recognition, shared with only Shanghai Pudong and Hongqiao Airports, underscores Kunming's exceptional leadership in planning, implementation, and promotion of green and low-carbon practices.

This remarkable achievement is fueled by the China Yunnan Kunming Changshui Airport Expansion and Green Development Project, a collaborative effort between the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and the Yunnan Provincial Government, working alongside the Yunnan Airport Group (YAG). AIIB's commitment to fostering a sustainable, low-carbon, and smart airport has positioned Kunming as a national role model.

**Strategic Partnerships and Innovative Solutions:** Central to this transformation is AIIB's strategic partnership with the Singapore Changi Airport Group, a global leader in green airport development. This collaboration resulted in a tailored green airport assessment framework, integrating both local and international standards, and a comprehensive decarbonization action plan.



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AIIB's financing has directly supported the development of cutting-edge airside infrastructure, including:

- **Smart Runways:** Enhancing operational efficiency and safety.
- **Advanced Lighting and Navigation Systems:** Reducing energy consumption.
- **Electrified Ground-Handling Vehicles and Charging Infrastructure:** Minimizing emissions.
- **Civil Works and Noise Monitoring Equipment:** Ensuring environmental compliance and community well-being.
- **Technical Support and Capacity Building:** Empowering airport staff to drive sustainable practices.

Furthermore, AIIB is instrumental in establishing an airport carbon management platform. This system enables real-time monitoring, reporting, and analysis of the airport's operational carbon footprint, facilitating data-driven strategies for continuous improvement in energy management and carbon reduction.

## Setting New Standards for Sustainability:

Kunming Airport, already a pioneer as the first in China to receive CGC Carbon Management System certification, aligns perfectly with AIIB's climate goals. With a commitment to directing 50% of its overall approved financing towards climate finance by 2025, AIIB is actively supporting the Paris Agreement.

"Prior to AIIB's involvement, this Airport had already integrated various green elements into the design, construction and operations. However, Management focus was primarily on technical solutions within their capacity. AIIB's contribution has provided Management with a global perspective and expertise, which has

greatly inspired Management, especially with new approaches in green airport development and gender equity". "Management are now more confident in setting ambitious targets for themselves and are determined to become a sustainability benchmark for other airports in China and beyond."

The project's rapid implementation, initiated immediately after AIIB's August 2023 approval, includes the development of a detailed decarbonization roadmap. Knowledge exchanges with leading international airports are facilitated by AIIB, ensuring the adoption of best practices and internationally recognized standards.



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## **Beyond Environmental Sustainability - Gender Inclusivity:**

AIIB's commitment to social impact is evident in its advocacy for gender inclusivity. Kunming Airport has exceeded targeted baselines for women worker participation, demonstrating a dedication to equitable employment opportunities.

## **A Model for Future Aviation Infrastructure:**

This project highlights the crucial role of airports in driving economic growth and connecting communities. Kunming Airport's success serves as a powerful example of AIIB's ability to act as a strategic partner, delivering global expertise and resources to achieve

sustainable development goals. As Wei observed, "This standalone project demonstrates AIIB's proficiency in financing complex projects, mobilizing resources and driving growth as a positive influencer to assist the industry in addressing critical climate challenges."

## **ARTISTA: Partnering for Sustainable Airport Development**

Inspired by Kunming Airport's success, ARTISTA recognizes the growing need for expert support in planning and developing sustainable aviation infrastructure. We offer comprehensive multidisciplinary services, leveraging our professional expertise to help airports achieve their green development objectives. From strategic planning and environmental impact assessments to cutting-edge technology integration and operational optimization, ARTISTA is ready to partner with airports worldwide to build a greener and more sustainable future for aviation.