Backgrounder

The Airbus Foundation

The Airbus Foundation is the company’s vehicle for corporate philanthropy. Using the company’s aeronautic and space products, competencies, diverse workforce and culture for driving innovation to address societal issues the Airbus Foundation has the resources and services to intervene at any point in a humanitarian crisis.

The Foundation supports the global humanitarian community and inspires and prepares young people for the challenges of tomorrow. The Airbus Foundation works with more than 30 non-profit organisations all over the world, including the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to support humanitarian causes and inspire young minds to embrace science and technology for a better tomorrow.

Since its launch in May 2008, the Airbus Foundation has facilitated more than 78 relief or goodwill flights to numerous destinations around the globe transporting over 1,000 tons of aid. Both Airbus-owned test aircraft as well as delivery flights of airline customers have been used for these humanitarian flights.

Examples for missions with customer airlines, Airbus test aircraft and Helicopters in 2019 and 2020:

**Helicopter mission on Chile to fight COVID-19**
11 August 2020 – The Airbus Foundation, together with the Chilean Red Cross and Servicios Aereos Kipreos and Servicios Aereos SumaAir, collaborated to transport more than 600 kilograms of medical supplies, including facemasks, face shields and other Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) needed to support the ongoing fight against COVID-19.

**Joint Viva Aerobus and Volaris support COVID-19 relief efforts in Mexico**
31 July 2020 – The Airbus Foundation, in collaboration with Aviation Sans Frontières and Mexican airlines Viva Aerobus and Volaris, have joined forces to transport and donate 336,000 surgical masks and 6,560 face shields to the Mexican Red Cross. The highly-demanded Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) will help support Mexico’s ongoing fight against COVID-19 in Mexico.

**COVID-19 relief flight to Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Republic of the Congo**
23 June 2020 - The Airbus Foundation together with the French Red Cross (FRC) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) have flown a medical team and 14 tonnes of humanitarian aid to the Republic of the Congo, using an Airbus A330neo test aircraft. The cargo will help in the fight against both the COVID-19 pandemic and the Ebola crisis in the Republic of the Congo and the DRC.

**Airbus Foundation and IFRC cyclone Idai relief flight**
27 March 2019 – The Airbus Foundation and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) have sent 26 tonnes of emergency goods from Geneva, Switzerland, to Maputo, Mozambique, using an Airbus A330neo test aircraft. The relief equipment, provided by the Swiss Red Cross and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, consists of water, sanitation and hygiene equipment as well as shelters. The goods will be transported to Beira, Mozambique, taking much needed relief to the survivors of cyclone Idai.

Quick Facts:
- Year of founding: 2008
- Partner NGOs: 30+
- Relief/Goodwill Flights: 78+
- Aid transported in total: 1,000+ tons
- Helicopter hours donated: 895+
- Sites conducting Flying Challenge: 25
- Students supported with Flying Challenge: 4,900+
- Countries Airbus Little Engineer running: 25
- Students reached with Little Engineer: 6,300+

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Air Senegal and Airbus Foundation team up for first goodwill flight
08 March 2019
The Airbus Foundation and Air Senegal have organized their first goodwill flight to transport medical equipment, toys, clothes for kids and adults as well as books on board the airline’s newest A330neo.

Satellite images have been provided to NGOs during natural disasters to help coordinating relief strategies and assessing damages. In 2017, a dedicated web portal was implemented for the IFRC to make access to current satellite images and evaluation much easier.

Over 895 helicopter humanitarian flight hours have been donated since 2013 by the Airbus Helicopters Foundation to support disaster rescue / evacuation training. The Airbus Foundation has organized employee fundraising campaigns to collect donations for people in need raising over €750K.

The youth development programmes have so far reached over 19,000 young people across the globe, and have leveraged the support of almost 2,400 of our passionate employee base. It is one of the pillars upon which the Airbus Foundation is built, inspiring and preparing young people for the challenges of tomorrow. Through various programmes, on a local and global level, the Airbus Foundation supports youth by increasing interest in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) and developing fascination for aerospace; inspiring them to stay in school, and stimulating social entrepreneurship.

The Airbus Foundation Flying Challenge seeks to inspire students to continue their education and to realize their dreams. Through individual or collective mentoring sessions, visits to Airbus sites, workshops, career fairs and, most importantly, the flying experience at the end of the school year, more than 4,985 students worldwide have been inspired by aerospace, found new ways of learning and improved their grades and interpersonal skills. Operating out of 25 locations across ten countries the Flying Challenge involved over 2,000 Airbus employee volunteers.

The Airbus Foundation Little Engineer programme is the hugely successful result of the partnership between Airbus Middle East and The Little Engineer organization and over 6,329 students have taken part in the programme, which is operating in 25 countries from Morocco, KSA, India, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia, Lebanon, Kuwait, and Bahrain to Kenya and Nigeria. This programme has been running since 2012 and aims to inspire youth across the Middle East and Africa region to focus on STEM studies and pursue the dream to become the engineers and innovators of the future.

In 2018, the Airbus Foundation Discovery Space project, a digital portal with educational animations and interactive aerospace-themed lessons in 3D design, was launched in cooperation with Autodesk. It offers students the opportunity to build their own virtual spacecraft in Autodesk Tinkercad and Autodesk Fusion 360 software, factoring in parameters such as robustness to break through Earth’s atmosphere, trajectory and impact for landing on the moon. Since the launch of the Airbus Foundation Discovery Space, over 1,500 students from 25 different countries have taken part in Discovery Space design competitions and have been viewed over 255,000 times on the internet and downloaded by educators from around the world through the website. “Future of the skies” is the latest series, which explores the future of aerospace. The first overarching story investigates the future of factories, cities, aviation and space. In the coming months, Airbus experts will create mini-series on how specific technologies (e.g. AI, big data, IoT, quantum computing) will contribute to the future of aerospace, as well as explore all the challenges this might cause. In addition, the Airbus Foundation is starting to work with educators to develop simple, age-appropriate activities for teachers and parents to use. “Science of Flight” content series was added to the platform, exploring how things fly, from balloons to helicopters. In addition, the Airbus Foundation Discovery Space project includes downloadable videos and step-by-step guides inspiring future engineers. Each year, students can also build portfolios and submit designs to win one of the 3D design competitions organised by the Airbus Foundation and Autodesk.

More information can be found at https://www.airbus.com/company/sustainability/airbus-foundation.html

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