



Tartu airport development (Estonia)

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About Tartu



- Estonia's 2nd biggest city, 100 000 inhabitants
- Centre of research, education and medicine
- Important commercial centre
- Increasingly popular tourist destination

If one does not know to which port one is sailing, no wind is favourable.
(Seneca)

- **Tartu had 2 Airports**

1. The first launch of an aircraft in Estonia took place in the surroundings of Tartu — in Raadi. **In 1912** it became an airfield used by military forces only. Until 1992 the Raadi Military Airport — one of the biggest in Eastern Europe.
2. The Tartu Airport has been in the present place **since 1946** when the unit of the planes of medical aid was set up there.

- **Finally, in 1999 the decision was made that the Raadi Airport would no longer be used as an airport**



Tartu – GOOD Location but BAD ACCESSIBILITY

- Tartu lies in South Estonia – naturally diverse and economically well developed region with rich history and strong traditions
- The River Emajõgi flows right through the city (the only navigable river in Estonia)
- Close to the largest centres of North-Eastern Europe (to Tallinn, Riga and Pskov 2-3 hours and St. Petersburg 4 hours by car)
- **Painful** road and railway connection with Vilnius, Riga, Moscow, Warsaw, Tallinn etc.
- **NO FLIGHT ACCESS**
A plan to open regular flights from the Tartu Airport to Helsinki and Stockholm in 2008



The need for better accessibility

Tartu – Centre of Higher Education, Research and Medicine in Estonia

- 11 Higher education institutions (The University of Tartu, The Estonian University of Life Sciences, The Estonian National Defense College, The Baltic Defense College, The Tartu Aviation College) with more than 25 000 students
- Research institution “producing” ~ 2/3 of Estonian Science production (PHD and science articles)
- More than 350 000 inhabitants in the catching area
- Regional disparities in Estonia
- Growing need for INTERNATIONALIZATION of local economy



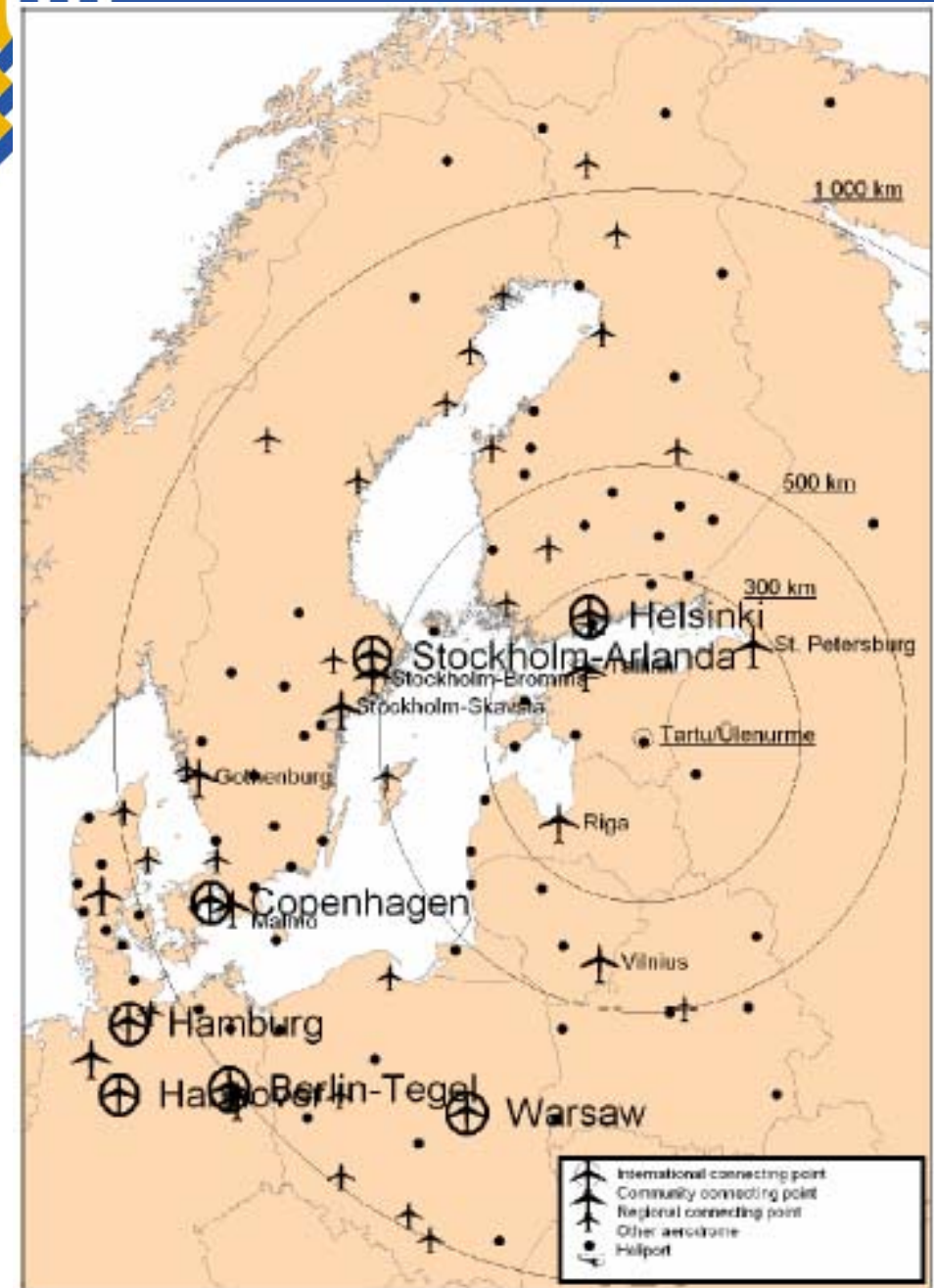
Project overview

To prepare an economic pre-feasibility study on scheduled passenger air transport services to and from Tartu airport

Main participants: Turku School of Economics, Tartu Science Park

Input from relevant actors representing both sides, demand and supply

Carried out during May-September 2006





Main deliverables of the study

Demand analysis and forecast

- Current demand could be 30 000 passengers per year
- 1-2 daily departures and arrivals

Review and recommendations of potential airlines

- Air transport connections to Helsinki or Stockholm have the biggest potential in a short-term perspective

Recommendations on pricing, schedules and types of aircraft

Detailed analysis of the already existing and needed facilities and equipment

Actions recommended

Prioritisation of investments:

- a minimum of €9m with a focus on a runway extension by 420 m and Instrument Landing System (ILS)

Source of finance and impact of financing costs

- While the number of passengers be sufficient to operate a profitable service for an airline, Tartu airport would still not be profitable.
- ERDF is a main source for investment
- Tallinn Airport and Estonian Government is a co-financer for investment and operational cost
- Tartu City government support

Roundtable of all relevant stakeholders



Impact on the region: actions taken

- Raising awareness of the importance of transport connections
- Getting support from the national government
- Area detail plan approved in Spring 2007
- The Tallinn Airport bought necessary land for extension of the airfield
- Investment in navigation equipment: 22 m EEK (1.4 m euro)
- Procurement of the airport detail plan including extension of the runway
- Tartu City Government provided funding for an airport detail plan and project
- Meetings with potential Airlines
- Meeting with minister of regional affairs



Planned actions

- Plans for procuring the terminal design in late 2007
- Necessary investments made during 2008: ready for air traffic winter timetable 2008
- Meetings with airlines:
EstonianAir – fall 2008 to Stockholm





Dreams come true in 2008



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