Sainte Marie Island, located off the eastern coast of Madagascar, 35 km from Soanierana-Ivongo, is one of the main tourist destinations in the Big Island. With its beaches, forests and historic sites, Sainte-Marie welcomes a growing number of international visitors every year. In addition, the annual whale festival has become a globally recognized attraction. The beauty of the island and the diversity of entertainment available on the island make it an ideal destination for a family holiday or just for relaxation. The entire economy of Sainte-Marie is based on tourism. However, activities such as the exploitation of fishery resources and financial inclusion also contribute to its development. The island’s agricultural productions are mainly for self-subsistence: rice, cassava, sweet potato ... The main crop is cloves, averaging 600 tons per year (a clove is the flower bud that has not blossomed and is dried).

Air traffic is mainly used for tourist activities and the airport infrastructure of the island must follow the development trend of the sector. In 2015, the airport has already enjoyed major modernization works, with an extension of the terminal. This work allowed to triple the surface used to 1500m², for a capacity of reception that can go up to 50 000 passengers. The terminal has been equipped with, among other things, new seats, a new VIP lounge, new shops including one duty free shop, and especially an air conditioning system.

In addition, the airport has a plot reserve for the construction of an in situ hotel.

Sainte-Marie’s International Airport is located near the southern tip of the island. Although the platform has undergone improvement works in recent years, it must pursue its development in order to comply with international standards and to provide infrastructures that meet the needs of the tourism industry.

The improvements to be made in order to accommodate B737 type medium-sized aircrafts include lengthening the runway, developing the runway shoulders and ramps, reinforcing aeronautical pavements, increasing the number of parking stands, building a new passenger terminal (if needed) and installing an aviation fuel depot.

The project to develop and extend the Sainte-Marie airport aims to improve air connectivity between the regions of Madagascar and with the outside world.
ADEMA is turning to private investors with a view to establishing a partnership relationship. The company also intends to build on the international expertise of its future partner(s) to enable the Sainte Marie airport to optimize its development.

**Expected results:**
- Airport able to accommodate medium-sized aircraft type B737

**Works and acquisitions to be achieved:**
- Reinforcing aeronautical pavements
- Developing RESA at runway thresholds
- Renovating the power plant
- Developing new taxiways
- Adding 600m to the runway for B737 type aircraft
- Building a new passenger terminal
- Developing an access road to the new terminal
- Developing a new Tarmac including lighting
- Developing the new car park including lighting
- Building a fence
- Building a fuel depot
- Installing anti-blast barriers on the tarmac
- Developing SLI service lanes (walkways, etc.)
- Developing runway strips
- Building a new power plant