In its February 5-13 edition, The Economist published two articles highlighting some of the challenges airlines face in Africa. The articles referenced a study IATA commissioned from the consultancy Intervistas to quantify the economic benefits of enhancing connectivity within the continent:

- One of the biggest issues is the lack of connectivity between African countries – meaning that for almost 30,000 passengers a year the easiest way to travel between two points within the continent is via Paris.
- The chart above shows the impact of opening new routes between 12 of the biggest African countries, which would represent an increase on traffic flows by a total of 81%, from 6.1 million passengers to 11 million in those countries.
- Furthermore, the increase in connectivity would deliver important economic benefits: a drop in fares by more than a third of the current price, would create more than 155,000 jobs, as well as add $1.3 billion to GDP.

*References:
- The Economist – Aviation in Africa - Departure Delayed (5-13 Edition of Feb 13th 2016)

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