

Fernandes Arquitetos Associados designs international airport in Africa

Airport project will bring development and transformation along the major international route in the Country

The city of Nacala, located in an important international air route in Mozambique has the project of its airport signed by Fernandes Arquitetos Associados. The airport's passenger terminal is the second largest of the country, with near 27,000 square meters.

In addition to meeting the air transport demands of the African continent, the construction of the International Airport of Nacala, located in Nampula Province, is aimed to leveraging the privileged geographical location of the city (closer proximity to Asia, Middle East and Europe markets), which is an advantage to strengthen its role as an important global logistic center involving not only air, but also sea, road and railroad transportation.

The challenge

The major challenge and essential condition of this project was to conceive a "lean" structure, but that was also capable to meet all the demands of an international airport. The idea was analyzing and studying the future expansion of key areas, such as boarding and disembarking, in addition to the option of building a boarding connector and bridges, without changing the characteristics of the original project and with as less impact as possible on the passenger operations.

For the project architect and founder of the office, Daniel Hopf Fernandes, another detail was the concern about the design combined with functionality. "This is a project with universal vision, which should attract people from the entire world. We can say that it is a mix of Portuguese and African cultures, in spite of being difficult to find only one thing to symbolize that," says Fernandes.

According to the architect, one of the key aspects of the terminal project was to making sure that the passenger flow was performed with speed and efficiency through the complex structure in a single floor.

The proposal

The building proposed by the architectural firm for the International Airport of Nacala was basically in the ground floor, including the operational facilities of the airport and the ones aimed to servicing the passengers.

The general spatial division of Nacala Airport is distributed into 4 major areas: Check-in (lobby), Boarding area, Departure area and Mezzanine. These spaces include, in addition to the key areas, smaller supporting rooms to be used according to the specific needs of each sector, such as passport control, Customs, support to airlines, etc.

The entire flow of users should occur from the center to the ends (wings), both at the entrance and exit, and the connection between the two wings will be made by the central lobby, comprised by the mezzanine, which houses the commercial areas and food, administration and operation services, in addition to the major waiting and living room of the airport. By providing view both to the "Air" and "Ground" sides, it's possible to have total view of the indoor and outdoor areas of the airport, by using such space as a beautiful belvedere.

Both wings are sheltered by a large roof, which connects different volumes. Maybe the roof is the key element in charge of identifying the project, as it is basically a single-floor building, of low gauge. The roof solutions and their

volumes provides the “body” necessary to the building, especially to create indoor areas with wide ambiances, which explore the natural lighting and ventilation.

Such utilization of natural resources proposed by Fernandes Arquitetos is aimed to reducing the consumption of power related to artificial lighting and mechanical ventilation systems. In addition, the project includes rainwater collection and effluent treatment for irrigation of the green areas as one of its major sustainable targets. The total passenger terminal area will be approximately 15,200 m².

In addition to the Passenger Terminal, the airport complex is also comprised by Cargo Terminal, Control Tower, Maintenance and Runway Equipment buildings and the Fire Protection and Fighting Building.

The landing and take-off runway was totally expanded to enable operations with airplanes type Boeing 747. By providing capacity to receive up to one million passengers / year at the completion of works, the airport complex should become one of the major terminals for passenger and cargo connections in the African continent, dividing the importance only to the Airport in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The work was a hallmark for the city and the country, not only for its strategic value, but also by its transforming and renewing role in a developing country, where virtually there are no buildings of such size.

The airport development is being financed by a loan of 80 million dollars from BNDES (Brazilian Bank of Economic and Social Development), which is also attending a series of other construction projects in Mozambique. It is the second largest airport of Mozambique, leaving only behind the Maputo Airport, located in the capital, and will be a major economic generator for the region, along with the Port, which is the main current economic activity.

The development of this airport is being financed by a loan of \$80 million from the Brazilian Development Bank, the National Bank for Economic and Social Development (BNDES), which is also underwriting a number of other construction projects in Mozambique.

Technical Data Sheet – Nacala Airport

Project Title: International Airport of Nacala (by Fernandes Arquitetos Associados)

Author: Daniel Hopf Fernandes

Team: Willian Tadashi S. Miyagui , Carolina Ferreira Condeço and Luis Henrique de Lima

Location: Nacala – Mozambique

General Project: Figueiredo Ferraz Consultoria e Engenharia de Projetos S. A.

Project Year: 2011

Total Area: 26,880.62 m²

Intervention area: 11,512,312 m²

Lighting: Luminotécnica Mingrone

Landscaping: Rodolfo Geiser Paisagismo

Construction: Construtora Odebrecht

Structural Project: Medabil e Figueiredo Ferraz

Building Automation Project: Tecnifer Engenharia de Sistemas

HVAC Project: MBM Engenharia

Foundation Project: Figueiredo Ferraz

Electrical and hydraulic facilities project: MBM Engenharia

Acoustic Project/Consulting: AR Frota Arquitetura

Coverage Project: Medabil

Sash/Frame and Façade Project Consulting: Alcoa Alumínio

Sealing Project/Consulting: Denver Impermeabilizações

Ambient Comfort and Sustainability Consulting: AR Frota Arquitetura

Suppliers

Cerâmica Cecrisa, Portinari, Eliane, Cerâmica Atlas, Gail and Terracor (wall covering)

Rangel Marmores e Granitos, NS Brasil, Tarkett and Fadamac (flooring)

Placo (Plaster ceiling)

Refax (metallic ceiling)

Dorma (door hardware)

DECA (sanitaryware)

Neocon (sanitary partition walls and hangers)

Silestone (silestone)

Fórmica (laminare coverage)

Martifer (window frames)

Suvinil (paints)

About Fernandes Arquitetos Associados – Since 1998 Fernandes Arquitetos Associados has conquered the recognition of large national and international architectural market. Founded by the architect Daniel Hopf Fernandes, the architecture office established in São Paulo has consolidated as major reference in the industry by its operation in different segments such as infrastructure and transport, health, industrial, commercial and mixed use buildings, institutional, sports and urbanistic projects, and feasibility studies for large undertakings, as well as consulting for sports complex and entertainment.

It has over 160 structure projects, advanced technological resources and a team of professionals compromised with innovation and quality. Fernandes Arquitetos was the only office responsible for two arenas for the 2014 FIFA World Cup: Arena Pernambuco and Estádio Jornalista Mário Filho – the Maracanã. Also, it recently concluded its first international project: Nacala Airport, in Mozambique.

Associations:

Fernandes Arquitetos Associados is member of three international organizations: Green Building Council Brazil, IAKS, and ESSMA. GBC Brazil, is USGBC's representative (United States Green Building Council) in Brazil and is a NGO that aims at fomenting the sustainable construction industry in the country. IAKS (International Association for Sports and Leisure Facilities), headquartered in Germany, is specialized in planning, projects and sports constructions and leisure centers. Fernandes is also part of ESSMA (European Stadium and Safety Management Association), which is formed by leagues, sporting organizations, business partner arenas, corporate members and sports business media. ESSMA is a professional organization which purpose is to build a leading platform of knowledge aimed at experiences in high quality arenas and an industry of sustainable stadiums and arenas.

Awards conquered by Fernandes Arquitetos:

The architect Daniel Fernandes ranked 2nd in the “2006 Prisma Award” – “Buildings” category, by the André Fernandes uni-familiar residence project, in Barueri. The awarding ceremony to winners aims at releasing works designed and built with precast concrete products.

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The office received important international awards in the sports segment. The Arena Pernambuco received the "International Property Awards 2012", in three categories: "Best Public Service Architecture"; "Best Public Service Architecture Central & South America" and "Best Public Service Architecture Brazil" – awarding associated to the "Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and Yamaha". Fernandes Arquitetos was also awarded with the "Architectural Review Future Project Awards 2013" – Retrofit category, by the authorship of the modernization project of "Jornalista Mário Filho" Stadium – the Maracanã.

