

First, it is important for the industry to gain comprehensive situational awareness of its status and future needs. This can be gained through a series of studies and needs-analyses that focus on current industry standing and future prospects. These will include but not be limited to: salary levels, levels of technology penetration, employee satisfaction and mobility (inter and intra). Specific policies and recommendations can be more effectively drawn and produce tangible and systematic results in the long run if they are based on comprehensive data gathered through these studies. International organizations will be of importance in assisting with data gathering and helping to shape the questions addressed by these studies.

Second, effective and systematic industry-education partnerships must be developed at national, regional and even global levels that will provide a framework for addressing future educational and training priorities of the industry. A framework such as the abovementioned can provide for a flexible and sustainable means to address future industry needs.

Third, it is important that the aviation industry examine best practices found in other industry settings in regard to effective training and education regimes, industry-education partnerships, as well as employee satisfaction and retention. Otherwise, the aviation industry may be outcompeted for the best talent by industries perceived as providing better opportunities for employment and advancement.

Fourth, it is important to ensure that current aviation employees can be usefully re-deployed or re-trained. The acquisition of educational skills should prove flexible enough to accommodate technological disruptions in a service sector such as aviation. At the same time, the aviation industry must hire recruits with the soft skills, such as customer service, that are so important in the industry. Moreover, education and training in aviation should address gender imbalances. Finally, aviation industry stakeholders should become more proactive in partnering with educational institutions, both traditional and more specialized.

Finally, the industry should carefully assess and address the repetitional risk arising from negative environmental externalities to effectively inspire the new generations to work in the sector.