



WTO's Statistical Programme

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WTO's Statistical Programme

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I. Presentation

1. It is widely recognized that the strength of the WTO's position in the international community relies not only on its constituency and working arrangements, but also on its reputation in tourism related statistics. In particular, the WTO has, for many years, been playing a crucial role in collecting and disseminating large amounts of comparable tourism-related statistics, and in developing innovative projects, it has been able to bring substantive value to national statistics.
2. The approval of the TSA, the second international standard on tourism statistics, has obliged WTO to design a programme for its development demonstrating once again the leading role it can play in orienting the future direction of tourism statistics in a worldwide context.
3. All this background explains the content of article 13 of the agreement between the United Nations and the World Tourism Organization recognizing WTO "*as the appropriate organization to collect, to analyze, to publish, to standardize and to improve the statistics of tourism, and to promote the integration of these statistics within the sphere of the United Nations system*". These are functions that are common to the different specialized agencies, although the last one is peculiar, as explained in section F of this document.
4. In fact, the reference to our international responsibility "to standardize and to improve the statistics of tourism, and to promote the integration of these statistics within the sphere of the United Nations system", assigns us the leading role in tourism statistics in terms of the design and development of the different components of the System of Tourism Statistics in order to ensure their worldwide coherence and harmonization and consequently, improve the international comparability of data measuring tourism activity.
5. Attention should be given to the fact that the latter responsibility ("*to promote the integration of these statistics within the sphere of the United Nations system*") is an innovation with respect to similar agreements with other specialized agencies¹ and that it obviously affects the Programme of Work of the Statistics Department, insofar as it makes it necessary to develop new initiatives in the field of international cooperation as a necessary prerequisite in order to carry out this responsibility in terms of international coordination.
6. Because of the cross-cutting nature of tourism (a demand phenomenon that involves many different industries), it must be recognized that this responsibility overlaps with that of other international organizations and regional bodies that produce tourism-related statistics or service industry

¹ Thus, the agreement with the IMF and UNESCO coincide practically word for word with the entire text mentioned above, but differ in this last part: the first reads "*without prejudice to the right of the United Nations to concern itself with any statistics so far as they may be essential for its own purposes*", while the second says "*without prejudice to the right of the United Nations to concern itself with such statistics so far as they may be essential for its own purposes or for the improvement of statistics throughout the world*".

statistics in general or have institutional responsibilities relating to service industry statistics as well as those macroeconomic frameworks (such as SNA93 and BPM5) to which the Tourism Satellite Account is related.

7. In fact, we already cooperate with other international organizations because we have related projects and common goals and objectives; and in consequence, by cooperating we enter into a strategic alliance or partnership as with ILO, IMF, UNSD and ECLAC. This network of partnerships should be expanded to include at least other UN Regional Commissions in a multiyear programme.
8. Because international cooperation relating to statistics, and tourism statistics in particular, involves multiple organizations with overlapping responsibilities, WTO must take a more multi-lateral approach and a more proactive role in the various international coordination processes and bodies already in place (such as the Inter-Agency Task Force on International Trade in Services Statistics and the Expert Group on Economic and Social Classifications).
9. Coordination necessarily implies ordering the articulation with those international organizations and regional bodies, with the objective of ensuring consistency, and looking for greater efficiency in working arrangements with the parties involved in a given area or domain: the present revision process of the Balance of Payments and Economic Classification as well as the design of compilation guidance for the implementation of the Manual on International Trade in Service Statistics consumes the greatest part of WTO efforts.
10. Recently, since WTO has been assigned a central coordinating role in the field of tourism statistics, some small difficulties in the realignment of interests and associated communications have emerged that have negatively affected WTO relations in dealing with selected international organizations. These difficulties highlight the new requirement for WTO to be even more proactive in its communications with all other related international organizations and affected national institutions as a part of its newly acquired leadership responsibilities.
11. Another implication also emerges from WTO's newly assigned central responsibility "*to collect, to analyse and to publish*" official data produced by different national institutions (basically, Central Statistical Offices, Central Banks and National Tourism Administrations). To that end, we must enlarge our cooperative network to include all national bodies (not just WTO members) producing those data that support present international comparability on tourism activity and we should also participate in related initiatives promoted within the UN system.

12. One relevant consequence in this regard, is that WTO's initiatives in terms of capacity building and technical assistance should be addressed to all countries, whether members or non-members, as these initiatives are a prerequisite for a significant number of them in order to implement international standards and produce data.
13. WTO understands that the assigned responsibility to improve statistics on tourism and improve the integration of these statistics within the sphere of the UN system, includes a responsibility for leadership in enlarging the national and international systems of tourism statistics to address current information gaps and unmet information requirements by cooperating with those countries with a more developed statistical infrastructure and in consequence, we understand that we also should be open to cooperate with the corresponding International Organizations in this regard. A good example could be the case of OCDE which is in the best possible position to include tourism as a case study in different areas such as Foreign Direct Investment and Fixed Capital Formation statistics and both in the Short-Term Economic Statistics Expert Group and the Expert Group on business tendency surveys.
14. The Programme of Work of the Department of Statistics and Economic Measurement of Tourism, has as overall objective to support the analysis of tourism consumption and the design and implementation of policies developed by different stakeholders in the tourism industry and to ensure that this analysis is based on a sufficient number of credible data associated with tourism activities of visitors and with the industries that produce the goods and services required by them; to improve the standardization of tourism statistics; to promote the avoidance of duplication in the information relating to tourism statistics collected by international organizations; to promote the integration of the system of tourism statistics within the sphere of the UN system of international statistics.

II. General overview

15. The following outline gives a general overview of the WTO's Statistical Programme in terms of the major lines of action (which are the same as those of other sister organizations of the UN system) and the corresponding projects ²; other activities carried out either to develop these projects or associated with other initiatives of a more general nature (like organization of Conferences, attendance and participation in other events, etc.) are not mentioned.

² Annex 1 contains a description of each of the 20 projects that currently make up the programme.

- I. Setting and promotion of international standards**
 1. Promoting worldwide implementation of international standards in tourism statistics
 2. The implementation of the Tourism Satellite Account (TSA) as a strategic project for WTO
 3. Adapting the Tourism Satellite Account (TSA) conceptual framework from a regional perspective
 4. Keeping relevant the present conceptual framework of tourism statistics

- II. Participation in the revision of other related international standards**
 5. Economic classifications of activities (ISIC) and products (CPC)
 6. Compilation guidance in Travel for the Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services (MSITS)
 7. Revision of the System of National Accounts (SNA93) and Balance of Payments Manual (BPM5).

- III. Securing international comparability of tourism statistics**
 8. Enlarging the scope of international comparability: updating statistical publications and databases
 9. The operationalization of usual environment: general guidelines
 10. European inter-regional tourism flows

- IV. Design of standardized methodologies for statistical data collection**
 11. Model border surveys measuring inbound tourism expenditure
 12. Model entry/exit cards for measuring international flows of visitors
 13. Collecting data on accommodation establishments using a model software
 14. Design of a model “tourism module” for household income/expenditure surveys

- V. Collecting and publishing statistics**
 15. Statistical reports
 16. Metadata project

- VI. Other complementary projects**
 17. Tourism macroeconomic indicators
 18. New initiatives in short-term statistics: tourism as a case study
 19. Foreign direct investment in tourism industries (TFDI)
 20. Tourism Balance of Payments

III. Human resources

16. Finally, human resources assigned to the Statistical Programme are:

- Staff:
 - Full time: 4
 - Part time: 1

- External consultants:
 - On a continuing basis: 5
 - Other consultants associated mainly with technical assistance initiatives: 4

ANNEX

WTO'S STATISTICAL PROGRAMME IN DETAIL

The WTO's statistical programme is structured around the following six lines of action:

- setting and promotion of international standards;
- participation in the revision of other related international standards;
- securing international comparability of tourism statistics;
- design of standardized methodologies for statistical data collection;
- collecting and publishing statistics;
- other complementary projects.

While the first five are common to those of other sister organizations of the UN system, the last one is specific to each one of them.

Each of the 20 projects includes headings on "*Cooperation*" and "*Coordination*", in order to illustrate these aspects where applicable, namely:

- in the case of "*Cooperation*" with international organizations, it is indicated whether cooperation has been requested, or is pending to be requested; if not mentioned, cooperation is already established;
- in the case of "*Coordination*", the term "bilateral" is used in all cases where coordination is carried out directly between the WTO Department of Statistics and Economic Measurement of Tourism and the entities with which it is cooperating. In cases where no coordination is considered necessary, the term "not foreseen" is used.

I. Setting and promotion of international standards

Existing international standards on tourism statistics were approved in 1993 ("*Recommendations on tourism statistics*") and 2000 ("*Tourism Satellite Account: Recommended Methodological Framework*"). While the purpose of the first of these was to develop a first set of basic elements of the System of Tourism Statistics (STS), the second relates to the design of the instrument that today is the unifying framework of most of its components, i.e. the Tourism Satellite Account (TSA).

Projects associated with this line of action:

1. Promoting worldwide implementation of international standards in tourism statistics
2. The implementation of the Tourism Satellite Account (TSA) as a strategic project for WTO
3. Adapting the Tourism Satellite Account (TSA) conceptual framework from a regional perspective
4. Keeping relevant the present conceptual framework of tourism statistics

1. Promoting worldwide implementation of official international standards in tourism statistics

Description:

Workshops and Technical Missions are the technical assistance initiatives through which WTO aims to improve the statistical capacity building in the field of tourism statistics for the participating countries so that their own national technical personnel can carry out two basic objectives:

- on one hand, to promote the development of the System of Tourism Statistics as a necessary condition in order to make progress in the measurement and analysis of the economic impacts of tourism;
- on the other hand, to begin the tasks contemplated in the different stages recommended by the WTO for the development of a TSA.

In light of its objectives, the **Workshops** are geared towards statistics professionals and managerial staff with responsibilities in the field of tourism statistics, who work in different types of institutions such as:

- National Tourism Administrations;
- Specialists in the preparation of border statistics (arrivals and departures of international visitors);
- Technicians from Migration/Interior Departments;
- National Statistical Offices (both basic statistics production units and National Accounts units);
- Balance of Payments Departments of Central Banks;
- Business Associations.

With minor exceptions, **Technical Missions** are carried out when a country has conducted the corresponding feasibility study in accordance with the guidelines proposed by the WTO and submits a proposal for a TSA exercise to be discussed by the national authorities.

Cooperation: UN Regional Commissions (only for Workshops)

Coordination: Bilateral

Related documents:

Practically all the documents used are available on WTO website at:

http://www.world-tourism.org/frameset/frame_statistics.html

2. The implementation of the Tourism Satellite Account (TSA) as a strategic project for WTO

Description:

The development of TSAs is a strategic project for WTO. Indeed, in every country there will be many stakeholders who will contribute to, and benefit from, the launching of a TSA.

Generally, in most countries, the NSO is in charge of preparing the National Accounts (of which TSAs are Satellite Accounts) and it shares responsibility for tourism statistics with the NTA. In some countries, however, the CB, besides being responsible for preparing the Balance of Payments (a key source of information on tourism expenditure associated with inbound and outbound tourism), also takes responsibility for drawing up the National Accounts.

It is not always obvious who – i.e. which national institution – the task of launching the TSA should fall to. This will largely depend on the institutional and administrative set-up of the country in question and on the technical-administrative development of its National Tourism Administration (NTA) and other institutions. Some of the previously mentioned stakeholder interests are set out as follows:

1. National Tourism Administration

- It would be able to meet many of the long-standing demands of the sector for information on the performance of inbound visitor expenditure in terms of main source markets, destinations and tourism products consumed; and
- It would be able to develop new indicators for monitoring tourism trends in relation to total expenditure incurred in the country – per person and per trip, the amount corresponding to package tours and a long list of etceteras, all of which would contribute to enriching and increasing existing knowledge of tourism activity.

2. National Statistical Office

- It would be able to determine the structure of expenditure in terms of purpose of trip, identifying business trips, with a view to calculating how much of this expenditure really corresponds to visitor consumption (e.g. in the case of tourism analyses) or to the intermediate consumption of tourism industries (as per National Accounts requirements);
- Satellite accounts (tourism, education, health, etc.) represent an extremely valuable tool when it comes to coordinating statistics linked with a vast amount of dispersed data relative to horizontal and cross-cutting activities. The NSO itself can turn this type of exercise to good account, both with a view to enhancing its estimates of some of the National

Account headings and strengthening coordination in the field of the General System of Statistics.

3. Central Bank

- It would provide an alternative source of information other than bank records, which are used in practically all countries, for estimating the "travel" item of the Balance of Payments; and
- It would allow a comparison of the data generated by these two sources, with the additional advantage of gaining access to estimates of expenditure associated with different categories of travellers (tourists and same-day visitors) and the corresponding countries of residence.

4. Tourism Business Sector

- It would address demands for specific information that attest to the importance of tourism and that can serve to improve the design of business strategies for operating in national and international markets.
- It will facilitate the comprehension and resolution of certain difficulties stemming from the statistical information to which public players have access, and also because it would provide the required credibility to the results obtained.

Cooperation: Member and non-member States

Coordination: Not foreseen

Related documents:

"TSA development: current situation", Enzo Paci Papers on Measuring the Economic Significance of Tourism, Volume 1, 2001 (Will be updated by 2005)

"General guidelines for national tourism administrations (NTAs) relative to the development of the tourism satellite account (TSA)", February 2002

"Setting up a programme for the implementation of a TSA" (internal document), November 2003

3. Adapting the Tourism Satellite Account (TSA) conceptual framework from a regional perspective

Description:

Tourism is not just a territorially reflected activity, but it is a generalized fact that the different territorial administrations have a growing role in the design and management of tourism policies within their respective scopes of competence.

Moreover, and from a perspective of particular interest for the management of different tourism aspects, the supra-national level may be of interest due to the fact that it has the appropriate observation tools needed for the quantification of the economic impacts of tourism.

The WTO considers that the different possible extensions of the regional conceptual framework of the TSA (tourism balance of payments, quarterly macroeconomic indicators, etc.) should be the top priority. Thus the few experiences available should be taken very much into consideration and progress should be made with a view to designing general guidelines for their development, starting with the sub-national perspective.

Cooperation: Member and non-member States

Coordination: Not foreseen

Related documents:

“Adapting the Tourism Satellite Account (TSA) conceptual framework from a regional perspective”, February 2004 (Will be updated in 2005)

4. Keeping relevant the present conceptual framework of tourism statistics

Description:

Points 25-34 of the *"Report of the World Tourism Organization on the Development of Tourism Statistics"* presented to the UN Statistical Commission on its 35th session (2-5 March 2004), refer to this specific issue.

This was a proposal by the WTO regarding the periodic updating of the conceptual framework of tourism statistics taking the following assessment as its starting point: at this time, it does not seem reasonable to fundamentally or exhaustively modify either of the 2 existing standards instruments for several reasons, including, among others and as pointed out in point 26, the fact that the second international standard (relative to the TSA) already introduced a different type of updates and revisions with respect to the 1993 standard.

Another paragraph explained that any initiative for keeping the tourism statistics conceptual framework up-to-date requires waiting for the completion of the current ongoing revision processes of the classification of economic activities and products, and of the Balance of Payments Manual, since they will affect fundamental parts of the conceptual framework.

In this context, there are two possible initiatives that could be carried out over the next three years:

- one is to participate in the above-mentioned revision processes and wait for their completion, and
- another is to carry out, in parallel, a broad-based consultation taking into account the different suggestions put forward by the OECD, Eurostat Secretariats, as well as by several countries. This consultation would be geared toward producers and users with a view to gathering their proposals for modification with respect to the current standards. Naturally, upon the completion of the consultation, the proposals would be evaluated to decide on the existence of sufficient grounds to initiate, beginning in 2008, a new process for the preparation of a third set of international standards.

The UNSC Report on its 35th session (2-5 March 2004), reflects the debate that took place: *"The Commission noted the intention of the World Tourism Organization to undertake consultations with countries regarding existing recommendations on tourism statistics and explore the need for their updating; and emphasized that the consistency of a possible revision of standards on tourism statistics with the ongoing updates of the 1993 SNA and the Balance of Payments Manual had to be ensured"*.

Cooperation: Member and non-member States, IIOO, other relevant stakeholders

Coordination: WTO Committee on Statistics and Macroeconomic Analysis of Tourism

Related documents:

“Report of the World Tourism Organization on the development of tourism statistics”, UN Statistical Commission (UNSC) (E/CN.3/2004/13), March 2004.

“Report of the Commission on its thirty-fifth session”, UN Statistical Commission (UNSC) (E/2004/24 and E/CN.3/2004/33), March 2004.

II. Participation in the revision of other related international standards

The ongoing revision of ISIC, Rev.3 and CPC, version 1.0 have a direct influence on tourism statistics not only because of their direct relationship with the classifications of tourism characteristic products and activities, but also because of their relationship with the correspondence between CPC and the Extended Balance of Payments Services Classification (EBOPS). WTO is at present leading the “tourism perspective” in both revision processes.

This is also the case for the revision of the fifth edition of the Balance of Payments Manual as well as SNA93 in some basic issues of the TSA conceptual framework which is satellite both to National Accounts and to Balance of Payments, which has strong links with the Balance of Goods and Services in a significant number of countries.

As a consequence, WTO understands that important objectives should also be:

- to try minimize the conceptual differences presently existing between the Balance of Payments and the TSA, regarding some overlapping areas such as the definition of visitors (which is strongly related to that of residence), and the estimation of the expenditure associated with the flow of non-resident visitors to a country and with that of resident visitors travelling to a different economic territory (flows denominated respectively as inbound tourism and outbound tourism).
- although the TSA conceptual framework respects the production boundary defined in SNA93, and uses a set of concepts, definitions, classifications aggregates and tables which are consistent with the general System of National Accounts there are some minor adjustments regarding the treatment of tourism business expenses (considered as intermediate consumption of the corresponding producing unit in SNA93, and as a component of visitor consumption in TSA), that of package tours (lack of clear recommendation in SNA93) and some minor issues, that should be considered in the present revision process.

Projects associated with this line of action:

5. *Economic classifications of activities (ISIC) and products (CPC)*
6. *Compilation guidance in Travel for the Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services (MSITS)*
7. *Revision of the System of National Accounts (SNA93) and Balance of Payments Manual (BPM5)*

5. Economic classifications of activities (ISIC) and products (CPC)

Description:

All along the year 2000, WTO developed its project on Classifications to the developed during the period 2001/2006. Three main blocks were distinguished:

- classifications designed specifically or principally for the development of the System of Tourism Statistics (like purpose of visit, duration of trip, means of transport, etc.);
- general classifications, each of which contains a partial definition of tourism (ISIC rev. 3, CPC version 1.0, COICOP, EBOPS, etc.);
- specific classifications of diverse statistical units and variables, which are also used in specific areas of tourism analysis (education level, age, groups...).

With regard to the classifications in Block 1, the steps taken should be geared to proposing the development of the new classifications and the measures required to revise and update existing classifications. Ultimately, the aim of these two exercises is to meet the new tourism analysis requirements that have emerged in association with the TSA framework.

With regard to the Block 2 classifications, steps must be taken to identify all items relative to tourism on the basis of the definition of tourism accepted by the UNSC in the two sets of prevailing international recommendations: REC93 and REC00.

The initiatives that need to be proposed with regard to the Block 3 classifications will in principle be limited to recommendations relative to the disaggregation levels deemed necessary vis-à-vis prevailing international classifications for the purpose of international comparability.

A twofold action plan was developed for:

- promoting research and work in the field of classifications relative to the requirements of tourism analysis, with the participation and collaboration of other national and international bodies and organizations, and experts and consultants;
- coordinating the proposals that will be submitted to the UNSC for adoption as new international standards in the field of tourism and advising countries with regard to their application.

Cooperation: Expert Group and Technical Subgroup on International Social and Economic Classifications

Coordination: UNSD

Related documents:

“Proposals presented by WTO to the Technical Subgroup of the Expert Group on International Social and Economic Classification relative to the updating of CPC Version 1.0”, October 2000

“General Guidelines relative to the work on classifications to be developed by WTO during the period 2001-2006” (presented at the WTO's Committee on Statistics and Macroeconomic Analysis of Tourism), January 2001

“WTO's questionnaire on tourism characteristic activities: responses and comments”, July 2002

“International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC), Revision 4 – Reduced version prepared by the WTO for consultation on those categories of interest to tourism”, June 2004

6. Compilation guidance in Travel for the Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services (MSITS)

Description:

During the Seventeenth meeting of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services (ITFSITS), held at IMF Headquarters, Washington, 3-4 November 2003, IMF presented the draft annotated outline (AO) for the revision of the fifth edition of its Balance of Payments Manual (BPM5).

Consistently with previous agreements to pursue a modular approach to compilation guidance, the ITFSITS identified *"two main areas on which immediate work is focused—the provision of guidance on 1) alternative methods of compilation of the travel services component of the Extended Balance of Payments Service (EBOPS) classification and 2) compilation of statistics on the activities of foreign affiliates (FATS). For the first of these, IMF staff will work in association with the WTO/OMT and the Chairman of the Eurostat Technical Group Travel to build on the work previously produced for Eurostat by a consultant. This Group will first develop a structure outline for a training module that would be applicable to all compilation guidance produced by the Task Force. The development of guidance for travel services will use this structure outline and incorporate existing compilation guidance, including that which has been developed by WTO/OMT. Guidance will be for the classification recommended in the Manual, but will bear in mind possible changes that may be introduced as a result of the revision of BPM5"*.

As a result of this agreement, a first draft of a document: "Compilation Guidance for travel services" was presented to the ITFSITS meeting at OECD Headquarters, Paris, in April 2004, by WTO/OMT.

This document is the result of the agreement of all Agencies and representatives at that meeting that a discussion paper should be presented in all types of committees and appropriate fora in order to launch during 2004/5 a worldwide discussion that could contribute to fulfilling the responsibilities of International Organizations in the context of international trade in services already mentioned.

It focuses on those key issues related with the definition and measurement of expenditures associated with international travellers, with the objective of promoting the discussion between BOP compilers and other experts in the context of the revision process of BPM5 and the compilation guidance for the Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services (MSITS) requested by the UN Statistical Commission (UNSC).

Cooperation: Inter-Agency Task Force on International Trade in Services Statistics

Coordination: OECD

Related documents:

" *WTO's comments to IMF's draft annotated outline of the BPM5 revision*",
November 2003

"*Travel in Balance of Payments and Tourism as a traded service*" (Discussion
paper presented to the ITFSITS), July 2004

7. Revision of the System of National Accounts (SNA93) and Balance of Payments Manual (BPM5)

Description:

During the last meeting of WTO's Committee on Statistics and Macroeconomic Analysis of Tourism (8-9 March 2004), a Working Group was created, chaired by Canada, focusing on methodological aspects of the TSA.

The Secretariat of the Committee will prepare a document identifying those issues mutually linked in the three macroeconomic conceptual frameworks and will suggest proposals for bringing closer all of them.

Cooperation: UNSD / ISWGNA

Coordination: WTO's Committee on Statistics and Macroeconomic Analysis of Tourism

Related documents:

"About the correct treatment of the tourism business expenses in the compilation of the Tourism Satellite Account (TSA)", October 2002.

"Clarifying the treatment of travel agency, tour operator, travel agency services and package tours in SNA, Balance of Payments and TSA", April 2004.

III. Securing international comparability of tourism statistics

International comparability is a long-term objective, which can be secured through two procedures that complement and reinforce each other: the standardization of concepts, classifications and methods of compilation, used among reporting countries; and the dissemination of information using a formalized, uniform standard. Based on its experience in disseminating worldwide tourism statistics, the World Tourism Organization considers that the present situation is far from satisfactory and requires special attention and initiatives such as:

- special issue: cross-national compliance or harmonization studies of concepts and procedures (usual environment in domestic tourism statistics and others);
- follow-up review;
- notice and constructive advice when inconsistencies and non-compliance instances emerge or are discovered;
- occasional audit reviews to assess compliance with international standards;
- in-depth case studies to assess issues of international harmonization and compliance;
- publication of countries or organizations found in non-compliance, with significant variations from the established standards;

Projects associated with this line of action:

8. *Enlarging the scope of international comparability: updating statistical publications and databases*
9. *The operationalization of usual environment: general guidelines*
10. *European inter-regional tourism flows*

8. Enlarging the scope of international comparability: updating statistical publications and databases

Description:

The next edition of the *Compendium of Tourism Statistics* will include a new estimation of tourism expenditure associated with Inbound and Outbound Tourism adding the *Travel* and *International Transport of Passengers* items of the Balance of Payments.

WTO considers that this would constitute a more complete approximation of tourism expenditure given that passenger transport services form part of tourism products according to the conceptual framework for the measurement of the macroeconomic impacts of tourism used by the Tourism Satellite Account.

Furthermore, with regard to the indicators associated with domestic tourism, the new edition will also include the number of trips and the average length of stay of resident guests in accommodation establishments.

Also, attention will be devoted to WTO's statistical database updates by enlarging time series of key data and also by expanding the present coverage on specific areas.

Cooperation: Member and non-member States

Coordination: Bilateral

Related documents:

"*Compendium of Tourism Statistics 2005*" (Forthcoming, 2005)

9. The operationalization of usual environment: general guidelines

Description:

At the third meeting of the Committee on Statistics and Macroeconomic Analysis of Tourism (Madrid, 4-5 February 2002), Canada (The Canadian Tourism Commission) and Spain (Instituto de Estudios Turísticos) decided to create a Working Group in order to present a proposal on how to define, in an operative way, the concept of “usual environment” in relation to domestic tourism.

The background for this proposal lies in two different experiences. On one side, Canada was considering the adequacy of continuing using the 80 kilometres criterion, or alternatively taking into consideration the movements out of the territorial unit (administrative definition) where the residence is located. On its side, Spain has done relevant empirical work on the basis of the results obtained from the Survey FAMILITUR (Tourism movements of Spaniards) and supports the needs for clarification both from WTO and Eurostat.

The approach adopted for the work has consisted of two separate initiatives to develop two different lines of evidence: one at the international level, led by Spain, consisting of the compiling information about the methodologies used in different countries to carry out their demand statistics (for this purpose a questionnaire was designed and 39 countries sent their replies) and the second, led by Canada, consisting of conducting in-depth qualitative and quantitative pilot testing studies of the various alternative operational definitions and question combinations to apply the usual environment concept in national resident domestic travel surveys.

Conclusions and implications from the two independent lines of evidence include the following points:

- it has been empirically demonstrated by research in both Spain and Canada that differences in the choice of operational definitions of the usual environment concept central to the broad WTO/UN conceptual definition of domestic tourism produce substantively large and statistically significant differences in the size of estimates in the total volume of tourism at the national level within national jurisdictions;
- no international or domestic consistency exists in the operational definitions employed by different countries, or within some national jurisdictions, in their domestic travel surveys and analyses;
- using the usual environment concept as a respondent category introduces subjectivity, confusion and unsystematic variation in reported travel activity;
- using a simple travel distance criterion, on the other hand, introduces a false appearance of objectivity by masking subjective differences in respondents' abilities to recall and accurately measure travel

distance--thereby contributing to increased uncontrolled variance and volatility in subsequent data;

- A different measurement criterion for a departure from the usual environment--“crossing an administrative boundary”--could potentially provide an arbitrary gross standard as a ‘minimum basis of comparison’ for the purposes of international reporting, cumulative statistics and analysis;
- Although it would require further examination and assessment, addressing these issues at an international level to achieve greater harmonization and consistency in base definitions is potentially possible without any required changes in the current WTO/UN definitions;
- Other alternatives (such as supplementary guidelines, prototypes and case study examples), could provide sufficient guidance and information to aid national researchers and statisticians in applying, and developing comparable and consistent operational forms of the existing definitions."

Cooperation: Member and non-member States

Coordination: WTO's Committee on Statistics and Macroeconomic Analysis of Tourism

Related documents:

“Research on National Practices Defining the Usual Environment: Basic Findings”, Enzo Paci Papers on Measuring the Economic Significance of Tourism, Volume 3, 2003.

10. European inter-regional tourism flows

Description:

After a very large process, which initiated in the early 50's with the European Coal and Steel Community (the ECSC), the European Economic Community of 6, then 9, 10, 12, 15 and now the European Union of 25, Europe constitutes increasingly an economic entity on its own.

Alongside with an increasing economic interrelationship, statistical instruments under the leadership of Eurostat have also tended towards a greater convergence of methodology and contents, so that it might be possible to add and reconcile data produced within the individual Member States in order to obtain data which would fairly represent those of the Union as an entity.

In fact, EU-15 is the only known example where a special effort has been made to harmonize the observation tools used to obtain a uniform set of data associated with the tourism activity of residents (indeed, a legal norm forces all countries to use the same definitions and classifications).

WTO has started to analyze intra and extra EU-15 net flows of arrivals and departures, as well as other harmonized tourism variables.

The available data confirm that there are important differences concerning numbers of outbound visitors and inbound visitors, and obviously also of all the variables which are attached to these basic variables, which, for the time being, does not provide the appropriate conditions for speaking consistently of tourism in Europe.

Comparisons are difficult to develop because of important differences first of all in scope, and then in methodology: measurement at the border concerning arrivals is still not totally adopted in all countries (although country practices might be more advanced than what the data remitted to international organizations might indicate); some countries still leave out some ports of entry or some periods of time (late night shifts for instance), which might not have a significant global impact, but which might cause specific difficulties in specific bilateral comparisons. Additionally, there is no systematic information on metadata, which is the basis for valid comparisons.

It is important to point at the fact that countries seem to have much more data than what they actually disseminate with international organizations; a need for a detailed inventory of existing information should be a first step towards setting up the database required for any international comparison and reconciliation.

Cooperation: Eurostat (requested)

Coordination: Bilateral

Related documents:

"European Tourism Flows", document prepared by WTO for consideration to the meeting of the OECD's Statistical Working Party" (Paris, 15-16 December 2003).

"Measuring European Intra-Regional Tourism Flows" (forthcoming, article by Marion Libreros for the Enzo Paci Papers on Measuring the Economic Significance of Tourism, Volume 4, 2004)

IV. Design of standardized methodologies for statistical data collection

The work in this area was started in the year 2000 as part of WTO's understanding that the improvements in national Systems of Tourism Statistics and development of the Tourism Satellite Account has two basic prerequisites: credible and comparable data on arrivals of non-residents visitors and the associated tourism expenditures.

More specifically, as part of WTO's official "*General Guidelines for National Tourism Administration relative to the development of the Tourism Satellite Account*", it's mentioned that:

The work conducted by the National Tourism Administration (NTA) in the field of statistics should essentially be geared to meeting the following aims:

- The statistical exploitation and permanent updating of the administrative files and records that fall within its sphere of activity;
- Disposing, on a sporadic basis, of comprehensive data on foreign visitor arrivals through the various points of access to the country, and which can be associated with, at least, the following visitor characteristics: point of entry, visitor typology, country of residence, purpose of trip, duration of stay, type of accommodation used and main destination;
- To this end, the NTA should take steps to boost cooperation with the authorities responsible for border controls and, if necessary, with the various traffic regulation bodies, with a view to disposing of data relative to entry/departure flows that can be used to meet the respective information requirements;
- Taking steps to promote ongoing surveys of tourism expenditure associated with inbound tourism, which not only meet the NTA's analysis requirements, but also those of the Central Bank and National Statistical Office.

Projects associated with this line of action:

11. *Model border surveys measuring inbound tourism expenditure*
12. *Model entry/exit cards for measuring international flows of visitors*
13. *Collecting data on accommodation establishments using a model software*
14. *Design of a model "tourism module" for household income/expenditure surveys*

11. Model border surveys measuring inbound tourism expenditure

Description:

The WTO has promoted this new project in response to the growing interest of the international community in the development of general guidelines for improving the measurement of two basic variables: international arrivals and the corresponding visitor expenditures. This interest is not just for the sake of international comparability but also to ensure credibility in relation with tourism analysis and the measurement of tourism economic impacts both in a national or international context.

The first step of this initiative was the research "*Measuring Visitor Expenditure for Inbound Tourism*" being its purpose to estimate visitor expenditure associated with inbound tourism. In some of the cases which were analysed, estimating expenditure is the main aim of these operations; in others, this estimation is just one of the uses of a questionnaire basically designed for other purposes.

The model surveys proposed by WTO has taken into account the measurement of the economic impacts of tourism from a macro-economic perspective (of interest for Central Statistical Offices and Central Banks in connection with the estimate of Household final consumption expenditure of the Balance of Payment) as well as the needs of the National Tourism Administrations for marketing and analytical purposes

This proposal responds to the belief, shared by the four sponsors of the research (Canadian Tourism Commission, Instituto de Estudios Turísticos - Spain -, Swedish Tourist Authority and World Tourism Organization), that the type of data on tourism required both by the public and the private sectors has changed in nature. Besides quantitative information on the flow of visitors such as arrivals, overnight stays and descriptive information on the conditions in which visitors are received and served, countries now need robust information and new monetary indicators to enhance the credibility of the measurements concerning the economic importance of tourism.

Cooperation: UNSD / UN Regional Commissions / IMF

Coordination: Bilateral

Related documents:

"Measuring visitor expenditure for inbound tourism", February 2003

"WTO basic proposals on measuring visitor expenditures associated with inbound and outbound tourism, and on improving international arrivals and departures figures" (forthcoming, 2005)

12. Model entry/exit cards for measuring international flows of visitors

Description:

The WTO has promoted this new project in response to the growing interest of the international community in the development of general guidelines for improving the measurement of two basic variables: international arrivals and the corresponding visitor expenditures. This interest is not just for the sake of international comparability but also to ensure credibility in relation with tourism analysis and the measurement of tourism economic impacts both in a national or international context.

The second step of this initiative focuses its attention on what is undoubtedly the most relevant indicator in the statistical measurement of tourism, cross-border non-resident visitor flows, and its characterization in accordance with the basic tourism concepts and classifications established by the WTO and approved by the United Nations Statistical Commission in 1993.

It should be understood as the logical continuation of the one mentioned above, and which shares the same methodological approach. This is also based on the WTO's belief that the improvement and standardization of statistical data collection and measurement instruments in the field of tourism, through the dissemination of experiences and the development of specific methodological approaches, leads to increasingly reliable and comparable estimates of the different physical and monetary data available.

Its main objective is to develop a statistical prototype that could improve the measurement of the flows of travellers in a country of reference, as well as to elaborate general guidelines for its implementation, with a double purpose:

- To improve international comparability of arrivals and departures figures of non-resident visitors;
- To be a support for those surveys on tourism expenditure associated with inbound tourism, since it will provide a reference population framework (related to a specific subset of travellers: those who qualify as visitors) that would be an appropriate tool to develop the corresponding sample design and to upgrade the corresponding sample results.

Cooperation: Member and non-member States, UNSD (to request)

Coordination: Bilateral

Related documents:

"Comparative study of international experiences in the measurement of traveller flows at national borders", February 2004

"WTO guidelines on creating a universe of international flows of visitors at national borders", September 2004

13. Collecting data on accommodation establishments using a model software

Description:

The Accommodation Kit is aimed at both National Tourism Administrations (NTAs) and accommodation providers. For the former, it provides a convenient tool with which to collect and organise monthly accommodation statistics in a format that enables detailed analysis of the sector, and for the latter it provides an easy way to record guest movements and other data in a format that is desired by the collecting authorities.

This manual is structured in two parts:

- Part One is a user manual for the accommodation providers and explains to them how to run the Monthly Accommodation Statistics (MAS) programme. The MAS programme is available in English, French and Spanish and runs with Microsoft Excel;
- Part Two provides a technical background to accommodation statistics and their collection and analysis, and is aimed principally at the NTAs or relevant collecting authorities.

The basic aim of surveys on collective accommodation establishments is to measure their use, defined as the number of arrivals in hotels and similar establishments in a given period, generally one month, and the number of overnight stays in the same period. More specifically:

- To determine the geographical distribution of a large part of foreign tourist arrivals and their overnight stays in various regions of the country, according to the traveller's country of origin;
- To determine the geographical distribution of a part of domestic tourist arrivals and their overnight stays in the various regions of the country;
- To measure the use made by both resident and non-resident travellers over the supply of accommodation establishments according to type, category, location and size;
- To determine the seasonal variation in arrivals and overnight stays in all accommodation establishments of resident and non-resident travellers;
- To determine the seasonal variation of the supply of places in hotels and similar establishments by region and class of establishment, as well as their capacity for meeting demand;

- To match the supply of places with demand to determine occupancy rates according to the period, the region and the class and size of establishment; and
- To calculate the average duration of stay in accommodation establishments, by class of establishment, region and travellers' country of origin.

Cooperation: Member States

Coordination: Bilateral

Related documents:

"The Accommodation Kit", final draft, 2004.

14. Design of a model “tourism module” for household income/expenditure surveys

Description:

Although it is not yet consistently reported and/or aggregated at national or international levels, domestic tourism potentially contributes a major share of the aggregate volume and presumably the value of tourism activity to both national and international tourism economies.

The WTO considers the Household Income/Expenditure Surveys (HI/ES) to be an ideal instrument for estimating domestic tourism expenditure based on two main reasons: first, because of the solidity of this instrument of statistical observation, primarily designed and used to measure the consumer expenditure of resident populations; and secondly, due to its widespread use in different countries.

WTO's understanding is that each of our experiences as of the present time corresponds more or less to one of the following scenarios:

- Surveys specifically designed to estimate tourism expenditure (Ecuador and India);
- Surveys specifically designed to analyse the tourism behaviour of the resident population and include certain questions on tourism expenditure (European Union countries);
- Design of sub-samples to estimate tourism expenditure in HI/ES (Switzerland);
- Inclusion of certain questions on tourism expenditure in HI/ES (Colombia and Spain).

As for the “specific” surveys, their sample design should necessarily be very similar (if not identical) to that of HI/ES. As is well known, this type of household surveys are complex and costly, and so it is reasonable to think that only a very limited number of countries would be able to maintain continuous operations of this nature. The more usual case would be for a country that carries out an initial specific survey, to find the appropriate indicators in order to periodically update the main aggregates obtained from the initial exercise.

WTO will design a model “tourism module” to be included in HI/ES in order to obtain in the medium term, a set of comparative estimates of the importance of domestic and outbound tourism in different countries.

Cooperation: ILO

Coordination: WTO's Committee on Statistics and Macroeconomic Analysis of Tourism

Related documents:

"The Role of Household Budget Surveys in the Measurement of the Economic Impacts of Tourism: note submitted to the International Labour Organization (ILO) for its consideration", November 2002

"Measuring visitor expenditure associated with domestic tourism: using Household Income / Expenditure Surveys (HI/ES)", (forthcoming, 2005)

V. Collecting and publishing statistics

The Department of Statistics and Economic Measurement of Tourism prepares two general statistical reports: the *Yearbook* and the *Compendium of Tourism Statistics*. Both of them are published annually and the statistical data published are those officially received from National Tourism Administrations, National Statistical Offices and International Organizations (United Nations, International Monetary Fund and World Bank).

Also a limited number of technical notes are included.

Projects associated with this line of action:

15. *Statistical reports*
16. *Metadata Project*

15. Statistical reports

WTO publishes two general statistical reports:

- *The Yearbook of Tourism Statistics*, published in two volumes, presents for more than 200 countries and territories data on total arrivals and overnight stays associated to inbound tourism with breakdown by country of origin.
- *The Compendium of Tourism Statistics* provides statistical information on tourism in more than 200 countries and territories around the world. It is edited in English only, with countries classified according to English alphabetical order. For easy reference in Arabic, French, German, Russian and Spanish, the text of the selected indicators and the basic methodological references is printed in a thin separate pasteboard. The Compendium is designed to provide a condensed and quick-reference guide on the mayor tourism statistical indicators in each country.

In both reports, the terminology used in the selected indicators by country corresponds to the new or updated concepts applied in the *"Tourism Satellite Account (TSA): Recommended Methodological Framework"* approved by the United Nations Statistical Commission in March/April 2000.

All the data received are subject to different kind of controls:

- Comparison with the data provided at a previous moment, but referred to the same period;
- Comparison of the total figures with the corresponding breakdown;
- Comparison of the same figures with the corresponding breakdown by concepts;
- Control for logic consistency between data;
- Control for percentage variation to remain acceptable.

Any discrepancies observed are consulted with the informing unit that confirms or rectifies, if necessary, the data previously sent.

16. Metadata project

Description:

Over the past few years, enormous strides have been made (by Central Statistical Offices of numerous countries, as well as by certain international organizations) in the definition of standards for the documentation of diverse aspects of the data included in general statistical publications, such as in the case of the WTO, the *Compendium* and the *Yearbook of Tourism Statistics*.

WTO's project is part of the effort of the international community for developing the required documentation that should fit user's needs. Our project is an adaptation to tourism statistics of the available standards developed by the International Monetary Fund, which has been joined by other international organizations (notably, the OECD and Eurostat).

Because tourism statistics include a wide range of data produced by different type of institutions (both at a national and international levels), there is a need for standards for the presentation of metadata (which is the term used for documenting the coverage, temporal reference, distribution, and an entire set of other technical characteristics of the methodology used in the collection of the data used).

The document identifies the three stages of the project, and which should, in general, be carried out in the following sequence:

- Inventorying data sources;
- Inventorying available data related to tourism variables;
- Promoting the quality of data related to a potential TSA exercise.

It is in the first of these that the WTO has focused its efforts, and therefore, out of all the general guidelines proposed, those referring to the inventorying of data sources are the most developed ones: the typology of statistical sources considered (7), as well as the format used to store the available information have already been used by a significant number of countries (all Spanish-speaking).

Cooperation: Member and non-member States, Eurostat (to be requested)

Coordination: Bilateral

Related documents:

“WTO’s General Guidelines for documenting tourism statistics”, May 2004

VI. Other complementary projects

A different set of initiatives have been already developed by WTO although most of them very recently and a new draft will be required as soon as we'll receive a significant number of comments from those institutions or bodies to which have been presented.

None of them aim to achieve the international comparability of data that may be obtained unless other international organizations or regional bodies would take the initiative for so doing.

There are many reasons for this but perhaps the most obvious is that the experiences required and the type of sources needed in most of them necessarily supposes the acceptance of the central role of the NSO which is usually associated with a high complexity of economic, social and political development.

These projects intend to strengthen international cooperation on specific topics where other IIOO are in a better position to further develop them.

Projects associated with this line of action:

- 17. Tourism macroeconomic indicators*
- 18. New initiatives in short-term statistics: tourism as a case study*
- 19. Foreign direct investment in tourism industries (TFDI)*
- 20. Tourism Balance of Payments*

17. Tourism macroeconomic indicators

Description:

The set of indicators proposed, might help to rationalise statistical research in tourism and, at the same time, to promote longer-term objectives, specifically the construction of a TSA. It should be remembered that a satellite account involves a number of requirements not involved in the set of indicators, such as “exhaustiveness, because (the TSA) tries to describe the set of flows and physical and financial stocks relating to the field being investigated; internal consistency in the data collected, and consistency with the central framework of national accounts in order to facilitate comparison between the satellite account aggregates and those of the national accounts.

This proposal also identifies the organisations that would be most appropriate for calculating the set of indicators because they are the ones that supply and manage the information used. This means that it would be the actual specialists within the national institutions (mainly in the National Tourism Administrations, the Central Statistics Offices and the Central Banks) who could carry out this exercise.

Support is thus implicit for the creation of the Inter-Institutional Platform suggested by WTO for drawing up tourism statistics and the TSA, at least if calculation of the indicators given is integrated and gives rise to regular analyses of the activity in different countries pointing to the need for setting up programmes leading to the TSA.

The aim is to identify tourism-related economic indicators that can be obtained from establishing fairly simple links. It is not a question of defining all the indicators that would facilitate economic understanding of the activity (which can be achieved by carrying out statistical research on tourism and drawing up the TSA synthesis in the medium term), but of generating a minimum set of quantitative references on the sector based on data that is generally available, so that the public authorities and private operators can improve their understanding of the economic impact of tourism on the general economy and acquire indications on the growth of tourism activity, while the basis is established – where the decision has been taken - for setting up the TSA project.

This macroindicators project also focuses on economic analysis and can be useful for enlarging tourism as a case study in a supranational perspective.

Cooperation: ECLAC (requested), other UN Regional Commissions (to be requested)

Coordination: Bilateral

Related documents:

“Measuring the Economic Impact of Tourism: a Proposal for some Basic Indicators”, Enzo Paci Papers on Measuring the Economic Significance of Tourism, Volume 3, 2003

“Adapting the Process Towards a TSA in Latin America and the Caribbean: a General Perspective”, Enzo Paci Papers on Measuring the Economic Significance of Tourism, Volume 3, 2003.

18. New initiatives in short-term statistics: tourism as a case study

Description:

A *first initiative* relates to developing short-term statistics based on tax records as well as structural indicators that could be extremely useful for the development of TSAs.

WTO's carried out a research on experiences carried on in Australia, France, Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain, United Kingdom and United States, in order to evaluate, if sources such as Value Added Taxes (VAT) and the Business Income Forms – including either Corporation/Individual/Partnership/Sole Proprietorship Taxes – and Employer Returns Tax (or equivalent figures in different countries), could be of interest for tourism indicators. We found two types of application that are of special interest.

For finding out the population of companies associated with tourism so that a set of basic economic ratios of a structural nature (with their corresponding annual updates) can be related to them at the levels of activity identified in the above-mentioned list of tourism characteristic products and industries. This would be especially useful for promoting the economic analysis of tourism from the point of view of supply and would also support the development of TSAs.

For the purpose of economic policy, specifically in the area of employment, fiscal sources allow tourism companies to be grouped according to size (by number of workers or other criteria) with the necessary rigour and precision. They also allow certain economic variables (such as turnover, capital expenditure and wages and salaries) to be associated with such groups. This leads the way to rigorous formulation on the potential of tourism to create jobs.

Additionally, we have also for used on VAT data developing short-term tourism statistics (or on other equivalent figures such as the Goods and Services Tax (GST)) which offers enormous possibilities for complementing short-term tourism statistics from the point of view of the overall economic business cycle. More specifically, the applications developed in four of the countries analysed (New Zealand, Spain, France and Canada) are sufficiently illustrative of our conviction that this source could be especially useful for providing output indicators on a monthly/quarterly basis in relation to tourism industries.

A *second initiative* relates to the suitability of business tendency surveys. Tourism is a phenomenon mainly of demand and short term: therefore, demand forecast becomes essential in any scenario: specially in those activities like tourism characterized by the effect of seasonal factors, which must always be better known and evaluated in order to suitably streamline entrepreneurial response to tourist demand and its different components.

The purpose of business tendency surveys (a relatively cheap and rapid tool for monitoring and forecasting business cycles) seems to be indispensable

in order to know the perspectives of evolution of the main variables related to the supply side of tourist activity, essentially those associated with prices, employment, salaries, occupation level, among the most important ones. They can be applied to different agents: entrepreneurs associated with hotel and restaurants and, particularly travel agencies, that have privileged information regarding perspectives on future demands.

Cooperation: OECD (requested)

Coordination: Not foreseen

Related documents:

"New Statistical Initiatives in the Field of Tourism":

- *Tax sources and tourism industries: structural approach*
- *Using VAT data for developing short-term statistics*
- *Business tendency surveys applied to tourism industries"*

(Report sent to OECD Statistics Directorate, May 2003)

19. Foreign direct investment in tourism industries (TFDI)

Description:

The main objectives of this project are the following:

- First, to orient international organizations and national economic administrations regarding the current definition of tourism by its economic activities according to the "Tourism Satellite Account: Recommended Methodological Framework (TSA:RMF)" approved by the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) in 2000, with the aim of enlarging the usual concept of tourism and preventing it from being the object of the usual sub-sectoral restrictions;
- Second, to define and characterize TFDI flows, since they constitute an important source of financing of tourism enterprises and of Tourism Gross Fixed Capital Formation;
- Third, to apply international FDI flow measurement methodologies, proposed by international organizations, to tourism industries, proposing different applications of evaluation: tourism characteristic / related / non-specific industries ;
- Fourth, to contribute to making it possible to expand the indicators currently available on FDI to tourism industries, produced by UNCTAD, the OECD, Eurostat and other regional international organizations, as well as by the statistics compilers of member states, and to adapt them, as much as possible, to the delimitation of tourism established in the TSA:RMF, and also to allow the international comparability of TFDI flows and stocks in the medium term;
- lastly, to enhance through this initiative the relevance for certain countries of elaborating a Tourism Balance of Payments, for which it is necessary to have information on TFDI aside from that coming from the TSA.

Cooperation: UNCTAD (requested) / OECD (to be requested)

Coordination: Not foreseen

Related documents:

"General Guidelines for the Development of Foreign Direct Investment Indicator on the Tourism Sector", First Draft, March 2003

20. Tourism Balance of Payment

Description:

The preparation of the Tourism Balance of Payments (TBOP) can be considered of interest for countries that are important international tourism destinations and where tourism has an essential impact on the Balance of Payments.

The document "*Tourism Satellite Account: Recommended Methodological Framework (TSA:RMF)*", develops the concept of international tourism in three directions:

- a) it extends and specifies the "*composition*" of visitor consumption, differentiating between tourists and same-day visitors, demanding a greater disaggregation of tourist consumption for purpose of trip and for products, and including second homes occupied by non-resident owners, tourism social transfers in kind and the tourism expenditure of productive units;
- b) it extends its "*scope*" to include foreign transactions linked with intermediate consumption (IC) and the gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) of tourism industries and tourism collective consumption (TCC), in line with the additional aggregate proposal, called "total tourism demand";
- c) it identifies the expenditure of resident visitors travelling to a different country before departure or after their return, which should be recorded as the domestic tourism consumption of resident visitors.

Using an institutional perspective (which is quite different from the functional perspective used in TSA:RMF), the future development of the TSA will once again require an extension of the concept of international tourism to include foreign transactions related with tourism such as revenues, current and capital transfers, and even certain financial transactions such as tourism direct investments.

WTO will present a draft on TBOP identifying different possible stages in its implementation, which, like the TSA, must take place on a gradual basis and whose initial results should be considered as initial estimates (like the first TSA exercise which will obviously be considered as a pilot project).

The draft TBOP will be designed to meet three aims:

- to guide countries in the planning and design of basic tourism statistics on tourism foreign transactions;
- to encourage countries where inbound tourism is a relevant element of overall economic activity to examine the feasibility of preparing a TBOP;

- to define the corresponding methodological design in line with BOP conceptual framework.

Cooperation: Not foreseen

Coordination: Not foreseen

Related documents:

“Tourism Balance of Payments in Perspective: Feasibility of WTO proposal”, Enzo Paci Papers on Measuring the Economic Significance of Tourism, Volume 1, 2001 (A new draft will be released by 2005)