Tourism Statistics: Challenges and Good Practices

Regional Workshop for South East Asian countries

Demand perspective: characterization of visitors and tourism trips.

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Characterization of visitors

- Characteristics
 - Country of residence
 - Gender
 - Age
 - Economic activity status
 - Occupation
 - Annual household, family or individual income
 - Education



Forms of tourism

- **Domestic tourism**: comprises the activities of a resident visitor within the country of residence, either as part of a domestic tourism trip or part of an outbound tourism trip;
- Inbound tourism: comprises the activities of a nonresident visitor within the country of reference on an inbound trip;
- Outbound tourism: comprises the activities of a resident visitor outside the country of reference either as part of an outbound rip of as part of a domestic tourism trip.



Travel party; travel group

- Travel party: visitors traveling together on a trip and whose expenditures are pooled (IRTS 2008 para 3.2.)
- Travel group: made of individuals or travel parties traveling together IRTS 2008 para 3.5.)



In a travel party, the main purpose is usually shared; but each member might have his/her own second purpose

Characterization of tourism trips

- Main purpose
- Types of "tourism products"
- Duration of trip/stay/visit
- Origin and destination
- Modes of transport
- Types of accommodation
- Use of package



Main purpose of a tourism trip

Definition: the purpose in the absence of which the trip would not have taken place

- 1. Personal
 - Holidays, leisure and recreation
 - Visiting friends and relatives
 - Education and training
 - Health and medical care
 - Religion/pilgrimages
 - Shopping
 - Transit
 - Other
- 2. Business and professional



National adjustments are possible, but categories should include a sufficient number of possible observations

Duration of a trip/stay/visit

- Duration might be measured:
 - From the point of departure: absence from the usual environment;
 - From the destination: duration of stay in a country, in a place;
 - From a place of accommodation (length of stay in a hotel....)



Need to define what we want to measure and if the different measurements are equivalent

Types of accommodation

- Define a national (or regional) relevant typology based on:
 - Market/non market; paying/non paying
 - According to types of additional services included in the price paid
 - Etc.
- Take into consideration second homes and innovative forms of second home ownership (timeshares, condo hotels, fractionals, private clubs, etc.) if relevant – Definitions...



Observing characteristics of visitors and tourism trips

- Case of Inbound tourism
- Case of Outbound tourism
- Case of Domestic tourism



Inbound tourism

- Comparing the concepts used in administrative sources with IRTS
 - Nationality vs. country of residence
 - Identifying whether the trip is or not within the usual environment
 - Place of stay
 - Duration of trip
- Combining administrative sources with surveys
 - Using administrative sources as a universe of reference
 - Issue of frequency of observation
- Diversifying methods according to type of points of entry

- Road vs. air vs. water

Domestic tourism

- Administrative sources?
- Surveys:
 - Module in a household survey
 - Specific survey to resident households
 - Surveys at places of collective accommodation
 - Surveys at tourism sites
- How to identify tourism trips?
- How to identify purpose of trip?



Outbound tourism

Observe: either as inbound tourism either as domestic tourism

