



Singapore's TSA: Strategic Alliance Between NTA and NSO



Singapore's Experience in TSA

- Roles of NTA and NSO
- Background
- Scope & Coverage
- Data Sources
- Challenges & Difficulties
- Potentials & Future Development

Roles of NTA and NSO

- Singapore Tourism Board (NTA)
 - Major stakeholder
 - Provide resources and domain knowledge
 - Provide demand-side data on tourists' expenditure (Overseas Visitor Survey)

- Singapore Department of Statistics (NSO)
 - National accounting expertise; ensure consistency and compliance with SNA93.
 - Knowledge of and many years' experience in the compilation of I-O tables. The first IO compiled for year 1973 and subsequently benchmarked every 5 years.
 - Provide supply side data.

- Alliance facilitates sharing of data, knowledge and expertise in their respective domains.

Background

- First TSA based on IO 1990 tables
 - Time: 1995-1997
 - Joint project of Singapore Department of Statistics and Singapore Tourism Board
 - Favorable conditions:
 - - Implementation of SNA93
 - - Years of experience in Input-output tables compilation
 - - Data availability: IO tables, visitor expenditures etc.
 - - Consultation and help from national and international statistical agencies, e.g. WTTC, WEFA, WTO, Canada, ABS etc
- TSA was updated to 1995 with availability of IO 1995 tables
 - Project commenced in Feb '03 and was completed in Dec '03.

Scope & Coverage

□ Type of Tourism - Inbound Tourism

■ Impact of

- Consumption of non-resident visitors on domestic output in Singapore
- Outbound tourism excluded (inadequate data)
- Domestic tourism excluded (less relevant & significant in Singapore)

□ Visitor Consumption

■ Covers

- Ground consumption expenditure of visitors
- Imputed consumptions – individual non-market services (e.g. museums)



□ Tourism Commodities

- Based on Survey of Overseas Visitors conducted by Singapore Tourism Board
- Classification based on IO table
- List of 38 items for TSA 1995
- Cover sectors of agriculture, commerce, transportation, financial & business services, and other services

□ Tourism Industries

- Classification based on IO table
- List of 13 industries for TSA 1995
- Cover sectors of commerce, transportation, financial business services and other services
- Data extracted from Survey of Services and Commerce

Data Sources

- Demand-side (mainly from STB)
 - Overseas Visitor Survey (OVS)
 - Supplemented with other data sources, particularly BOP (e.g. foreign students' expenditure, full air and cruise fees etc.)

- Supply-side (mainly from DOS)
 - Survey of Services
 - Survey of Commerce

Difficulties & Challenges

■ Data Constraints, for e.g.

a) Visitor Consumption

- Within the scope of visitor demand, it would be more comprehensive to cover:
 - Expenditure made by third parties on behalf of visitors (transfer in kind such as the direct purchase of services for the benefit of the visitor, e.g. invitation to movie or restaurant)
 - Imputed consumptions on collective non-market services (e.g. Special civil defense services related to the protection of visitors)
 - These data not covered currently. Difficult and costly to collect; unlikely to cover in near future.

b) Outbound Tourism

- Presently no survey on expenditure by residents travelling abroad.

c) Tourism Gross Fixed Capita Formation

- WTO recommends looking at net acquisition of tourism-specific capital goods by tourism industries.
- No ready source of data on investment by tourism industries.

■ Resources and Capability

- Staff turnover and resource constraints. Challenge to retain good staff and build capability in compilation and application of satellite accounts.



Potentials & Future Development

Extend applications of the TSA

- Develop expertise in economic modeling for impact studies.
- Study further the feasibility of annual or quarterly link-on indicators to project/estimate VA contribution of tourism from TSA or IO reference years.



Thank You!