Information provided by Albania about the following topic discussed in the Capacity-building Programme on Tourism Statistics, I Workshop - Vienna, 1-4 April 2008

INBOUND TOURISM AND BALANCE OF PAYMENTS (BOP):

BOP developments, ("travel" and "passenger transportation" items)

- Present situation of administrative records and expenditure surveys used for estimating the “travel” and “passenger transportation” items.
- No Administrative record for estimating “travel” and “passenger transportation” items.
- EXPENDITURE SURVEY:
  - Survey on borders, applied to a sample of population of all travelers for the period observed (BoP Survey)
  - One-year air passenger exit survey at Tirana International Airport – UNDP
  - Seasonal visitor survey at four cultural and natural attractions (Berat, Butrint, Gjirokastra and Theth) – UNDP

Survey on tourism

- Survey on borders:
  - Conducted by: Bank of Albania
  - Carried by: INSTAT
  - Mode of survey: interviews
  - Questionnaires designed for 4 types of travelers:
    1. Albanian resident
    2. Albanian non-residents (migrants)
    3. Foreign resident
    4. Foreign nonresident
  - Frequency: 4 times/year

Survey methodology

- Purpose of survey: information on traveler journey
- Expenses of the traveler (resident and non-resident) during their journey
- The purpose of their visit
- The duration of stay
  - Sampling: based on the inflow/outflow of tourists provided by MIA
  - Data processing:
    - Journey expenses
    - Break down of total expenditure:
      - Hotel accommodation,
      - Food and beverage,
      - Gifts and souvenirs, handcrafts,
      - Other expenses
Treatment of tourism in BoP (cont’s)

Purpose of travel:

- **Personal travel:**
  - leisure activities (holidays, participation in sports and other recreational and cultural activities)
  - visits with relatives and friends, pilgrimage and religious observances, studies
  - health-related purposes.
- **Business travel:**
  - Government employees on official travel
  - Int’l organizations on official business
  - Carrier crews, sales campaigns.
  - Seasonal and border employees

Treatment of tourism in BoP

BPM5: travel services (component of services under current account)
Traveler: less than one year,
Exclusions:
(a) being stationed on a military base or being an employee
(b) being an accompanying dependent of an individual
(c) undertaking a productive activity directly for an entity that is a resident of that economy
Tourist: at least one night
Tourist expenditure: all goods and services acquired by traveler

Further concerns of the compilation
On the survey
- Doesn’t cover all the borders
On the official data on travelers
- Albanian resident vs. Albanian nonresidents
- Foreign resident vs. Foreign nonresidents
- Purpose of the visit (Albanian travelers)

Plans for improvement
1. Conduct ad-hoc surveys on minor borders not covered to the regular surveys
2. Extending the sample population
3. Improving the data on travelers based on the residency

One-year air passenger exit survey at Tirana International Airport - UNDP
- In partnership with INCAE (Costa Rica). Over 600 questionnaires collected from April 2007 till now; mid-term report December 2007
- Trip expenses
  - Break down of total expenditure in dollars:
Seasonal visitor survey at four cultural and natural attractions (Berat, Butrint, Gjirokastra and Theth) - UNDP

- In partnership with local organizations. Over 800 questionnaires collected from June to September 2007; final report December 2007
- Trip expenses
  - Break down of total expenditure in dollars:
    - accommodation,
    - food and drink,
    - local transport,
    - entertainment and/or leisure activities,
    - gifts and souvenirs,
    - handcrafts,
    - other expenses