

# Basic Principles for Official Statistics of Bulgaria

# As an example of Tourism Statistics

**Lidia Sandeva** – Head of Tourism Statistics Sector Vienna 2-5.12.2008

#### **Principles**

- Official statistics is one of the main elements in the information system of democratic society in Bulgaria.
- Tourism statistics is one of top priorities of the National statistical system and NSI is main player in that field as independent data producing and dissemination agency in the country.

- Tourism Statistics is serving the Government, the economy and the public with data about the situation in the branch.
- Tourism statistics meets the test of practical utility and it is compiled and made available on an impartial basis.

#### **Principles**

- The Tourism Statistics data are produced by the Bulgarian National Statistical Institute.
- NSI produces and disseminates data on tourism in full compliance with national legislation, professional, scientific and ethics principles in force in the country.
- According to the Law on Statistics, the NSI is responsible for the content of the statistics, and for the correctness of the data, thus guaranteeing continuity in the production of the statistics concerned.

- Tourism statistics contains essential and nationally comprehensive data on the topic they represent. (Relevance)
- Official statistical data on tourism should be essentially free from error. The measures for correcting errors possibly detected in data should be defined separately in accordance with the recommendation approved by the NSI Methodological Council. (Accuracy of data)

### **Principles**

The data of Tourism statistics must be as up-to-date as possible and their release times are known in advance and published in a release calendar maintained by the NSI. (Timeliness and promptness)

In addition to actual data, Tourism statistics contains a description of the main results, and of the used concepts and methods to facilitate interpretation of the statistics, and they are generally accessible for the public. (Accessibility and transparency of data)

### **Principles**

Tourism statistics meets as well as possible the criterion on the comparability of data (between units, over time and with other statistics). Tourism statistics primarily use general and established concepts and statistical classifications. The factors affecting the comparability of the statistics should be documented and specified. (Comparability).

Tourism statistics data are logically consistent with other statistics. If data on the same topic are derived from different sources (administrative records, surveys), any differences in concepts and collection processes should be specified. Different concepts have to be used for data originating from different sources (e.g. use of footnotes). As a rule, established international concepts and classifications are used. (Coherence and consistency)

#### **Principles**

- In line with the Law on Statistics and the Law on Personal Data Protection, NSI does not publish and disseminate individual, micro and confidential data. (Data confidentiality)
- Individual data collected by the NSI are strictly confidential and are used for statistical purposes only.

- Bulgarian National Statistical Institute is the main player in the field of tourism statistical data collection, processing and dissemination in the country.
- To fulfill its duties, NSI is working in close collaboration with other governmental and non governmental organizations as State Agency for Tourism, Ministry of Interior (Border Police), Bulgarian National Bank, etc.

Thank you for your attention!