Tourism Statistics Standards – Inbound Tourism

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Inbound Tourism – developments since Workshop I

• Because of the Schengen Agreement previous border checkpoints are replaced by different hotels in Riga, popular tourist places like old town, palace, aqua park etc.

• Whole year – palace, old town and 3 hotels, during summer time – plus 3 hotels, aqua park, museum.

• Traffic counters on roads.
Inbound Tourism – planned developments since Workshop I

- Looking for other alternatives where to interview non-residents – it is possible to add more hotels (also in regions), tourist popular places in countryside, petrol stations or cafes near the border.

Inbound Tourism – Visitor measures

- Data collected through Inbound Survey and survey combined with administrative procedures in case for border checkpoints with Russia and Belarus.

- From the scope of inbound travelers are excluded long term workers, nomads, crew, diplomats, armed forces, long term students and transit passengers not entering the economic territory.

- In the scope of inbound travelers are included workers that spent less than 12 months in the country of reference.

- Problem – workers are included in the scope of extrapolation basis and this information is necessary for the use of Central Bank of Latvia.
Inbound Tourism – Country of residence vs Country of citizenship

• The interviewer asks the respondent the country of residence.

• The main criteria is 12 months, if the non-resident has spent in Latvia more than 12 months then the interview will be terminated.

Inbound Tourism – Workers

• As we don’t interview at the border checkpoints (Lithuania, Estonia) any more, the proportion of the purpose of work has decreased.

• Flows of incoming and outgoing travelers by residents and non residents are used for extrapolation and received from State Border Guard (administrative procedure).

• To exclude these travellers we have to find different source of data for extrapolation purposes.
Outbound Tourism - developments since Workshop I

• Residents of Latvia are interviewed through tourism agency when returning from abroad, the guide distributes the questionnaires after a trip.

• Conclusions – response rate was low, most of the questionnaires were useless because were filled without the help of the professional interviewer.

Outbound Tourism – planned developments since Workshop I

• During the winter and autumn we will not give the questionnaires to the tourism agencies because there are only few bus-tours.

• Considerations to look for other ways in interviewing residents of Latvia.
Thank You for your attention!

Questions are welcome… …