



TSA implementation in Romania



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Present situation

- TSA in Romania is a **incipient phase** (not yet implemented...)
- An **experimental TSA** within **2004** INCDT research project (unpublished data)
- General guidelines provided by 2005 and 2008 INCDT (feasibility) studies
- Some actions **to facilitate** the TSA process carried out (2007-2009) – obtaining detailed data on:
 - ✓ expenditure of foreign tourists
 - ✓ excursionists (domestic and abroad)
 - ✓ travel agencies for disaggregating tourist packages
- Some **lacks/weaknesses** in terms of:
 - **Resources** (human, financial)
 - **Awareness on TSA importance** among decision-makers at high level positions at NTA and CSO
 - **Recognition** of TSA as a statistical standard for National Accounts Department
 - **Responsibility**
 - **Authority**

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Difficulties faced

- There was no “official” experimental TSA (2004)
- No inter-institutional platform on TSA
- Responsibility not shared and clearly established
- Unpublished data vs. published data
- One time (research) project vs. continuous activity
- Not being aware to the fact that **TSA** is mainly a “**prerogative of National Accounts (NA)**” (There is no TSA without NA!!!)
- TSA as a **recommended** statistical standard **not mandatory** one (maybe an international obligation - within SNA - is necessary?!)

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Lessons learnt

- A strong lobby is necessary to convince decision makers about the importance of TSA implementation in Romania
- Not to have experimental "TSAs" but to produce TSA on regular basis (one experimental TSA is enough!)
- Need for an **official institutional responsibility** for having TSA
- Producing detailed tourism statistics is the starting point but this should be continued with regular TSA tables compilation
- If there is no "external pressure/request" (e.g. mandatory standard) the interest is very low due to different reasons... ☹

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Future projects towards an experimental TSA

- For the second time an experimental TSA is envisaged within a joint research project "*Models for tourism sectoral assessment in Romania*" planned to be carried out in 2010:
 - Joint research project of INCDT, INS, IEN and a private company
 - This project involves also the survey on the "characteristicity" of tourism industries in Romania (from supply side)
 - TSA as a distinct assessment instrument along / complemented by other economic impact instruments (Input – Output analysis, multipliers, CGE models)
 - ... but *this is a research project not a regular activity!!!*

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