TSA implementation in Romania

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Present situation

- TSA in Romania is an **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- An **experimental TSA** within 2004 INCDT research project (unpublished data)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**

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- Unpublished data vs. published data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...

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” planed 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!!!*
Past and future...

The scheme of the TSA process in Romania (from 2004 onwards):

Pilot TSA → TSA feasibility study (partly) → Actions to improve the statistical basis → Having a full TSA (at least Tables 1-6) → TSA extensions (regional, VFR, indirect effects etc.)

Time axis


TSA as a continuous activity

TSA as a (one time) project

Thank you for your attention

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