# Balance of Payments Travel Item. Achievements and difficulties.

IV workshop (18-20 November 2009, Vienna)

Presentation of the Bank of Russia

#### Main source of information:

 The Federal Frontier Service of the Russian Federation

## Periodicity of information:

Quarter

## Original Data of the Federal Frontier Service:

Purpose of trip Country	Business	Tourism	Private	Transit passengers	Service personnel
all countries					

Type of vehicle Country	Road	Water	Railway	On foot	Airplane
all countries					

## **Problems:**

- ✓ The duration of stay is unknown;
- ✓ The first destination country is shown (in case of outbound travel);
- ✓ Lack of administrative control on Russian Belarussian border;
- ✓ Health- and education travel is not identified separately.

#### Matrix: purpose of trip \* type of vehicle

by main partner-countries

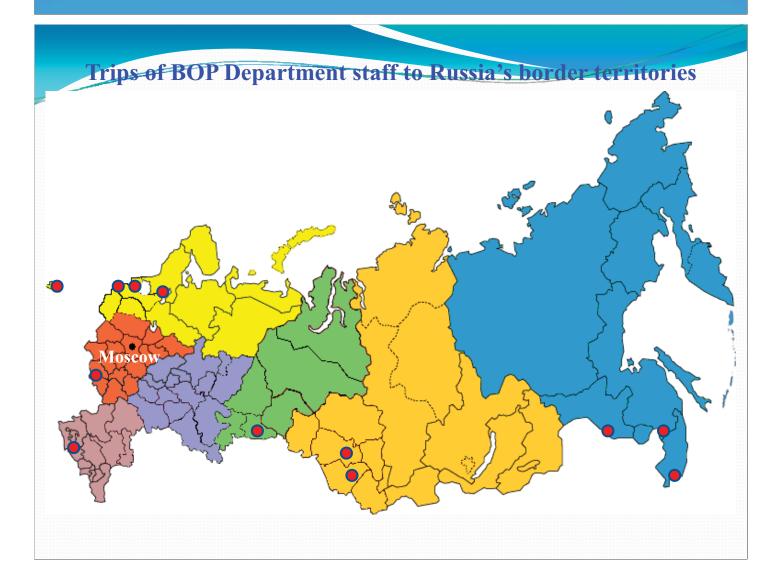
Type of vehicle Purpose of trip	Road	Water	Railway	On foot	Airplane
Business					
Tourism					
Private					
Transit passengers					
Service personnel					

## Sources of information for inbound travel expenditures per one trip:

- Prices for the hotels in the regions of Russia;
- The information of the CIS countries about their officially fixed expenditures on business trips;
- Travel exhibitions;
- Trips to Russia's border territories conducted by Balance of Payments Department staff.

## Sources of information for <u>outbound</u> travel expenditures per one trip:

- Prices for hotels abroad for 52 countries;
- Prices for standard travel packages;
- Database on structure of organized tourism abroad;
- Standard allowance for business trips fixed by the Ministry of Finance of Russia;
- Survey of the regional travel companies;
- Trips to the border regions of Balance of Payments Department staff.



#### Outbound travel expenditures include:

- hotel or other;
- food;
- additional expenditures:
  - Russians go shopping abroad and buy expensive goods;
  - travel agencies estimate additional expenditures as being equal to price of the tour.

## Example of average additional expenditures of the Russian tourists in the Q2, 2009

	USD
United States	
(of America)	1 202
United Arab Emirates	1 148
United Kingdom	
(of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)	1 096
France	993
Italy	958
CIS – countries	61 - 75

# Difficulties in determining average expenditures

- additional expenses
- need for partner country comparison
- lack of questions on travel expenditures in households' surveys

#### Achievements

- Travel by country
- Business and Personal Travel
- Quarterly and annual analytical papers on main developments

## Influence of separate factors on export and import changes in Travel item

(the first half of 2009 in comparison with the first half of 2008)

billions \$

	1 <sup>st</sup> half	1 <sup>st</sup> half	Total	at the expense of:			
	of 2008	of 2009	(growth (+); decrease (-))	changes of number of trips	changes of expenditures per one trip	structural displacement	
Export	5,5	4,2	-1,3	-0,5	-0,7	-0,2	
Import	10,6	9,2	-1,4	-1,3	-0,2	0,1	
Total	16,2	13,4	-2,8	-1,7	-0,9	-0,1	
Balance	-5,1	-5,0	0,1	0,8	-0,4	-0,3	

Thank you