

National Systems of Tourism Statistics:

*An overview of the country responses
to the UNWTO request for information*

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I. Structure of STS and interagency cooperation *IRTS 2008 recommendations*

Para 9.30: It is recommended that ... agencies establish and maintain the necessary working arrangements with each other ...

Such arrangements **should be documented** and should specify for what kind of tourism statistics (data series) each agency is responsible and the methods used for the exchange of information and for the preservation of confidentiality.

Para 9.31: It is recommended that joint data collection programmes be promoted ... Inter-agency cooperation may help to identify new ways to use the data that are already collected by recompiling it in order to satisfy the needs of other areas of statistics.

I. Structure of STS and interagency cooperation *IRTS 2008 recommendations*

Para 9.33: It is recommended that national statistical offices monitor the compilation and dissemination of tourism statistics to periodically assess compliance with the international recommendations on tourism statistics and other relevant statistical requirements.

Provide assistance to other agencies.

Para 9.29: ... they **must follow** the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

I. Structure of STS and interagency cooperation

Countries participating in Workshop II:

#	Country	Code
1	Azerbaijan	AZE
2	Belarus	BLR
3	Georgia	GEO
4	Kazakhstan	KAZ
5	Moldova	MDA
6	Russian Federation	RUS
7	Ukraine	UKR
8	Uzbekistan	UZB

I. Structure of STS and interagency cooperation

Organizations	AZE	BLR	GEO	KAZ	MDA	RUS	UKR	UZB
Tourism Administration	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Statistical office	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Immigration and Border Police		X	X	X		X	X	X
Central Bank		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Other								
Do you have a formal (or informal) interagency working group to oversee the implementation of your country's system of tourism statistics?	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
If NO, do you plan to set-up such a group in future?		Yes			Yes			

II. Implementation of IRTS 2008

	AZE	BLR	GEO	KAZ	MDA	RUS	UKR	UZB
Percent of "Yes" answers to the UNWTO questionnaire on the implementation of IRTS 2008	26%	18%	53%	45%	17%	23%	43%	47%
Plans to improve compliance with IRTS 2008	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

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III. Compiled data and users

Indicator	
Compiled data variables as % of data variables listed in the UNWTO questionnaires; <i>lack of data on tourism industries</i>	30 – 35%
Do you produce any data/indicators for analyzing, monitoring or evaluating the environmental implications of tourism development, at either national or sub-national level?	Nobody
Do you compile TSA?	2 have some TSA tables
Users	
Government and other central state agencies	All
Local authorities (regional, municipalities etc.)	Most
Business community	Few
Research institutions	Few
Mass media	Most
International and regional organizations	All

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IV. Data quality and metadata

Questions	AZE	BLR	GEO	KAZ	MDA	RUS	UKR	UZB
Do you apply any data quality assessment framework to your tourism statistics?	No	Yes ?	No	No	No	No		
<i>If NO in (a), do you plan to produce any such data quality assessment framework?</i>	No		Yes			Yes		
Do you implement a formal system of producing metadata relating to your tourism statistics?		Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes
<i>If NO in (a), do you plan to produce metadata in the future?</i>			Yes					

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IV. ... dissemination of tourism statistics

How statistics is disseminated	
Specialized tourism statistics yearbook	Most
Specialized quarterly publication on tourism statistics	Few
Monthly press-release	?
Making tourism statistics available on the website	Most
Publication of tourism statistics in other statistical publications (e.g., in general statistical yearbooks)	Most
On-line access to tourism statistics database	Nobody

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V. Strengths and weaknesses of STS - strengths

- Normative base is available for collection of many kinds of data and for further work in this direction
- Adoption (partial) of international standards (e.g., IRTS 2008 and EU classifications)
- Recoding of travelers crossing borders (some countries)
- Reporting by tour operators and travel agencies is established
- Awareness of the importance of tourism statistics and willingness to apply international experience

V. Strengths and weaknesses of STS - weaknesses

- Unsatisfactory interagency cooperation and problems with administrative data
- Inadequate financing and lack of (experienced) staff
- Difficulties with IRTS 2008 implementation
- Problems with collection of data on domestic tourism and tourism industries
- Limited surveys of households
- Absence of detailed data on many important indicators

V. ... future plans

- Improved compliance with IRTS 2008 and use of international experience
- Establishing (strengthening) of interagency working group on tourism statistic
- Improvements in methods of data collection in selected areas (especially data on domestic tourism and tourism industry)
- Development of TSA

Thank you for your attention!