

UNWTO Special Workshop on Tourism Statistics

20-21 November 2014 Todaiji Temple Cultural Center - Nara - Japan

Session 3:

Institutional and technical requirements for successful Tourism Satellite Account (TSA) implementation b. The examples on developing TSA

Tourism Satellite Accounts in Europe: state of affairs

DG EUROSTAT, Unit G-3 'Short-term business statistics and tourism'



Outline of the presentation

- TSA governance in the European Union
- TSA initiatives (including some analytical results)
- Outcomes of TSA survey (conducted among tourism statisticians and TSA compilers in October 2014)



TSA governance in the European Union

No EU-wide legal framework for TSA

- EU legal framework for European statistics on tourism
- Focus on primary statistics (tourism flows in accommodation establishments, domestic and outbound tourism demand)... also as "building blocks" for TSA
- No EU requirements on Tourism Satellite Accounts... but many primary data sources (tourism statistics, business statistics, National Accounts, etc.) harmonised at EU level



TSA governance in the European Union

Compiling TSA is a decision at (sub)national level

- Depending on the importance of tourism for a given country (user needs), priority setting, availability of budget
- In most European countries that compile TSA, the national statistical institute is in charge; in a few cases it is the tourism ministry or yet another institution
- Where national statistical institute is in charge, in half of the cases the **tourism statistics** department is responsible, in the other half it is the **national accounts** department



Methodological work in the EU

- 3 waves of grants for European countries to support the development of TSA (2000 – 2006, financed by the European Commission (DG ENTR))
- Project "Methodological work on Tourism Satellite Accounts in the European Union" (2008 – 2009, led by the European Commission (Eurostat))
 - Inventory of TSA work done and progress made in EU countries, comparison of methodologies, empirical results, directory of good practices, now-casting of TSA figures
 - http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/tourism/ methodology/projects and studies



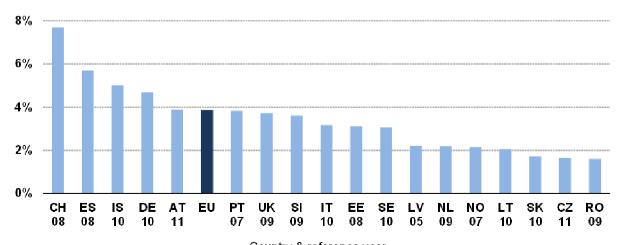
Voluntary transmission of selected TSA indicators

- In 2010 and 2013, Eurostat asked European countries to send, on a voluntary basis, available national TSA figures for a pre-defined set of indicators
 - 22 countries participated
 - Results somehow representative at EU level but often fragmented and not entirely comparable
 - Publication available on the Eurostat website (<u>2013 edition</u>)
 - Likely to be repeated in 2015/2016



Voluntary transmission of selected TSA indicators

- Some observations
 - The contribution of tourism to the economy was on average 3.9% (= the internal tourism consumption as a proportion of total domestic supply)



EU estimate: average value based on data from 18 countries for which the tourism ratio could be calculated

Country & reference year



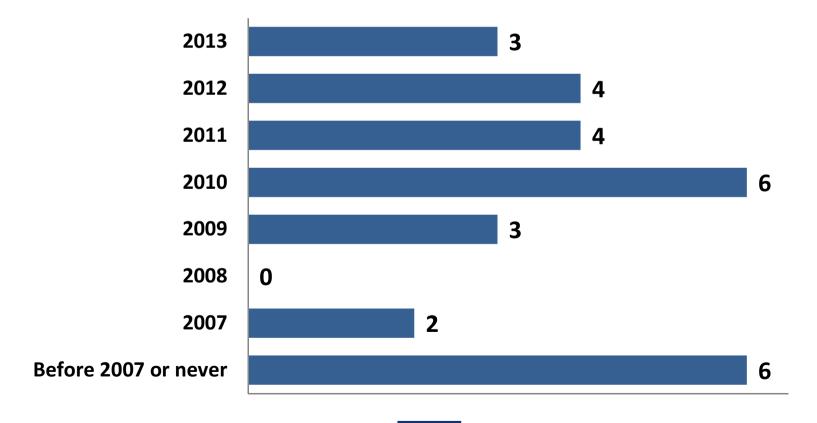
Voluntary transmission of selected TSA indicators

- Some observations (continued)
 - Domestic tourism accounted on average for 70% of internal tourism expenditure, ranging from 83% in Germany to 8% in Montenegro
 - More than half of domestic tourism expenditure was by same-day visitors (52%), while inbound tourism expenditure was dominated by overnight visitors (90%)
 - In the 12 countries for which employment data was available, tourism generated more than 10 million jobs [extrapolation to EU-28 level would estimate the tourism employment at around 17 million jobs]



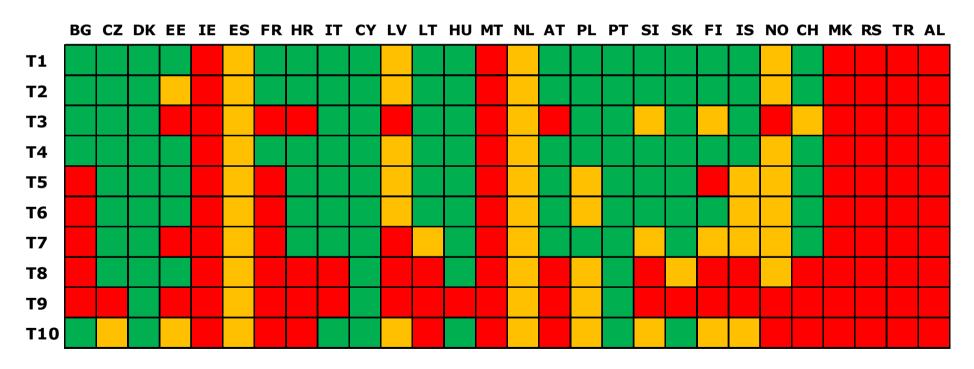
Outcomes of TSA survey (n=28)

Most recent reference year for TSA (# countries)





Overview of state-of-affairs (countries, TSA tables)



- Green = completely or almost completely covered ; orange = partially covered ; red = not covered
- Self-assessment as reported by the country

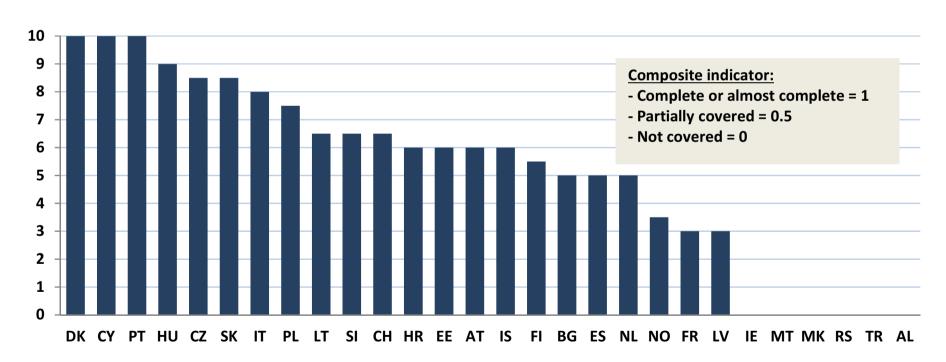


Self-assessed coverage, by TSA:RMF table (# countries)



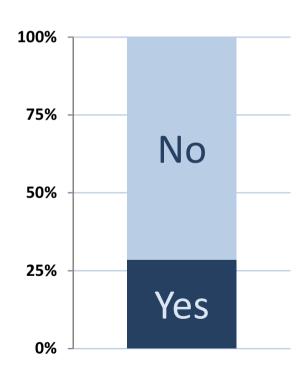


Self-assessed coverage, by country (# TSA tables)





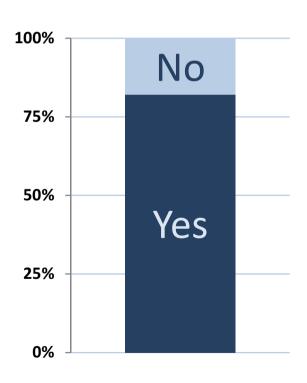
Is TSA used properly and at its full potential?



- No significant differences between advanced and less advanced TSA countries
- Does the "internationally recognised framework" live up to its expectations?
- Possibilities and limitations of currently available TSA data?
- Costs versus benefits?
 Resources versus relevance?
- How to educate users?



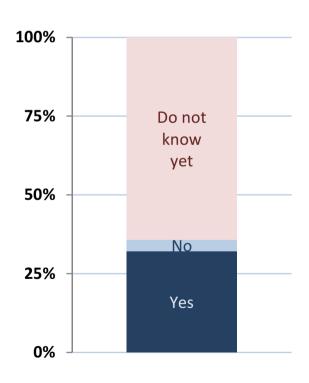
Should TSA be a priority area for financial support?



- Majority of responding countries think that TSA should be further supported
- Again, no significant differences were observed for advanced and less advanced TSA countries



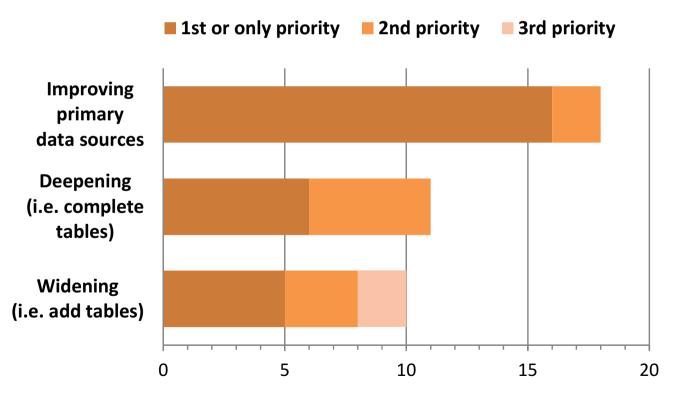
Would you take part in a project (grant/contract)?



- Many countries were not able to confirm whether they would embark in a project related to TSA
- ♦ Lack of human resources and skills to perform the project tasks?
- ♦ A matter of priority setting in tourism statistics (or even statistics in general) ?
- Challenge: how to develop a project satisfying as many countries' needs as possible and maximising output in terms of available harmonised TSA tables?



Priority setting for further TSA development?



- Primary data are essential for TSA compilation
- "Learn to walk before wanting to run"
- Challenge:
 balance between
 development of
 primary data and
 accounting data







