UNWTO/ICHTO National Workshop

UNWTO National Workshop on Tourism Satellite Accounts (TSA)

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Tehran, Iran

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Session 8: Overview

11:00-12:30 Session 8: TSA Data Collection – Tourism Statistics

► A buffer to cover any uncovered topics so far or any questions

• International Recommendations for Tourism Statistics 2008 Compilation Guide (IRTS2008 CG)
  ➔ This is a compilation of the best practices with tourism data collections from around the world.
1. Importance of institutional arrangements in developing a System of Tourism Statistics (STS)

1.30. That the statistical process resulting in official tourism statistics requires participation of many stakeholders, is owing not least to the interdisciplinary character of tourism. The successful development of a System of Tourism Statistics (STS) is based on a culture of collaboration among stakeholders, who pool their financial, human and technical resources, knowledge and interests with a view to creating a common data set. All institutions that are associated with tourism statistics, either as provider of information or as user, should be committed to actively participating in a coordinated manner in the development of the STS. The present section provides an overview of the governance related implications of developing a System of Tourism Statistics (see chap. VIII, sect. D).

1.31. For many of these institutions, participation in the process of producing tourism statistics may not rank high on their list or priorities. Therefore, establishing a set of agreements on the division of responsibilities among the institutions that might be instrumental from the compilation of tourism statistics and the TSA, is absolutely essential (see IRTS 2008, chap. 9, sect. D for a brief discussion on the issue of inter-agency cooperation). Such agreements are now generally referred to by the Statistical Commission as institutional arrangements, which are very much related to the Inter-institutional Platform that UNWTO has traditionally recommended in its technical assistance and capacity-building initiatives.
1. Importance of institutional arrangements in developing a System of Tourism Statistics (STS)

1.30. The proper environment for the development of a STS should be provided by a proactive and synergetic Inter-institutional Platform involving various categories of institutions:

(a) Bodies that produce statistics and basic tourism information:
   (i) National Statistical Offices, as producers of basic statistics and compilers of National Accounts;
   (ii) National Tourism Administrations, as the entities responsible for public policy on tourism and for the coordination of public and private stakeholders;
   (iii) Central banks, which often compile the balance of payments;
   (iv) Immigration and border protection authorities, as they are responsible for border procedures;
   (v) Associations of national tourism enterprises, as they often provide information and are key users of tourism statistics;

(b) Users (or potential users) of the information, such as:
   (i) Tourism industries representatives and other private sector entities;
   (ii) Universities and centres for research on tourism.

Depending on country circumstances, the involvement of customs administrations, ministries of trade and economy, and ministries of finance and tax authorities, among others, may be significant as well.