

TWINNING CONTRACT

Development of new statistical methodologies and indicators in selected areas of statistics in line with EU statistical standards

Ukraine



MISSION REPORT

on


Satellite Tourism Account “Assessment of Tourism Statistics in Ukraine”

Activity 1.1.4: Development of Methodology and Documentation I

Mission carried out by Mr. Alfredo Cristobal and Mr. Mariano Gomez , NSI Spain

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List of Abbreviations

BoP	Balance of Payments
INE	Spanish Statistics Office
NA	National Accounts
SSSU	State Statistics Service of Ukraine
ToR	Terms of Reference
TSA	Tourism Satellite Account

Executive Summary

The main objective of the mission was twofold. Firstly to follow up the recommendations regarding new basic statistics developed by SSSU in the framework of tourism since the last mission and, secondly, to set up a foreseen roadmap to carry out a TSA in Ukraine, consistent with the information provided by the basic statistics on tourism, and by the NA and the BoP statistics.

The questionnaire of the survey focused in tour operators and travel agencies was presented by the partners of SSSU. This questionnaire is fully in line with the recommendations made in the last two missions and it will be very useful with the aim of doing a breakdown of the services provided by travel agencies and tour operators and also for splitting the content of the tourism packages sold by these units.

Complete presentations regarding the theoretical framework of the TSA and its links with supply and use tables released in the framework of NA were made during the mission by the Spanish experts.

For the sake of the consistency of the estimates of TSA and the information provided by national accounts (supply and use tables) and the BoP (item travel and tourism of the non-financial current account) statistics, two very useful meetings were carried out, the first with one of the statisticians in charge of the SSSU NA department and the second one with compilers of BoP, coming from the Central Bank of Ukraine.

At the end of the meeting, one general recommendation and five specific ones were formulated by the Spanish consultants and agreed by the Ukrainian experts of SSSU. The follow up of these recommendations will have to be assessed by another mission visiting Kiev in the second half of June.

1. General comments

This Mission Report has been drawn up in the framework of the Twinning Project "Development of new statistical methodologies and indicators in selected areas of statistics in line with EU statistical standards". This Mission has been the third one devoted to the compilation of a Tourism Satellite Account under Component 1.1 of the project. The purpose of this Component is to draft the methodology how to compile the Ukrainian TSA in line with EU standards.

The main objective of this Mission was twofold. On the one hand, to monitor the implementation of the recommendations regarding new basic statistics to be developed by SSSU in the framework of tourism since the last mission and, on the other hand, to set up a foreseen roadmap to carry out a TSA in Ukraine, consistent with the information provided by the basic statistics on tourism, and by the NA and the BoP statistics.

In particular, the objectives of the mission were:

- To discuss draft questionnaires for surveys on tour operators and travel agencies for determining the structure of tourist package and households with a view to defining in-country tourism expenses
- To discuss the approaches to improvement of information database on tourism statistics for drafting TSA (implementation of new and update of existing state statistical surveys)
- To discuss experimental calculations of the main tables of a TSA based on data received from different sources of information
- To provide the experts with additional information regarding tourism statistics, discussing the challenges for improving the information base on tourism statistics in Ukraine for generation of a TSA
- To define a conceptual framework for elaboration of methodological guidelines on generation of a TSA in Ukraine.
- To follow up the recommendations made in the previous mission, regarding the tasks to be undertaken with a view to implement the current international TSA methodology into Ukraine

The consultants carrying out the mission would like to express their thanks to all officials and individuals met for the kind support and valuable information received from them during the stay in Ukraine, and which highly facilitated the work done.

The views and observations stated in this report are those of the experts and do not necessarily correspond to the views of the European Union, SSSU or Statistics Denmark / Statistics Finland / Statistics Lithuania / Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia / Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic / INE / Statistics Sweden.

2. Assessment and results

Related with the implementation of the module survey on tour operators and travel agencies, the foreseen schedule for the availability of its first data (second quarter of this year) is appropriate and, after analysing them, they can be used in the estimation of different transactions of the TSA.

Concerning the collaboration with other departments of the SSSU, particularly the NA unit, and with other institutions, as the Central Bank of Ukraine, the meetings held with them were extremely important. The information and good practices that ones may get of each others will, undoubtedly, improve its respective tasks.

For the experts in charge of the compilation of the TSA, it is crucial to have a right knowledge of the conceptual framework of the System of National Accounts and in particular of the Supply and Use Tables (SUT). To that effect, the consultants made several theoretical and practical presentations concerning, firstly, the “2008 TSA Recommended Methodological

Framework” and, secondly, the published Spanish SUT and TSA (both compiled for the year 2007). The subsequent discussions about these presentations were very useful.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

General recommendation

- It could be convenient to set up a coordination working group composed by experts from the State Statistics Service (Services and Foreign Trade Statistics, Structural Business Statistics and NA) and, if possible, experts from the Central Bank (BoP Department). The main tasks of this group should be the interchange of information, expertise and methodological procedures for compiling a Tourism Satellite Account (TSA), consistent with the information provided by basic and synthesis (NA and BoP) statistics.

Specific recommendations:

- To set up the reference year for the TSA. In that respect, the year 2012 could not be the most appropriate choice, because the economic and social special events happened in this year. Nevertheless, if the year 2012 is finally the chosen year, it could be convenient to carry out a parallel exercise with another previous year.
- To define the tourism characteristic products and activities taken into account the information currently available and the future information to be provided, in particular by the new release of national accounts, expected by the end of 2013.
- To make use of the data and other information provided by the module of the survey focused on tour operators and travel agencies.
- To start with the balancing of the tourism supply and use (demand) tables, taken into account the impact of the final consumption (inbound and internal) of households (including the imputed rents of secondary homes), the final consumption of general government and the business intermediate consumption. To carry out this step, it is needed, firstly, to split the supply information by industry (output), to be provided by the compilers of the national accounts, into the different products, elaborating a supply matrix
- To have and stocktaking exercise of the technical difficulties and problems found in the previous tasks above mentioned in order to discuss and try to solve them in a forthcoming mission

Actions needed for preparing the next mission – fill out and add tables as needed

Action			Deadline	Responsible person
Working	mission-	Kiev	June 2013	Alfredo Cristobal
(Ukraine)				

Annex 1. Terms of Reference

Twinning Project

“Development of New Statistical Methodologies and Indicators in Selected Areas of Statistics in line with EU Statistical Standards”

Terms of Reference

For Short-Term Mission to the State Statistics Service of Ukraine

Activity 1.1.4: Development of Methodology and Documentation I

Background Information

Statistics Denmark in partnership with Statistics Finland, Statistics Lithuania, Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia, Statistical Office of Slovak Republic, INE Spain - National Statistical Institute of Spain and Statistics Sweden, implements in Ukraine "Development of New Statistical Methodologies and Indicators in Selected Areas of Statistics in Line with EU Statistical Standards" Twinning Project. The State Statistics Service of Ukraine (State Statistics of Ukraine) is the Beneficiary of this Project.

This action is being implemented under Component 1.1: Satellite Tourism Account. The purpose of this Component is to draft the methodology how to compile the Satellite Tourism Account in Ukraine in line with EU standards.

This action will contribute to achieving the abovementioned objective and reference indicators specified in the contract, namely:

1. system of tourism statistics indicators in Ukraine is revised in terms of its compliance with EU standards;
2. sources and available data are identified, the standard classifications to compile the Satellite Tourism Account are adapted;
3. methodological guidelines on how to compile the Satellite Tourism Account are drafted.

Purpose of the Mission

The prior purpose of the mission is:

- discussing draft questionnaires for surveys on tour operators and tourist agencies for determining the structure of tourist package and households with a view to defining in-country tourism expenses;
- discussing and analyzing of systematized data sources on tourism statistics in Ukraine in order to generate the tables of Satellite Tourism Account;
- discussing experimental estimations of the main tables of Satellite Tourism Accounts based on 2010 data received from different sources of information;
- discussing the ways of improving of information base on tourism statistics in Ukraine for generation of Satellite Tourism Account;

- defining a conceptual framework for elaboration of methodological guidelines on generation of Satellite Tourism Account in Ukraine.

Expected Results

- agreeing on draft modular surveys on tour operators and tourist agencies for determining the structure of tourist package and households with a view to defining in-country tourism expenses and their subsequent approval and use when generating the tables of Tourism Satellite Account;
- agreeing on data sources and methods of collecting information about tourism statistics in Ukraine for generation of the tables of Satellite Tourism Account;
- reaching agreement on the activities on assessment methods of tourist offer and demand based on existing information sources on tourism statistics in the framework of National Account in Ukraine and using the data of the 'input-output' tables;
- agreeing on the format of carrying out of experimental estimations of the main tables of Satellite Tourism Account and conceptual framework for elaboration of methodological guidelines on generation of Satellite Tourism Account.

Actions

The tentative schedule of the mission is the following:

Date: 26.02.13: discussing draft questionnaires for surveys on tour operators and tourist agencies for determining the structure of tourist package and households with a view to defining in-country tourism expenses and systematized data sources on tourism statistics in Ukraine in order to generate the tables of Satellite Tourism Account;

Date: 27.02.13: discussing experimental estimations of the main tables of Satellite Tourism Accounts based on 2010 data received from different sources of information;

Date: 28.02.13: discussing the ways of improving of information base on tourism statistics in Ukraine for generation of Satellite Tourism Account and defining conceptual framework for elaboration of methodological guidelines on generation of Satellite Tourism Account in Ukraine.

Tasks to be fulfilled by the State Statistics to facilitate the mission

The Beneficiary will:

- Arrange the meeting with interested parties
- Ensure presence of employees in charge of collection and processing of statistical information on tourism;
- Provide access to information materials related to statistical accounting and application of international classification on tourism statistics in Ukraine.

Consultant and Partner

The mission will be conducted jointly by:

Alfredo Cristobal, Spanish Statistics Office
Mariano Gomez del Moral, Spanish Statistics Office

The Partner of the Country-Beneficiary will be:

Irina Kalachova, Director of Services Statistics Department, SSSU of Ukraine – Head of Component 1.1.;

Olga Karmazina, Deputy Director of Services Statistics Department, SSSU of Ukraine

Oksana Senik, Head of Unit for Statistics of Humanitarian Services, SSSU of Ukraine.

Timing

The mission will be conducted during 3 days, 26.02.2013-28.02.2012, Ukraine.

Report

The summary report on the results of the mission should be submitted not later than two weeks after the mission is completed.

Annex 2. Persons met

SSSU:

Ms. Irina Kalachova, Director of Services Statistics Department

Ms. Olga Karmazina, Deputy Head of Services Statistics Department

Ms. Oksana Senyk, Head of Unit for Humanitarian Services Statistics Department

Mr. Oleksiy Moskvyn, Head of macroeconomics statistics Unit, Deputy Director of National Accounts Department

Central Bank of Ukraine

Ms Olena Troitska, Head of Balance of Payments Department

RTA Team:

Ms. Irina Bernstein , RTA

Mr. Volodymyr Kuzka, RTA Assistant

Mr. Vakhtang Mikadze, Interpreter