

**Information provided by Bulgaria about the following topic discussed in the  
Capacity-building Programme on Tourism Statistics,  
I Workshop - Vienna, 1-4 April 2008**

**The elaboration of Tourism Satellite Accounts in Bulgaria**

**1. *About the existence of an interinstitutional technical team***

The National Statistical Institute (NSI) of Bulgaria is only responsible on the Project for the elaboration of the TSA.

There is not an interinstitutional technical team.

The technical team from NSI involved experts from Tourism Statistics and National Accounts Division.

**2. *About the interest of developing a TSA in BG***

Bulgaria is a country in which tourism plays essential role for the economical development. Tourism has an effect on the revenues and employment in the country. Tourism is a main economical activity in the regions at the seaside.

The elaboration of TSA is included in the National Program of Statistical Surveys for 2008 as a main task of NSI. The Bulgarian government adopted the Program and there are conditions for working out on the Project.

**3. *Initiatives already taken for launching the TSA Project***

The project on implementation of TSA in Bulgaria has started with the support of the Spanish expert from INE in 2006.

The project on implementation of TSA we divided into *three stages*. The first stage includes studying the conceptions and definition for implementation of TSA. The first stage has started with translation in Bulgarian of “Manual on Tourism Satellite Accounts - Recommended Methodology and Framework”. The translation is very important for clear understanding by all experts from National Accounts and Tourism statistics.

Now we are working on *second stage*, which includes data collection for elaboration of pilot TSA. The main sources of information for TSA are statistical surveys on:

- Border survey - arrivals of visitors to Bulgaria from abroad and trips of Bulgarian residents abroad.
- Accommodation statistics.
- Tourism expenditures of foreigners in Bulgaria – Pilot survey was carried out in 2006. In June 2008 will start the new regular survey.
- Tourism expenditures in the households-residents.

The other sources of information are the data from National Accounts and Balance of Payments.

#### ***4. Expectation around the TSA Project***

The recent plan is to complete Table 1 and Table 2. We have many gaps and misunderstanding about some data.

Afterwards we plan to fill in the Table 3 and Table 4.

The verification and extension of the data will be carried out during the *third stage*.