

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

OUTBOUND TOURISM: Household / border surveys

1) Could you evaluate the present information available regarding flows of visitors?

We do not have specific survey / data for outbound visitors. Even there is only 650.000 inhabitants in Montenegro, population is very mixed, so almost every citizen travels abroad (in region), our neighbour countries, usually for visiting friends and family or business purposes. Average, we could estimate that each habitant travels 2 to 3 times per year. This number is much higher for habitants near the border. Also, there is a problem of "weak borders", especially with Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. That means that Montenegrin citizens could travel in these countries only with ID card. Also, we do not have passport control on every border crossing (Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina).

2) About the measurement of tourism expenditure and the BoP debit side data for the "travel" item.

There are no defined parts for expenditures for travelling within the borders and out of the country, only through "Transportation" category (outbound travel expenditure). Central Bank could provide independent figures on outbound expenditures. Their measurements in category "Travel and tourism" could be differentiated in subcategories: business travelling, expenditures for education, medical treatments and travel agency services.

- 3) Is there a clear interest in the analysis of outbound tourism?
- 4) Are there new initiatives envisaged to improve the measurement of this form of tourism?

We started with forming of an interinstitutional group, consisted of representatives from Ministry of tourism and environment, National Statistical Office (MONSTAT) and Central Bank of Montenegro. As we intend to implement the TSA methodology, we need other's experiences so we could develop appropriate surveys and to start better measuring of outbound tourism.