Committee on Statistics

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Defining spatial areas for measuring the sustainability of tourism at a subnational level

Working Group of Experts on Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism (MST)

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Outline

1. Making the connection between global, national and subnational level
2. Defining subnational tourism areas
3. Adapted spatial scales
4. Challenges and issues

1. From local to global: making the connection

**Different needs** ...

At a local level:
- Temporal and spatial concentration of tourism
- Specific environmental and social pressures

At a national level:
- Monitoring and supporting international strategies (SDGs)
- Global contribution to the environmental change (planetary boundaries)
1. From local to global: making the connection

... But mutual inputs

The **12 pillars of sustainable tourism**, a tool for linking local, national and supranational data

- Complementarity
- Enhancing information
- Aggregation and comparison

![Diagram](image)

Source: UNEP/WTO, 2005 Making tourism more sustainable

2. Defining subnational tourism areas

**A complexity to delineate spatial limits of destinations**

A wide variety a potential areas:
- Several administrative boundaries
- Some destinations without administrative boundaries
- Units of small size required to identify ‘hotspots’

Several criteria:
- Destinations’ profile: coastal / mountain / urban, etc.
- Tourism concentration/intensity
- Tourism destination model

**Flexibility and adaptability**
### 3. Adapted spatial scales

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>Data Types</th>
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</table>
| **Global scale** | - International data  
                        - Supra-national data |
| **Meso scale**       | - National data  
                        - Regional data (NUTS-2...)  
                        - Territorial data (coastline areas, mountain areas...) |
| **Micro scale**       | - Municipal data  
                        - Competences  
                        - No competences  
                        - Geolocated data  
                        - ... |

### 4. Challenges and issues

- **Spatiality**
- **Availability**
- **Quality**
- **Stakeholders**
- **Indicators**

LOCAL DATA
Thank your for your attention!

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