Green growth indicators for the tourism sector in the Netherlands

(project financed by Ministry of Economic Affairs)

Connecting TSA and SEEA, A case study for the Netherlands, 2016
Maarten van Rossum (Madrid, October 2016)

Set-up presentation

– Introduction
– Relevance of connecting TSA and SEEA
– Concepts and definitions
– Set of indicators
– Production approach
– Green indicators for the tourism sector
– In practice: what ingredients do we need for compiling TSA-SEEA indicators
– TSA and SEEA data in the Netherlands
– Finetuning needed and challenges to overcome
Introduction

- My name is Maarten van Rossum
- Employer: Statistics Netherlands
- Experience: Environmental accounts (7 years), National accounts (10 years), Tourism accounts (3 years)

Why involved: Connect the TSA with the SEEA framework in order to try to monitor SDG for tourism

Relevance of connecting TSA and SEEA

- The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) leave no doubt: sustainability is at the forefront of policy. Tourism, considered in three of these Goals (Target 8.9, 12.b and 14.7), is more than ever before expected to live up to the expectations of sustainability—not only of tourism itself, but also of tourism as a contributor to sustainable development.

  → There is a clear need to monitor progress (both the economy and the environment)

  → Therefore there is a clear need for unquestionable indicators based on indisputable conceptual frameworks

  → Ministry of Economic Affairs very much interested in these kind of indicators. Project initiated which is financed by Ministry of Economic Affairs
Concepts and definitions

- Internationally agreed conceptual frameworks: TSA, SNA and SEEA
- Linking the SEEA to the Tourism Satellite Account (TSA). Both these sets of accounts have their corresponding methodological frameworks agreed internationally and rooted in the SNA, an explicit link—a SEEA-tourism—is still necessary.
- Resident principle used in both TSA, SNA and SEEA
- Scope of production is the same in TSA, SNA and SEEA

Set of indicators for sustainable tourism

- It is recognized that “sustainable tourism” (much like sustainable development) is largely a policy construct without a precise definition.
- In favor of a set of indicators in stead of one composite indicator to monitor the phenomenon.

- Production approach (in scope)
  - Consumption approach (out of scope)
  - Ecosystem flows (out of scope)
Production approach

– Production approach:
Quantify contribution of Dutch tourism activities on environmental pressure and resource use

Compare value added of tourism sector with associated environmental pressure and resource use

Green indicators for the tourism sector

– Environmental pressures
1) Greenhouse gases (Climate change): 2010 t/m 2015
2) Fine dust: 2010 t/m 2015
3) Heavy metals to water: 2010 t/m 2014
4) Nutrients to water: 2010 t/m 2014
– Use of resources
6) Net energy use: 2010 t/m 2014
7) Water use: 2010 t/m 2012
8) Use of biomass: 2010 & 2012
9) Use of metals: 2010 & 2012
10) Use of minerals: 2010 & 2012
– Policy instruments & economic opportunities
11) Environmental taxes: 2010 t/m 2015
12) Implicit tax on energy use: 2010 t/m 2014
Way forward: Case study in the Netherlands in 2016

- Action for 2016:
  Compile environmental data for the production approach and add these indicators to the existing TSA-framework

Add an indicator for waste production
Add an indicator for CO2 emissions
ETCETERA

Already relevant existing data on the environment, NACE 51, I, en R (Statline CBS)
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Finetuning
Scope economy=scope environment

- Not all so-called characteristic NACE classes are 100% percent tourism related (cargo air transport, lunching bar, snack bar for example not included in tourism economy) → you need to correct for this overestimation
- Also non-characteristic activities have emissions and use natural resources. Emissions related to these activities should also be taken into account. → you need to correct for this underestimation

- Production approach
  (1) Tourism related production in mln euro per activity (TSA)
  (2) Environmental variables per activity (SEEA)
  (3) Production per activity (SNA)

Environmental variables related to tourism production: [1]*[(2)/(3)]

Tourism activities are present in all kind of different NACE classes. In order to produce figures for the complete tourism sector this finetuning is needed in order to produce unquestionable indicators for policy making.

Scope used for the economy should be the same as the scope used for residuals and natural resource use; fair comparison.

In practice: what ingredients do we need for compiling TSA-SEEA indicators

- We also want to use employment figures in stead of production figures to construct indicators for the tourism sector
- Robustness analysis (compare results)
- Trend inspection, do the data make sense?
- Can we interpret the results?
TSA and SEEA data in the Netherlands

- Tourism; key indicators, National Accounts
  
  http://statline.cbs.nl/Statweb/publication/?VW=T&DM=SLEN&PA=83466ENG&D1=a&D2=a&HD=160916-1549&LA=EN&HDR=G1&STB=T

- Tourist expenditure; National Accounts
  
  http://statline.cbs.nl/Statweb/publication/?VW=T&DM=SLEN&PA=82671ENG&D1=a&D2=a&HD=160916-1550&LA=EN&HDR=G1&STB=T

- We also produce and publish information on residuals in the environmental accounts. See for example:
  

Already relevant existing data on the environment, NACE 51, I, en R (Statline CBS)

51 Air transport + I Accommodation and food serving+
R Culture, sports and recreation

- Greenhouse gases (climate change)
  - CO2
- Greenhouse gases (climate change)
  - Greenhouse gas equivalents
- Acidification
  - Acidification equivalents
- Ozone layer depletion
  - CFC12 equivalents

share in total Dutch economy (SEEA)
Way forward

– We are very enthousiastic to execute a case study for the Netherlands in 2016
– External finance has been found: Ministry of Economic Affairs
– End of 2016 we should have Green growth indicators for the tourism sector in the Netherlands
– SDG can be monitord

– **Lets produce data!**

Thank you for your attention!

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