



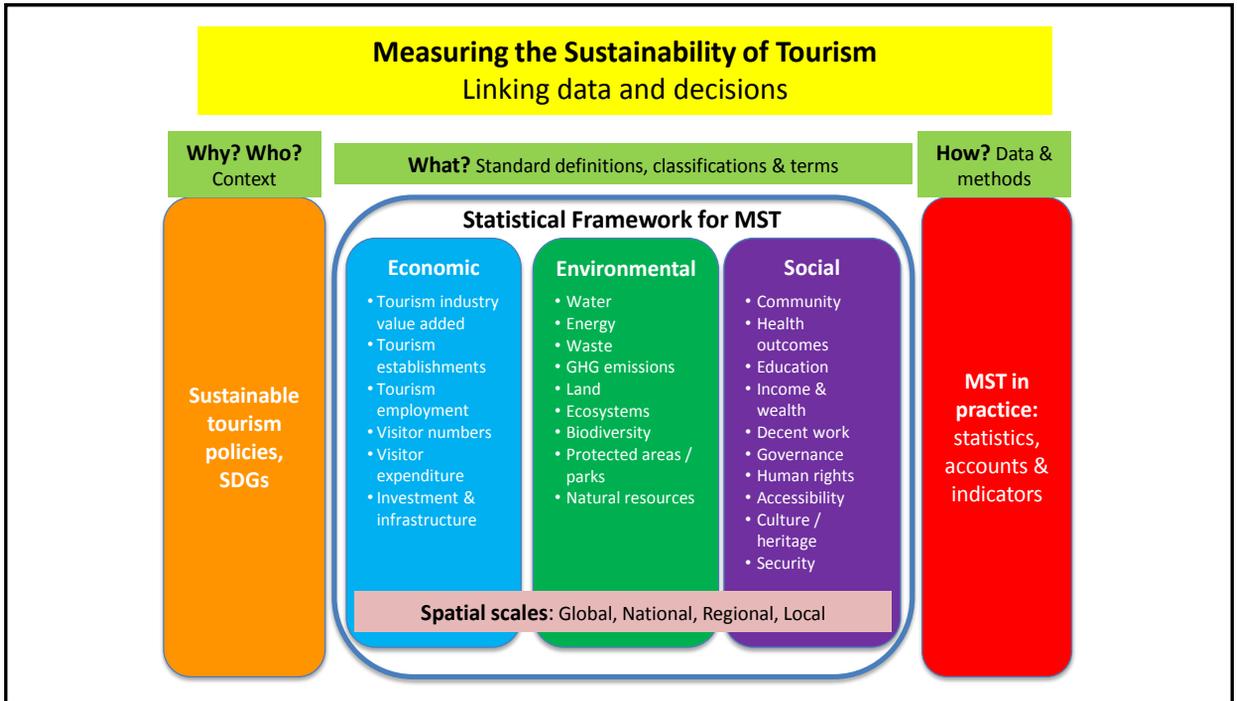
Working Group of Experts on Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism

Second meeting
UNWTO Headquarters, Madrid, Spain
24 – 25 October 2018

Progressing the Statistical Framework for MST

The state of play

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Process to date

- Technical support for SF-MST from Working Group of Experts, UNWTO Committee on Statistics and UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (UNCEEAA)
- Wider support for an SF-MST from UN Statistics Commission, Manila Conference and UNWTO General Assembly
- Three versions to date: June 2017; March 2018; October 2018
- One round of broad consultation: April-May 2018
- Specific working groups on key research issues established

Feedback from consultation

- 19 responses from countries, international agencies, academic institutions and ST initiatives
- Key issues raised
 - Rationale for SF-MST (links to policy, indicators, role of statistics)
 - Structure
 - Conceptual framework (sustainability, national accounting links, TSA connection)
 - Technical issues (consumption perspective; environmental assets, coverage of environmental flows, detailed labour statistics, link to well-being, potential for accounts in social dimension vs indicators, linking national and destination scales, challenges in delineation of spatial areas)
 - Data collection and implementation challenges
 - Connections to analysis and interpretation

Key proposed changes in version 3.0

- Changed naming of MST to Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism
 - Recognise achieving a universal definition of “sustainable” not possible; aim is to frame relevant information and discussion
- Reduce focus on wealth accounting and place discussion in a more statistical context
- Introduce text on implementation and feasibility
- Introduce new Chapter 6 on indicators and analysis

Outstanding issues

- Introduction – what should be the nature of the link to sustainable tourism policy?
- Advancing research on key topics
 - Employment
 - Social dimension
 - Delineation of spatial areas
 - Consumption perspective (especially wrt environmental flows)
- Establishing clear indicators and key data requirements

Next steps

- Discussion at Working Group of Experts
 - Introduction and link to policy
 - Key research topics and indicators (note dedicated sessions)
 - Other issues and areas of focus
- Continuing research and discussion: Version 4.0 January 2019
- Broad consultation through 2019
- Finalise end 2019 for UNSC March 2020