



(STS) that provides information for the understanding and monitoring of the impact of tourism on the South African economy over time. The other elements of the STS for South Africa include the surveys of international tourists and domestic visitors, visitor arrival statistics, tourist accommodation, and food and beverages statistics.

The TSA includes various measures, each with their underlying data, including:

- inbound, domestic tourism and outbound tourism expenditure,
- tourism trade balance,
- internal tourism expenditure,
- production accounts of tourism industries,
- the Gross Value Added (GVA) and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) attributable to tourism,
- employment,
- investment,
- government consumption, and
- non-monetary indicators.

The TSA brings together the diverse aspects of tourism by providing a tourism dimension to the framework of the System of National Accounts (SNA). It makes it possible to separate and examine the demand and supply side of tourism in an integrated system, which describes the production and demand aspects of the entire economy. The SNA recommends the development of Satellite Accounts for the measurement of economic phenomena that are not explicitly shown in the core set of accounts. The TSA was therefore developed for the explicit study of tourism-connected industries and products.

A TSA is:

- A statistical instrument used to measure the size of the tourism sector's contribution to the economy of a country according to international standards of concepts, classifications and definitions; and
- Used to analyse all aspects of demand for goods and services which can be associated with tourism within the economy, to observe the operational interface with the supply of such goods and services within the same economy of reference, and to describe how this supply interacts with the economic activities.
- The development of a TSA framework has been fuelled by the recognition that its implementation will serve to:
- Increase and improve knowledge of tourism's importance in relation to overall economic activity in a given country;

- Provide a coherent and credible set of tourism accounts that can also be compared internationally across countries;
- Develop quantitative estimates of tourism value-added and, thus, analyse the importance of tourism in the economy;
- Provide an instrument for designing more efficient policies on tourism and its employment aspects;
- Identify employment generation in tourism industries and the role tourism plays in job creation for different types of workers;
- Create awareness among players directly and indirectly involved in tourism of the economic importance of this activity; and
- Extend the role of tourism in all industries involved in producing the goods and services demanded by visitors.