



THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

THE TOURISM SATELLITE ACCOUNT: THE BAHAMAS EXPERIENCE

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TSA BAHAMAS

1. General background of the TSA project.
2. Initiation, administration and agreements.
3. Launch and capacity transfer.
4. Preparation for continuity and sustainability (administrative)
5. The way forward (sustainability)

1. General Background

- The conceptualisation of the TSA project at the Ministry of Tourism.
- Research
- Awareness
- Timing
- The proposal

2. Initiation, administration and agreements

- The major players
- Agreements and appointments
- Two tiered TSA Committee
- Resource needs
- Engaging a Consultant
- Employment of a TSA point person

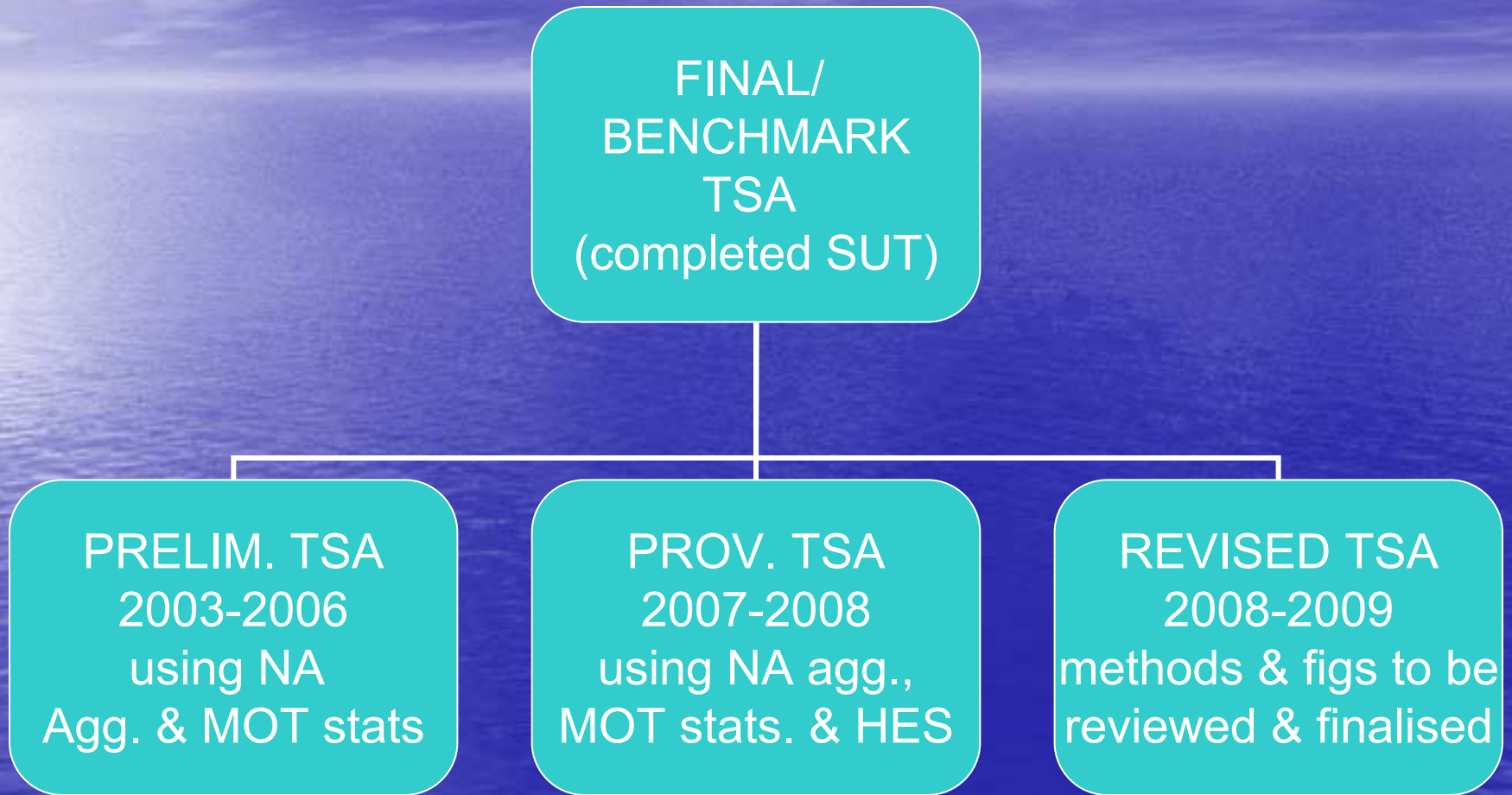
3. Launch and Capacity Transfer

- Using the UNWTO's Recommended Methodological Framework the tables were completed by the consultant with all data sources coming from Bahamian agencies.
- All the major tables in the report were completed at the Department of Statistics by TSA point person and approved by committee.

3. Launch and Capacity Transfer

- Training for TSA team and methodological support for TSA point person.
- After approval by both TSA Committees the Preliminary Tourism Satellite Account was launched using National Accounts aggregates.
- Stages of The Bahamas TSA project reflect the National Accounts system.

Stages of the TSA project



Methodological Improvements

- Household Expenditure Survey completed for 2006 results due this year for tables 2 & 3.
- Supply and Use tables are in the balancing stages as of December 2006 it is hopeful they will be complete within the next two years.
- Economic Census to be completed in 2008 for more supply-side data.
- MOT will have another look at the traveling for Business vs. traveling for Meetings, Conferences and Events.

Setbacks

- National Accounts section in The Bahamas is a fairly small unit with other projects so it is difficult to schedule meetings to review work.
- Improvements to methodology is slow to ensure credibility and acceptance of data.
- Absence of I/O tables.

4. Preparation for continuity & sustainability

- How do you we keep the committee on-going?
- Data flow between agencies
- Continued support from government/superiors.....
- If we are all gone who will ensure continuity?

5. The way forward

- The Bahamas TSA is a progressively improved project as it is globally.
- Annual release of figures for Direct and Total Impact (Indirect and Induced) to show tourism's importance in the Bahamas.
- Constant improvements to methodology to follow the stages.

CONCLUSION

- Important project for the region.
- SNA, Tourism statistics and Balance of Payments is a starting point.
- TSA requires cooperation and support between government and independent agencies.
- Personnel, training and initiation requires funding The Bahamas' Ministry of Tourism heavily supports the TSA initiative.
- TSA planning (timeline) important.