Alternative Tourism Indicators



Motivation

- **Covid-19 has affected how NSOs produce statistics**
  - Accelerated transition to electronic data collection; more intensive efforts to look for alternatives to surveys; ….
  - Limited Surveys: Data collection through surveys is challenged”
  - Work from home arrangements
- **Increased demand for timely statistics during the pandemic**
  - What if users opt for other sources of information
  - Will NSOs remain relevant?

And the Choice for Tourism

- **Tourism statistics are normally generated from administrative data and surveys**
- **Are traditional data sources for tourism "appropriate during disasters such as the pandemic" or "sufficient to be part of rapid response to disasters such as the pandemic?"**
- **ESCAP commissioned a study on tourism indicators motivated by the Covid-19 pandemic**
  - Focus on Bali (Indonesia), Phuket (Thailand) & Maldives
- **Key question**
  - To what extent can web scraped and geospatial data be used in compiling tourism indicators?

And the Choice for Tourism

- Scraping the Web for tourism-related data
  - Travel sites such as Agoda, Trip Advisor, Booking.com & Google Trends

- Geospatial data of relevance to tourism activity
  - Night intensity lights