DESTINATION COMPETITIVENESS: an overview of some issues

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Destination Competitiveness



- Destination competitiveness is a general concept that encompasses price differentials coupled with exchange rate movements, productivity levels of various components of the tourist industry and qualitative factors affecting the attractiveness or otherwise of a destination.
- The competitiveness of an industry is a critical determinant of how well it performs in world markets. All stakeholders need to know how destination competitiveness (price and non price) is changing and why these changes are occurring.





Resources
Endowed Resources
Natural resources (mountains, lakes, beaches, rivers, climate etc)
Cultural/Heritage resources (cuisine, handicrafts, language, customs etc.)
Created Resources
Tourism infrastructure
Special events
Range of available activities
Entertainment
> Shopping
Supporting Factors and Resources
General Infrastructure
Quality of Service
Accessibility of Destination
> Hospitality
Market Ties
Together, these factors provide the various characteristics of a destination that make it attractive to visit and the basis for
destination competitiveness.
3/11/2010 5



Destination Management

- Destination Management factors are those that can enhance the appeal of the core resources and attractors, strengthen the quality and effectiveness of the supporting factors and resources and best adapt to the situational conditions (Crouch and Ritchie 1999).
- □ It is useful to distinguish destination management activities undertaken by:
- the public sector
- the private sector.
- Included among the activities of the *public sector* are the development of national tourism strategies, destination management organisation (coordination, provision of information, monitoring and evaluation),destination marketing management; destination policy, planning, and development; human resource development; environmental management etc.
- Included among the activities of the *private sector* are those of tourism/hospitality industry associations, industry involvement in and funding of destination marketing programs, industry training programs, industry adoption of 'green' tourism operations, new product development, environmental certification programs etc.
- Together, the activities of public and private sector tourism organizations influence types of products and services developed to match visitor preferences.

Demand Conditions The nature of demand conditions influences destination

- competitiveness including the types of products and services developed within a destination
- Tourist preferences. Actual visitation will depend on the match between tourist preferences and perceived destination product offerings.
- Awareness of destination. Awareness can be generated by various means including destination marketing activities, and market ties (religious, sporting, ethnic and so on).
- Destination image. Destination image can influence perceptions and hence affect visitation

Competitiveness Indicators

'Hard' Measures

- Visitor Statistics (numbers)
- Visitor Statistics (Expenditure)
- Changes in market share (numbers/expenditure)
- Contribution of Tourism to Economy
- Visitor yield by origin market
- Tourism Investment \$
- Government \$ Support for Tourism
- Price Competitiveness Indices

Generation 'Soft 'Measures

- Friendliness of hosts
- Quality of service
- Scenic beauty and grandeur
- Perception of safety and security
- ≻ etc---



The Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index

- A comprehensive framework incorporating indicators that are widely agreed upon to be important to destination competitiveness has been developed under the auspices of the World Economic Forum (WEF) with input from the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC).
- Objective of the TTCI is to help to explore the factors driving T&T competitiveness worldwide
- Its explicit aim is to provide a comprehensive strategic tool for measuring "the factors and policies that make it attractive to develop the Travel & Tourism (T&T) sector in different countries"
- □ The TTCI provides a basis for implementing policies to improve destination competitiveness on a country by country basis
- The latest TTCI covers 133 countries, accounting for 90 per cent of world population and 98 per cent of world GDP.





	T&T business environment and infrastructure
•	Pillar 6: Air transport infrastructure: Quality of air transport infrastructure; Available seat kilometers; Departures per 1,000 population; Airport density; Number of operating airlines; International air transport network
•	Pillar 7: <i>Ground transport infrastructure</i> : Quality of roads; Quality of railroad infrastructure; Quality of Port infrastructure; Quality of domestic transport network; Road density
•	Pillar 8: <i>Tourism infrastructure</i> : Hotel rooms; Presence of major car rental companies; ATMs accepting Visa cards
•	Pillar 9: <i>ICT infrastructure</i> : Extent of business Internet use; Internet users; Telephone lines
•	Pillar 10: <i>Price competitiveness in the T&T industry</i> : Ticket taxes and airport charges; Purchasing power parity; Extent and effect of taxation; Fuel price levels





Port	ugal		
Travel & Tourism indicators		Percent	
T&T industry, 2008 estimates GDP (US\$ millions)			(,
Employment (1,000 jobs)		7.6	1.8
T&T economy, 2008 estimates			
GDP (US\$ millions)			4.1
Employment (1,000 jobs)		19.0	1.9
Source: World Travel & Tourism Council, TSA Research 2	2008		
International tourist arrivals (thousands), 2007			
International tourism receipts (US\$ millions), 2007	710,132		



	INDICATOR	RANK/133	INDICATOR	RANK/133
	1st pillar: Policy rules and regulations		8th pillar: Tourism infrastructure	
1.01	Prevalence of foreign ownership		Hotel rooms*	
1.02	Property rights		Presence of major car rental companies*	1
1.03	Business impact of rules on FDI		ATMs accepting Visa cards*	
1.04	Visa requirements*	40		
1.05	Openness of bilateral Air Service Agreements*.			
1.06	Transparency of government policymaking		9th pillar: ICT infrastructure	
1.07	Time required to start a business*		Extent of business Internet use	
1.08	Cost to start a business*		Internet users*	
		9.03	Telephone lines* Broadband Internet subscribers*	
		9.04		
0.01	2nd pillar: Environmental sustainability		Mobile telephone subscribers*	
2.01	Stringency of environmental regulation			
2.02	Enforcement of environmental regulation Sustainability of T&T industry development		10th pillar: Price competitiveness in the T&T	industry
2.03 2.04	Carbon dioxide emissions*	10.01	Ticket taxes and airport charges*	
2.04	Particulate matter concentration*		Purchasing power parity*	
2.05	Threatened species*	10.02	Extent and effect of taxation	94
2.00	Environmental treaty ratification*		Fuel price levels*	
2.07	Environmental treaty fathcation	10.05	Hotel price index*	
	3rd pillar: Safety and security		11th pillar: Human resources	
3.01	Business costs of terrorism	11.01	Primary education enrollment*	21
3.02	Reliability of police services		Secondary education enrollment*	
3.03	Business costs of crime and violence		Quality of the educational system	
3.04	Road traffic accidents*		Local availability of research and training servi	
			Extent of staff training	
	4th pillar: Health and hygiene		Hiring and firing practices	
4.01	Physician density*		Ease of hiring foreign labor	
4.02	Access to improved sanitation*		HIV prevalence*	
4.03	Access to improved drinking water*		Business impact of HIV/AIDS	
4.04	Hospital beds*		Life expectancy*	

	5th pillar: Prioritization of Travel & Tourism			12th pillar:
5.01	Government prioritization of the T&T industry	16	12.01	Tourism op
5.02	T&T government expenditure*	25	12.02	Attitude of
5.03	Effectiveness of marketing and branding	29	12.03	Extension of
5.04	T&T fair attendance*	41		
				13th pillar:
	6th pillar: Air transport infrastructure		13.01	Number of
6.01	Quality of air transport infrastructure	43	13.02	Protected a
6.02	Available seat kilometers, domestic*	31	13.03	Quality of t
6.03	Available seat kilometers, international*	27	13.04	Total know
6.04	Departures per 1,000 population*	32		
6.05	Airport density*	30		
6.06	Number of operating airlines*	25		14th pillar:
6.07	International air transport network	39	14.01	
				Sports stac
			14.03	Number of
	7th pillar: Ground transport infrastructure		14.04	Creative in
7.01	Quality of roads	14		
7.02	Quality of railroad infrastructure	25		
7.03	Quality of port infrastructure	42		

7.02	Quality of railroad infrastructure25
7.03	Quality of port infrastructure
7.04	Quality of ground transport network
7.05	Road density*

r: Affinity for Travel & Tourism

2.01	Tourism openness*	
2.02	Attitude of population toward foreign visitors15	
2.03	Extension of business trips recommended	

of business trips recommended ...

r: Natural resources

13.01	Number of World Heritage natural sites*	40
13.02	Protected areas*	97
13.03	Quality of the natural environment	34
13.04	Total known species*	

wn species*.....

r: Cultural resources

14.01	Number of World Heritage cultural sites*14
14.02	Sports stadiums*14
14.03	Number of international fairs and exhibitions*
14.04	Creative industries exports*





Globalization and Long term Economic Trends

- □ Six factors that drive globalization, economic dynamism and growth
- > political pressures for higher living standards
- improved macroeconomic policies
- >deregulation/liberalisation of international trade
- rising trade and investment
- diffusion of information technology
- increasingly dynamic private sectors





the gap between the "haves" and "have-nots" will widen unless the "have-not" countries pursue policies that support application of new technologies

- good governance
- universal education
- market reforms
- Destinations that are perceived to be less safe and secure will be avoided by tourists
- Globalisation Vs Localisation

Modernity Vs Identity













Standard Response: Strategic Incrementalism

- Tourism Organisations, both public and private constantly need to adapt to changing circumstances to remain competitive.
- Managers attempt to cope with change through constant scanning, evaluation and learning by doing.
- When faced with pressures for change, managers often look for strategies, which are familiar to them.
- This may involve improving the ways in which they operate, but only piecemeal.
- Incremental change is an adaptive process to a continually changing environment
- Corresponds to what is referred to as the 'fit' concept of strategic management.

















Usefulness of IPA

- An IPA grid can be constructed for
- a particular destination
- a particular special interest tourism market (for example, adventure tourism, nature based tourism, heritage tourism),
- travel motivation (for example, business travel, conventions market).

Survey of Slovenian Tourism Stakeholders

- An on-line questionnaire was developed for the purpose of this study and was sent to 163 tourism stakeholders in Slovenia across different sectors of the industry.
- The questionnaire was based on 49 items indicating actions that could be undertaken by the Slovene tourism industry to meet the challenges of global trends.
- The survey required respondents to first rank the importance of each action for tourism development in general and then to rank the performance of Slovenia regarding each action.
- a five point Likert scale ranging from 1 'strongly disagree' to 5 'strongly agree' was used for importance statements
- a five point Likert scale 1 'poor performance' to 5 'high performance' was used for performance statements.







				ism		
		Rank	Mag	a (N=81)		red
	Statement	by import	Importanc	Performance	sampl T	e t tes Sig
	The second se	ance	e		-	~
A	Tourism enterprises must engage in long-term planning. Sustainability principles should underpin tourism	1	4.76	3.04	14.10	.000
в	development	2	4.73	3.13	16.22	.000
с	Tourism managers need to have sound knowledge of e-	3	4.72	2.47	11.84	.000
	commerce and use of IT to achieve competitive advantage Industry should embrace 'clean green' tourism to reduce	L .	4.72	3.47	10.15	
D	the environmental effects of their operations	4	4.68	3.08	12.17	.000
E	Tourism firms should form strategic alliances for such purposes as destination marketing and product development	5	4.65	2.79	13.00	.000
F	Networks or alliances of people along value chains is a good strategy to increase business efficiencies and improve communication along the chains	6	4.61	2.93	14.21	.000
G	Tourism development should also increase the recreational and leisure opportunities for local communities	7	4.58	3.14	10.11	.000
н	Trade in tourism should be "fair" in its distribution of the rewards of tourism to different stakeholders	8	4.58	3.04	11.11	.000
I	Firms must aim to achieve sustainability in their operations if the destination as a whole is to conform to sustainability principles.	9	4.57	3.19	10.67	.000
J	A yield focus is more important than a tourist numbers focus, for a winning destination strategy	10	4.31	2.79	11.17	.000
к	Tourism operators lack the long-term vision to adopt environmentally appropriate management strategies	11	4.21	2.99	6.83	.000
L	Consumers should be educated to purchase tourism products which match environmental constraints	12	4.16	2.89	8.66	.000
М	Green' business strategies can increase profits	13	4.13	2.84	9.21	.000
N	Visitor needs should be balanced with a destination's environmental objectives	14	3.91	2.8	8.22	.000



Marketing							
		Rank by	Mean (N=81)		Paired sample t test	
	Statement	importa nce	Importance	Performan ce	Т	Sig.	
A	Product development and marketing should be targeted and increasingly theme based	1	4.81	3.25	14.70	.000	
в	Tourism should promote itself to the community emphasizing its benefits for the community	2	4.74	3.07	13.39	.000	
с	To ensure consistency in the marketing message, operators should collaborate with destination managers on the 'fit' between destination products and visitor preferences	3	4.73	2.82	14.57	.000	
D	Smaller players can benefit from web technology as the Internet makes it possible for small businesses to connect directly to consumers	4	4.69	3.68	9.51	.000	
E	Tourism firms should use database marketing to understand, communicate and build relationships with key target markets	5	4.68	3.24	12.11	.000	
F	As a basis for tourism planning, policy and marketing destination managers should explore what assets exist in their country that cannot be replicated	6	4.57	3.33	10.08	.000	
G	Tourism operators should shift promotion of the functional benefits of their products and services to the emotional benefits	7	4.27	3.11	9.11	.000	
н	Tourism firms should engage communities such as YouTube, Twitter, Flickr, Facebook, mySpace and Second Life	8	4.20	2.96	9.88	.000	
I	Destinations seek to increase resident awareness and reputation of domestic holidays	9	4.14	3.11	8.13	.000	
J	Smaller players can benefit from web technology as the Internet makes it possible for small businesses to connect directly to consumers	10	4.13	3.59	4.71	.000	



Statement	Rank by	Mean	(N=81)	Paired sample t test	
	importa nce	Importance	Performance	т	Sig.
A Destination managers should make tourists' feel safe and secure while in the destination to maintain destination competitiveness	1	4.57	3.79	7.62	.000
B Governments and operators should develop risk management strategies for tourism to deal with future crises	2	4.39	2.45	13.82	.000
C Tourism managers should ensure that risk management strategies are part of a firms' business management plans	3	4.12	2.47	11.41	.000
D Communicating a destination's risk management strategies is important to maintaining destination attractiveness	4	3.08	2.33	6.24	.000



Climate change							
	Statement	by		(N=81)	Paired sample t test		
		importa nce	Importanc e	Performance	т	Sig.	
А	Industry and government should work together to mitigate and adapt to climate change	1	4.64	2.67	13.76	.000	
В	The tourism industry should contribute to wider efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants	2	4.53	2.77	12.41	.000	
с	The tourism industry should put in place climate-friendly and climate-proof alternatives	3	4.53	2.73	13.35	.000	
D	The benefits of reducing reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants will outweigh the costs involved	4	4.05	2.62	9.22	.000	



	Statement	Rank by	Mean (N=81)		Paired sample t test	
		importa nce	Importance	Performance	т	Sig.
A	Operators should become 'experience providers' developing personal encounters, and authentic experiences	1	4.81	3.24	13.59	.000
в	To maintain survival tourism firms should ensure products are continually refreshed.	2	4.81	3.26	12.30	.000
с	New product development should harmonize with the destination assets and brand	3	4.69	3.32	12.27	.000
D	Tourism firms should create niche products based on the strengths of local assets for use by local communities as well as visitors	4	4.65	3.11	13.91	.000
E	Innovation in products and services should be customer orientated	5	4.52	3.41	9.77	.000
F	Operators should seek new technologies to improve the interpretation of tourism attractions	6	4.52	3.32	11.17	.000
G	Destination managers and tourism firms should create experiences in their destinations that differentiate themselves from other destinations	7	4.40	2.96	11.40	.000
н	There is a need to re-create authentic rural experiences in urban environments to bring the 'destination' experience to visitors	8	3.86	3.08	5.20	.000
I	New product development should not be too reliant on environmentally and culturally sensitive assets	9	3.57	2.95	4.72	.000



	Statement	Rank by importa nce	Mean (N=81)		Paired sample t test	
	Statemen		Importance	Performance	т	Sig.
A	The new generation of managers in the tourism and hospitality must have the knowledge content, and the adaptive capabilities to apply their knowledge in contexts of change	1	4.82	2.85	16.86	.000
в	The principles and practices of Sustainable Tourism should be placed into all tourism and hospitality curricula	2	4.80	3.20	13.28	.000
с	Tourism/Hospitality education should prepare students for a proactive, leadership role in a rapidly changing industry	3	4.72	2.95	13.94	.000
D	Destinations should provide community education and training programs that support the tourism industry	4	4.65	2.69	15.49	.000
Е	Tourism employees should understand how the tourism industry operates across all industry sectors	5	4.23	2.80	11.21	.000
F	An aging population should be encouraged to undertake volunteering in tourism at the destination	6	4.17	2.67	9.82	.000
G	RE-skill an aging population to become involved in the tourism industry	7	3.91	2.36	10.49	.000
н	Tourism firms should be educated as to the importance of lifelong learning through ongoing training	8	3.70	2.32	9.69	.000









```
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OFFENDING COMMAND: --nostringval--
STACK:
/Title
()
/Subject
(D:20101103155122+00'00')
/ModDate
()
/Keywords
(PDFCreator Version 0.9.5)
/Creator
(D:20101103155122+00'00')
/CreationDate
(mjcusto)
/Author
-mark-
```