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## Size of unauthorized tourism of The Danube Delta: causes, effects, solutions

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### Abstract

In recent years, in Romania, the phenomenon of unauthorized tourism has assumed alarming extent. Along with agro hostels authorized, Delta area is animated too, by type of pensions unauthorized increasingly numerous. The objective of this paper is to analyze the authorized and unauthorized tourism by Danube Delta in order to see who the true is the dimension of classified tourism by the National Authority for Tourism and identify some solutions becoming legal businesses. As a working method, we applied a questionnaire authorized administrators of rural tourism within the Danube Delta. The sample consisted of 31 respondents who answered a series of 13 questions about their activities and relevant authorizing units. Reasons for representatives of rural tourism unauthorized choose not to authorize are the most diverse, from low income, up to the bureaucracy and high taxes imposed by local and central governments.

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## **1. Introduction**

Unauthorized agro hostels presents a significant share of total housing units, be they located in the region of the Danube Delta Reservation. Clearly, unauthorized them is the result of several factors, socio-economic, that local authorities do not know and still do not take into account (Alecu, 2006), which is why the questionnaire applied to the unauthorized agro units within the reserve Delta seeks to identify a number of factors that make us a better understanding of the behavior (Vâlceanu, 2005) of these unauthorized accommodations.

Unfortunately, few authors have analyzed this phenomenon which would seriously harm the quality of tourism services both of central and of local budget (Robu, 2014).

## **2. Material and Methods**

The questionnaire applied addresses to unauthorized administrators of rural tourism within the Danube Delta. Thus, the sample consists of 31 respondents who answered a series of 13 questions about their activities and relevant authorizing their units, taking into account the degree classification units involved representatives which most often it is subjective, on the capacity of units and an average price for a night (Pecican, 2007).

1. How do you assess possible classification level of your pension?
2. What is the capacity of your accommodation?
3. What is an average price for an overnight stay?
4. What is the average time that visitors spend on your pension?
5. What is the period when you have in the pension most of the tourists?
6. Except accommodation service, what another service is most requested by tourists?
7. Do you consider that the current number of tourists, which we have, is satisfactory?
8. What measures should be taken to facilitate access to an influx of tourists?
9. How do you assess the involvement of local government in supporting the deployment of your business?
10. Do you consider that the legislation applied so far, concerning the protection of the Danube Delta Reservation, you jeopardize the future of the business?
11. What measures should be taken for a more effective protection of the Danube Delta Reservation?
12. What is the reason you chose to work without authorization?
13. This option affects the number of tourists?

## **3. Results and Discussions**

Analyse the dynamics of tourist flow recorded to the Administration of Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve (ARBDD), according to data received from the 168 authorized companies that have engaged in tourism DDBR, shows that by the end of the tourist season, in 2014, there was a number of: 5400 accommodation seats, 12 hotels, 101 guesthouses, 54 pontoon bedroom, 2 Hydro, one ship passengers, five camping sites, one youth camp. Tourism activity carried out in 2014 in DDBR measure is not particularly high considering the potential of the area (Honțuș A.C, 2013).

Besides the official data taken into account in the assessment of the tourism in DDBR it should be noted the unorganized tourism, knowing this phenomenon, in 2014, a slight increase compared to previous years especially in areas with high tourism potential: St. Gheorghe, Sulina, Crisan, Mila 23 (Cretu R.C, 2013).

According to the reports received from authorized operators to carry out tourism on the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve, in 2014, has as a total of 59,039 tourists, of which 32,037 Romanian tourists and 27,002 foreign tourists (Fig. 1).

Compared to the number of tourists who come through travel agencies and whose number was reported by ARBDD, Delta has been visited by tourists arrived on their own and which were used by public transport or their own means, state in tents placed in camping areas (Rotman, 2014) or have stayed in the townships around DDBR without a clear declared.

In total they consider unauthorized representatives of rural tourism in excess of 45% that their unity would receive a rating of 3 stars / daisies, 25.81% believe that it would get 4 stars / daisies, 19.35% - 5 stars / daisies, while only 9.68% of those surveyed consider that a pension is likely to obtain a classification of 2 stars / daisies (Table 1).

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