

Statistics of Tourism and Recreation

TETTEKPOE Agbenozan Ekoue A.

Direction de la Statistique

Rue de la Kozah

Lome – Togo

jeantettekpo@hotmai.com

INTRODUCTION

Exiguous territory but very diversified of 56,000 qKm, with its 4,600,000 inhabitants in 2000, the tourist industry of Togo in the 80s had succeeded in taking the second rank of the economic activities of the country behind phosphate. Its growth has been suddenly stopped by the 1990 –1993 socio-political troubles. Disaster-stricken, this sector particularly remunerative is today reviving, slowly but surely.

Togo offers to its visitors over a restricted stretch beautiful sites, diversified fauna and flora, landscapes of hills and mountains, green valleys and arid plains rich and various arts and crafts as well as the beach and the sun all the year.

I – TOURIST ACTIVITIES

The tourist activities are essentially based on:

- the hotel infrastructures able to meet the needs of the international clients
- the diversity and extrem beauty of a folklore, which each region offers during the important events, spectacular demonstrations of songs and dances.

There are in Togo three types of tourism: the business, congress and circuit tourism.

The tourism offers many very important economic fallout, that are entered by the tourist expenditures, which is profitable to many economic sectors. This is due an array of ideal receptives for the great international meetings. From first class hotels 5 stars to safari camping through inns. Lome, the capital, has, on its own, concentrated a capacity of accomodation that allows to hold important meetings.

The economic region of Togo dispose as well of a series of receptives typically characteristic to each. These hotel infrastructures installed inside each region allows to evaluate the beauty of the circuit tourism, that was at that time one of the pillars of the tourism in Togo.

In Togo, the tourist statistics concern essentially the hotel statistics. Up to 1989, Togo was receiving about 132,000 tourists for a turnover of 16 milliards francs cfa. From 1990 to 1993 the tourist activity has been reduced because of socio-politic troubles, that challenged the basic infrastructures to make of the tourism an industry. This degrading situation is explained by many phenomena of the tourist traffic. The international arrivals of the traffic according to the origin are passed from 48,559 in 1992 to 22,244 in 1993 be a vertiginous fall of more than the half of the traffic. It is so for the whole night of tourist(cf table1 and graphic1). This drop of the tourist traffic of the one part has had negative fallout on the hotel returns, that have fallen down from 16 milliards in 1989 to 1 milliards in 1993, and of the other part on the rate of occupation of rooms.

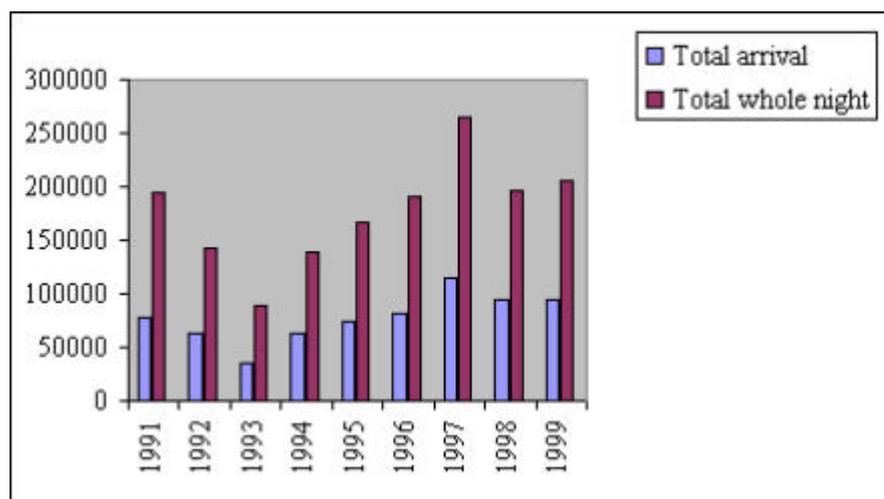
From 1997, with the restoring of the security climate in the country, the tourism has started again its economic favourable development thanks to the activities of the congress tourism.

Table 1. Hotel statistics of Togo 1991 - 1999

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
<i>Total arrivals</i>	77267	62585	35355	63522	74315	81301	114675	94212	93640

<i>International</i>	65098	48559	22244	43244	53061	58049	92081	69458	69818
<i>National</i>	12169	14026	13111	19755	21254	23252	22594	24754	23822
Total whole night	195360	142197	89470	138385	165804	189909	264966	196986	205176
<i>International</i>	73285	116648	60303	100742	126675	145093	224547	152508	162233
<i>National</i>	22075	25549	24167	37643	39129	44816	40419	44478	42943
Hotel returns <i>(en milliards de francs)</i>	4.896	3.339	1.677	3.285	4.473	5.601	7.442	7.442	5.612
Rate of occupation	19.6	16	10.26	21.8	25.03	21.9	23.1	20	21.4
Number of employments	1974	1462	1354	1305	1287	1509	1575		

From: MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND LEISURE



Graph 1 of arrivals and whole nights of tourists according to the origin 1991-1999

II – THE LEISURE ACTIVITIES

Togo disposes of a series of appreciable leisure sites, that allow to divert and relax the tourists.

In the sea region, the small town of Agbodrafo at 30 km of the capital, has the hotel “le lac”, where is practised the water-skiing. “ Mono”, one of the big rivers of Togo offers a lot of interested ness: wagtail of the Mono, crocodile under the sun, siesta of the hippopotamus. The plateaux region is characterized by its mild and cold climate. One can discover there the rural centre of Agou – Nyogbo and the waterfall of Kpime.

In the central and northern region, the preserve of Fazao-Malfakassa fauna, the national parc of Keran and the lions pit constitute a real attraction for the tourist, who are safaris-photo lovers.

CONCLUSION

Togo remains a fondness destination for the European tourism because of its interested ness, climatic and regional varieties of the flora and arts and crafts.