

Supply of Physical Resources in Accommodation Facilities: with Examples from Bulgaria

Elena PETKOVA^{a1}

^a Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", no 15, Tsar Osvoboditel Av., Sofia, Bulgaria

Abstract: The purpose of the article is to give guidelines to explore whether organizations of a specific service sector – accommodation facilities – work with local or with foreign suppliers to supply physical resources. Whether these resources would be supplied from near or from far places is mostly related to the realization of sustainable development and in particular to the environmental impacts. However, whether organizations work with local or with foreign suppliers also have an influence on international trade and revitalization of the economy. The present study concerns a specific economic sector – the hotel industry. In this regard, firstly, a classification of the physical resources of accommodation facilities is presented. Next, a performance of a survey is suggested to explore which types of these physical resources and to what extent is supplied from local and from foreign suppliers at accommodation facilities in a certain region or a country. For the purpose of the study, a questionnaire was developed and suggested to be filled by representatives of accommodation facilities. The questionnaire is tested with four accommodation facilities that are located in the capital city of Sofia, Bulgaria. The studied accommodation facilities are different in type, construction, category (stars) and capacity. Due to the small number of objects – only four – each of which represents a different type of an accommodation facility – generalization in conclusions could not be made. Therefore, the results can serve only as examples and for the formation of baseline hypotheses for further studies that should stretch over all types of accommodation facilities and bigger sample of objects in order to be representative for the accommodation sector of a country, in particular – of Bulgaria.

Key words: *accommodation facilities, suppliers, certificates, physical resources, Bulgaria*

1. Introduction and literature review

Physical resources and the process of their supply to the service organizations are a topic that is poorly researched in the scientific literature. That is because service sectors need less physical resources than manufacturing. On the other hand, all

¹ Corresponding author: Elena PETKOVA, e-mail: epetkova@hotmail.com. Received in February, revised in May, and September, published in October.