

Construction of a Brazilian Thesaurus of Tourism Terms

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Abstract

This article addresses the construction of a Brazilian thesaurus of Tourism terms through an explanatory study, based on the documentary analysis of doctoral dissertations on tourism written from 1975 to 2015, of the specialized bibliography published in the country until 2016, and of the experts' opinions collected in 2017. The Brazilian Thesaurus of Tourism Terms comprises seventeen categories with specific terms that establish conceptual relations between them in the field of tourism. The Thesaurus was launched on an online platform using TemaTres software. Tourism was approached as a scientific field from a multireference viewpoint, with no specialty boundaries, and considering its practical aspects. The classification process of the terms of the Thesaurus showed the breadth and complexity of this field in its various interfaces with other areas and its potential as a tool for support for tourism research.

Keywords: Tourism; Thesaurus; Controlled vocabulary; Categories; Conceptual relations.

Resumo

Construção de um tesouro brasileiro de turismo

Este artigo trata da construção do Tesouro Brasileiro de Turismo a partir de um estudo explicativo, com base na análise documental das teses de doutorado sobre turismo produzidas de 1975 a 2015, na bibliografia especializada publicada no país até 2016 e na visão de especialistas coletada em 2017. O Tesouro Brasileiro de Turismo tem sua estrutura composta por 17 categorias, cujos termos específicos estabelecem entre si relações conceituais no campo do turismo. O tesouro foi implantado em plataforma online mediante o software TemaTres. Adotou-se a noção de turismo como um campo científico sob uma abordagem multirreferencial, sem limitações de fronteiras disciplinares, e considerando também a prática turística. O processo de estruturação dos termos do tesouro revelou a amplitude e a complexidade desse campo em suas variadas interfaces disciplinares e sua potencialidade enquanto instrumento de apoio às pesquisas em turismo.

Palavras-chave: Turismo; Tesouro; Vocabulário controlado; Categorias; Relações conceituais.

Resumen

Construcción de un tesouro brasileño de turismo

Este artículo trata de la construcción del Tesouro Brasileño de Turismo desde un estudio explicativo, hecho sobre la base de análisis documental de las tesis de doctorado sobre

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turismo producidas de 1975 a 2015, de la bibliografía especializada publicada en el país hasta 2016 y de la visión de especialistas recogida en 2017. La estructura del Tesauro Brasileño de Turismo es compuesta por diecisiete categorías, cuyos términos específicos establecen entre sí relaciones conceptuales en el campo del turismo. El Tesauro fue implantado en una plataforma online con el uso del software TemaTres. Se adoptó la noción de turismo como un campo científico bajo un enfoque multi referencial, sin limitaciones de fronteras disciplinarias, y considerando también la práctica turística. El proceso de estructuración de los términos del Tesauro reveló la amplitud y la complejidad de ese campo en sus variadas interfaces disciplinarias y su potencialidad como instrumento de apoyo a las investigaciones en turismo.

Palabras clave: Turismo; Tesauro; Vocabulario controlado; Categorías; Relaciones conceptuales.

INTRODUCTION

When addressing tourism theory, one consulted the main studies that influenced the teaching and investigation about this subject in Brazil, as well as about the systemic paradigm based on the Tourism System (Sistur) (Beni, 2001), the approaches based on the complexity, transdisciplinarity and application of theoretical and methodological contributions from other fields (Farrell & Twining-Ward, 2004; Lugosi, Lynch, & Morrison, 2009; Moesch & Beni, 2015) or even on the postmodernity (Tito, Brumatti, & Nóbrega, 2017). Considering Tourism a discipline was perceived to be reckless, given its current stage of knowledge and its scope and particularities. On the other hand, restricting it to the perspective of the Sistur, prioritizing it as “industry” and market product, would deny the multifaceted reality of a complex social phenomenon.

When analyzing the scientific institutionalization of Tourism, Meira and Meira (2007, p. 10) contested its construction as an economic activity, recognized in the discourse of the World Tourism Organization, which limited it to “an object of economic analysis”, a tourism industry. The authors discuss particularly the approach of “scientification” of the Tourism by Jafar Jafari, based on the notion of scientific field by Pierre Bourdieu, and point out a new path with greater autonomy, breaking up this dominant discourse.

Considering that, the perspective of Dencker (2005) was evoked when discussing investigation as the basis for the theoretical construction in the fields of Tourism and Hospitality, which should be guided by the notion of “an open science that is not reducible to the principles of formal logic. . . to move forward with the development of new perspectives allowing dealing with complexity and uncertainty, within culturally conditioned scenarios” (p. 55).

In this sense, Dencker (2005) reinforces Tourism as a field of knowledge and not as a discipline, just as Meira and Meira (2007) agree with Bourdieu’s definition of scientific field, which is based on “the definition of the objects of disputes and of the specific interests irreducible to the objects of disputes and to the interests of other fields” that are not noticeable “to those who were not trained to enter this field” (Bourdieu, 1983, p. 89).

These fields, which are relatively autonomous, are organized “around objectives and practices” through “a particular logic of functioning that structures

the relations between their agents” (Garcia, 1996, p. 71). This dynamic occurs in any field, such as Tourism, which, when treated as such, will be more autonomous to break up the dominant discourse and to create its own identity, as already mentioned by Meira and Meira (2007).

In the analysis of the scientific production from the doctoral dissertations that directly or indirectly approached Tourism in Brazil from 1975 to 2015, one noticed that the development of the knowledge derived from these investigations is nourished by contributions from several fields that provide them with concepts, theories, and methodologies. As previously pointed out by Rejowski (2013), tourism research in Brazil is conducted in all knowledge fields classified by the Brazilian National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq), although it is more representative in the Applied Social Sciences.

Although studies on Tourism exist in fields such as Geography, Economics and Anthropology, these studies do not develop knowledge in the field of Tourism, since they are geographical, economic, or anthropological studies constrained by the disciplinary boundaries of these areas. The knowledge of Tourism comes from the practice that preceded it, from the tourist experience, and its identity needs to be defined by having the traveling man as subject and the trip as object, studied from different viewpoints, one of which is Hospitality.

Studying Hospitality within the scope of cultural knowledge and practices in different social spaces, Kops (2014) elicits multireference as a new paradigm, which combines several approaches without reducing them to one another, leading to a differential knowledge characterized by plurality (societal pluralism) and heterogeneity (social and cultural diversity). Thus, conceptualizing Tourism as a scientific field from a multireference viewpoint is considered appropriate, once its knowledge requires the contribution of several areas and fields of study and their different referents, whose plurality and transversality result in their own singularity.

With such mindset, the idea of constructing a thesaurus of tourism terms based on the Brazilian production of this field was revived, a previously registered commitment (Rejowski & Kobashi, 2011) to assist the researcher, the indexer, and the professional due to the fragility of keywords of scientific publications, mainly in academic dissertations and theses, journal articles, and studies published in annals of scientific events, in addition to dubious terms that are not consecrated in the tourism market.

The conduction of an explanatory study was then started, based on the documentary analysis of doctoral dissertations, as well as of the specialized bibliography and of the opinion of Tourism experts. Thesaurus is a tool used for “organization, classification and retrieval of information”, which can greatly help in indexing the terms that will compose the database, controlling the terminology, and in better retrieving information” (Vieira, Santos & Lapa, 2010, p. 74). It is a documentary language composed of terms of a given domain, the field of Tourism in this case, and its relations of hierarchical and associative equivalence.

As Rejowski & Kobashi (2011) have already detailed the structure, functions and relevance of this tool for the advancement of Tourism research, these aspects will not be addressed here. However, in addition to returning to use the reference sources for its construction (Austin, 1993, National Information Standards Organization, 2010), one consulted the standards of the International Standards

Organization (ISO) (2011, 2012), with guidelines for construction, formatting, and management of monolingual controlled vocabularies, as well as thesaurus and controlled vocabularies of Tourism terms and of related fields. The choice was to prepare a monolingual thesaurus in Portuguese, as a first step to establish a terminology in the field by defining their respective concepts later.

This article describes the process of construction of the Brazilian Thesaurus of Tourism, subdivided into three topics. The first one addresses the previous study of thesauri and controlled vocabularies, from which a set of descriptors and hierarchical terms to be considered were identified. The second one deals with the methodology adopted, describing its stages and techniques, as well as the authors' choice regarding the type of thesaurus, software, format and other aspects. The third one addresses the structure of the thesaurus, presenting the preferred terms, the hierarchy of descriptors and the conceptual relations between them, and explains forms of consultation through examples extracted from its website (<http://www2.eca.usp.br/tesauroturismo>).

PREVIOUS STUDY OF TESAURI AND CONTROLLED VOCABULARIES

To begin constructing the thesaurus, the first activity was the previous study of a sample of thesauri and controlled vocabularies of Tourism and related areas, complemented by the analysis of thematic studies about the scientific production in Tourism in Brazil and abroad. Part of this material had already been studied previously, especially the *Tesouro de Turismo y Ocio* (Organización Mundial del Turismo, 2001) and the thesaurus of the Institute of Tourist Studies of the Ministry of Economy of Spain (ESPAÑA, 2003), and the predominance of the economic discourse of Tourism was realized, but with the possibility of using some categories (Rejowski & Kobashi, 2011). In more recent versions of these documents, the number of thematic classes or preferred terms increased: that of the World Tourism Organization (WTO) (2014) had 20 preferred terms, and the one of the Institute for Tourism Studies (España, 2012) had 26, which confirmed its dynamism. As the access to the WTO thesaurus is restricted to its affiliated members, it was consulted through the website of the *Tesouro Turístico Argentino*, which was available at the period in which the study was being conducted.

Other thesauri and vocabularies consulted were *Tesouro de Turismo no Espaço Rural*, developed by Solha and Vogel (2014), the aforementioned *Tesouro Turístico Argentino* (Argentina, 2012), *Tesouro de la Unesco* (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 2017), *Tesouro ISOC de Economía* (Villagrà Rubio & Edo Hernández, 2008), *Vocabulário Controlado SIBi/USP* (University of São Paulo, 2016), and *Base de Dados Terminológica de Turismo* (Moreira, 2010), as well as articles on thematic mapping of the scientific production on the subject.

Chart 1 shows the preferred terms of the thesauri and controlled vocabularies consulted. The general terms repeated more than twice were the following: economic studies and tourism economics (6); sport, recreational, tourist and leisure activities (5); studies or social aspects and Sociology of tourism or leisure (5); tourism legislation (5); tourism heritage (5); tourism policy (6); tourism

education and training, and training and employment (4); tourist services (3); tourist typology and sectoral tourism (3); tourism bodies and organizations (3).

Chart 1 – Preferred terms of the thesauri and controlled vocabularies consulted

Title of the document	Preferred Terms (descriptors)
Tesauro ISOC de economía (CCIC, 2003)	Travel agencies, Tourism equipment, Hotel industry, Tour operators, Tourism policy, Mass tourism, Home tourism, Tourists, Travelers, Travel
Proposta de termos genéricos de Turismo (Rejowski & Kobashi, 2011)	Sport and recreational activities, Tourism education and training, Tourism epistemology, Environmental studies of tourism, Tourism economics studies, Social studies of tourism, Tourism management, Tourism legislation, Tourism bodies, Tourism heritage, Tourism planning, Tourism policy, Tourist services, Tourist typology
Tesauro de turismo (España, 2012)	Sport and recreational activities, Classification of tourist establishments, International cooperation, State coordination, Tourism national accounts, Law, Tourism economics, Tourism education and training, Companies, Economic studies, Financing, Tourism promotion, Gastronomy, Hotel industry, Marketing and promotion, New technologies, Reference works, Tourism organizations, Tourism heritage, Tourism policy, Catering (Food & Drinks), Insurance, Tourist services, Work, Taxes, Tourism and social environment
Tesauro do turismo rural: português-español (Solha & Vogel, 2014)	Tour itinerary, Spaces of rural tourism, Rural tourism agents, Typology of rural tourism, Proposal of rural tourism, Enterprises, Tourist attractions, Accommodations, Recreation and leisure, Tourism heritage, Social aspects of rural tourism, Economic aspects of rural tourism, Political aspects of rural tourism, and Tourism legislation
Tesauro turístico da argentina (Argentina, 2014)	Tourist activities, Protected areas, Tourism quality, Communication applied to Tourism, Tourism development, Tourism economics, Training and employment, Tourism infrastructure, Tourism legislation, Tourism organizations, Tourism heritage, Tourism policy, Tourism promotion, Sociology of Tourism, Social tourism, Sustainable tourism
WTO Thesaurus (WTO, 2014)	Tourist attraction, Sport activities, Housing, Science and information, Tourism ecology, Tourism economics, Training and employment, Tourism facilities, Tourism legislation, Tourism myths, Leisure (Ocio), Tourism heritage, Tourism policy, Tourism professionals, Tourism promotion, Natural resource, Tourist services, Sociology of leisure, Transport, Sectoral tourism
Vocabulário controlado do SIBi/ USP (USP, 2016)	Tourism administration, Tourism economics, Tourism geography, Tourism legislation, History of tourism, Tourism industry, Tourism market, Tourism theory
Tesauro de la Unesco	Tourism, Cultural tourism, Ecological tourism/ Ecotourism, Vacation, Free-time activity, Travel guide, Hotel Industry, Tourism industry, Leisure, International travel, Travel

Source – Elaborated by the authors

Chart 2 shows the themes of the articles by Zuñiga-Collazos, Palacio, and Miki (2012), which are focused on tourism types, by Wu and Pearce (2012), with themes associated, and by Osorio García (2016), with thematic axes. In the first

two articles, a thematic configuration of the Tourism field is not observed. In turn, the third one properly represents the Latin American production, since it is based on articles from the journal *Estudios y Perspectivas en Turismo*, which is considered the main means of communication in the region.

Chart 2 – Examples of study themes on the scientific production in Tourism

Title (author/year)	Themes
Análisis de la producción de investigación científica internacional sobre turismo en Colombia y Brasil y el desarrollo turístico actual de los países (Zuñiga-Collazos, Palacio & Miki, 2012)	Ecotourism – Sustainable Tourism Cultural tourism Area-based tourism Event tourism Medical tourism Sea-sun-sand tourism Tourism in general Urban tourism
Tourism research in and about Tibet: employing a system for reviewing regional tourism studies (Wu & Pearce, 2012)	Tourism development (macro level) & Strategic management Tourism resources & Development Alternative product & Experience Educational tourism Tourism-community relationships Tourism Marketing & Management Research methods/Literature Tourists' behavior Human resource management Hospitality and hotel industry studies Others
Revista Estudios y Perspectivas en Turismo – Calidad científica y editorial, temáticas e indicadores bibliométricos (Osorio García, 2016)	Social and social inclusion analyses Communication Culture, heritage and identity Education, training and work Space, planning, sustainability and local development Economic and administrative studies Investigation and theoretical-methodological procedures Legislation, management and public policies Markets and Competitiveness

Source – Elaborated by the authors

Another work to be mentioned is the terminology database of Tourism developed in the doctoral dissertation by Moreira (2010, p. vii), defended at the University of Vigo, Spain, based on a Portuguese-English parallel corpus. It shows a tourism terminology that represents the research status in Portugal and highlights the benefits of using this tool in the scope of specialized language. It is a reference study to be used in the construction of terminological thesauri through conceptual structures.

Finally, the project of terminology structuring by Köenig, Formentin, and Borges (2016) is focused on a thesaurus of definitions for accommodations, within the scope of the Scientific Initiation Program of Senac in the city of Santa Catarina, from 2014 to 2016. Based on the bibliography on the subject, they identified 226 terms, of which the most used were: check-in, check-out, half board, overnight stay, dead line, no show and voucher. As this document shows,

no conceptual relations between the terms are mentioned, focusing mainly on the definitions of these uses in the operations of the accommodations.

The works cited show the concern of several scholars about mapping the scientific production in Tourism, by identifying descriptors and themes of its content, thus contributing to the understanding of the state of the art of knowledge in this field. Simultaneously, they reinforce the need to move towards the construction of a Brazilian thesaurus of tourism terms, since the development of tourism knowledge in the country shows peculiarities, and the absence of a thesaurus has impaired the effectiveness of communication beyond the scientific scope.

THESAURUS CONSTRUCTION

Methodology

The construction of the tourism thesaurus began with the inventory of the keywords of an initial set of 788 doctoral dissertations defended between 1975 and 2015, added to an Access database, which was created from August 2013 to July 2016. Initially, Information Science researchers engaged in the study of documentary language and the creation of these tools were contacted, and then the specialist in the same field, with knowledge of specialized software. They helped in carrying on the activities of implementation and operationalization of the thesaurus from a database.

By previously studying the texts cited in the preceding item, the keywords of the dissertations were grouped in preliminary descriptors. However, a gap was observed in the Tourism field in several of these categories, along with the inconsistency of the keywords, which were poorly representative at times. Faced with such situation, the Brazilian literature specialized in general topics was used for complementing or adjusting the terms and carrying on with the construction. At the same time, the semantic relations between the terms – hierarchy, equivalence, and association (or correlation) – and the initial categories started being redefined.

Then, 39 specialists from the academia and the market, who served as judges, were consulted for validation or inclusion of terms. It was performed through an open interview, in which they analyzed one of the categories and opined about it. The categories were evaluated by two to four specialists, who opined from two to five times, producing about three to six versions of each of them until the final version.

From August to September 2016, 2,755 keywords were collected, composing an Excel spreadsheet from which a total of 285 proper nouns and names of places and 709 words inappropriate to the theme were excluded. In late October, the possible terms for the tourism thesaurus were defined and the categories were exploited in the following month to establish its general terms.

The software chosen from those available was TemaTres, developed by Diego Ferreyra in 2004, in Argentina. As a web tool, it enables managing and exploring knowledge representation models such as Thesauri, taxonomies and controlled vocabularies, besides integrating with other platforms. Its interface

is multilingual – in Spanish, German, French, English, Italian, and Portuguese – which eased its use.

Installing this software on the authors' personal computers was not possible. Thus, the general terms and their respective specific terms were initially structured in an Excel spreadsheet, and then transferred to the free software TheW32. However, as it did not have all the resources necessary for the thesaurus, unlike the TemaTres, new efforts to use this tool were undertaken. Through the partnership with and support from the center for Tourism and Social development studies, Cetes, TemaTres 2.2 was installed on the server of the School of Communications and Arts of the University of São Paulo (ECA/USP), and then the hierarchies were migrated to this software.

The format of the files produced in the first steps for construction of the tourism vocabulary was similar to the first one, with tabbed text. Also in the initial tables, automatic replacements were made so that, when saving these files in tabbed text format, their formatting would be as similar as possible to that desired.

As these processes involve several different operating systems and this tool presents some difficulties in the use of special characters in some of the types of text encoding, a checklist to exclude accents and cedillas was produced, followed by conversion of all characters to uppercase, which ensured that the layout of the vocabulary terms could be standardized.

The conversion of the files from table into tabbed text caused an excess of tab marks and paragraphs that, along with the extra spaces from the manual creation of the files, were removed using the find and replace resource of the Microsoft Word text editor. The format chosen to import the terms did not allow the definition of related terms (RT) or scope notes (SN) with the vocabulary, which were subsequently reinserted into the structure already imported online, ending the process with the analysis to ensure that formatting errors had not excluded/added terms or relationships.

Several revisions were made during the second half of 2017 and at the beginning of 2018, when some relations between the terms were corrected and the free terms adjusted, without relations and repetitions. The terms were accentuated, and characters (cedilla) were included, thus correcting spelling. Some of them are in English, because their translation into Portuguese is not recognized in the tourist market and/or in the specialized literature.

Structure of the thesaurus

The Brazilian Thesaurus of Tourism Terms is a documentary language representing the concepts of the field of tourism in a standardized way through a set of terms with logical-semantic structures, to be used as knowledge base, listing/classification, and support for online search. As a language, it organizes the information considered relevant to the set of senders and receivers within a given context. Thus, its final configuration depends on the methods (addressed in this study) and contents identified and selected.

Functionally, the matrix of the thesaurus is based on the reduction in the number of terms to be used in the information system through the choice of preferred terms, called **descriptors**. Structurally, it is based on a categorization of the topic or of the thematic field in focus, called **macroorganization**, which is

subdivided into the number of levels necessary and based on the proposition of **self-excluding** general classes, a condition that is necessary for the organization of the terms and for the formulation of search strategies. Thus, categorization does not comprehend intersected sets or levels, although the organization is simultaneously linked to the objectives and to the nature of the specialty field in focus. The self-exclusion of the categories gives the thesaurus the autonomy of representation of the specialty field necessary for the organization of information and for the postulation of recovery rules.

The Tourism thesaurus represents the thematic focus selected by the authors and is an inventory of units effectively used in the thematic field, based on the vocabulary used in the dissertation database of the Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (Capes), on the specialized literature and on the opinion of experts, grouped in a relational manner by categories and classes in which the domain is distributed. The categories designate specific aspects of the Tourism field, allowing grouping the terms under a denomination.

The subdivisions or groups obtained show particularities of this field, whose categories do not constitute universal data, but denominate groups formed according to purposes directly linked to the search. Therefore, they result from the application of a viewpoint on the thematic field determined by the authors.

In sum, the systematic organization of concepts into categories, in turn, generates a system of interconnected concepts. Thus, the creation of a documentary language requires the categorization of the terms of a field and of the conceptual relations between them. The first level of organization between the terms is expressed by the categories. The categories are subdivided into other levels, classes, and subclasses to represent the overall structure of the domain aimed at organizing the information. The terms grouped at the lower structural level establish conceptual relations of association, hierarchy, and equivalency between them.

The Brazilian Thesaurus of Tourism Terms was installed on the server of ECA/USP on March 3, 2017 with the following electronic address: <http://www2.eca.usp.br/tesauroturismo/vocab/index.php>. Its first version was completed on March 2017, the second one on August 24, 2017, and the third one on March 30, 2018. It is structured in 17 thematic categories, which are named on its home page and are as follows: 1) food and drinks; 2) science and information in Tourism; 3) tourism communication; 4) Economy and Tourism; 5) education and training in Tourism; 6) tourism events; 7) hospitality in Tourism; 8) Leisure and Tourism; 9) tourism legislation; 10) tourism bodies; 11) tourism heritage; 12) tourism planning; 13) tourism policy; 14) tourist services; 15) society and Tourism; 16) Information Technology and Communication in Tourism; and 17) transport in tourism.

The encoding of the terms entered is explained in Figure 1 with examples of non-preferred terms, specific terms, and scope notes of the category food and drinks. The system generates two lists to the administrators: one containing all terms in alphabetical order and a systematic one, containing the terms General Term (GT), Specific Term (ST), and Related Terms (RT) in hierarchical order.

The final structure of the thesaurus totaled 1,702 terms distributed into up to seven levels, more focused on those of levels 3 and 4, as well as on relations between terms and non-preferred terms. The total of scope notes was 23 (Table 1).

Figure 1- Examples of terms in the software TemaTres Web 2.2

GENERAL AND SPECIFIC TERMS
GT TOURIST SERVICES
T1: TRAVEL AGENCY
ST2: TOURISM AGENCY
ST3: BUSINESS TOURISM AGENCY
ST4: TRAVEL POLICY
ST5: BUSINESS TOURISM
TERMS USED FOR AND USE TERM
GT: FOOD AND DRINKS
NON-PREFERRED TERMS
PU: FOOD AND TOURISM USE FOOD AND DRINKS
PU: CATERING USE FOOD AND DRINKS
RELATED TERMS
GT: TOURISM PLANNING
RT: GOVERNMENTAL PLANNING
RT: TOURISM POLICY
SCOPE NOTE
GT: FOOD AND DRINKS
ST1: CATERING
Note 1: Supply of collective meals

Source – Elaborated by the authors

Table 1 – Final structure of the Brazilian Thesaurus of Tourism Terms

Item	Subitem	Frequency (No.)
Terms	Level 1	17
	Level 2	193
	Level 3	702
	Level 4	412
	Level 5	141
	Level 6	6
	Level 7	14
	Non-preferred terms	217
	Total	1702
Relations	Related Terms	248
Notes	Scope notes	24

Source – Elaborated by the authors

Some choices were based on the detailing or not of the terms. In the case of the term Economics and Tourism, its detailing, referring to many economic aspects of Tourism, included the term Tourism Marketing and its respective subterms. Contrarily, in the term Education and Training in Tourism, the subterm Tourism Professionals cites only the subterm Tourism Occupations, referring to the Brazilian Classification of Occupations (CBO) that contains the occupations of the labor market in Tourism, Hotel Industry, Hospitality and Leisure sectors, duly standardized, named, and coded.

FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

The challenge of constructing the Brazilian Thesaurus of Tourism Terms based on the doctoral dissertations on Tourism showed a material of great potential, but enormously complex because of the diversity of approaches, thematic interests, terminologies of the field of origin, among other features. Therefore, it was imposed to consider tourism as a scientific field, whose multi/ inter/ trans/extradisciplinary nature and dynamics led to consider a multireference viewpoint in the construction of the thesaurus.

The use of a specific software for the construction of the tool and the support by documentary analysis professionals was essential and united Tourism and Information Science, showing interfaces still little explored of the Tourism studies. The scientific knowledge produced in the dissertations showed that, despite its “scientificity”, extradisciplinary knowledge cannot be dissociate from the practice of Tourism. It explains the need for the contact with the collaboration of “judges”, most of them experienced professors and researchers with direct closeness to the practice of Tourism regarding the thematic categories defined.

The process of definition of categories (preferred terms or general terms) was part of the investigation as a whole, from the previous study of the thesauri and controlled vocabularies to the last term included. The richness and scope of the scientific field of Tourism surprised the authors, who had not realized such thematic amplitude until then. Considering that, one confirmed that adopting the conception of scientific field of Tourism with its dynamics, forces and scientific agents towards a new paradigm of Tourism study and investigation was appropriate.

The Brazilian Thesaurus of Tourism Terms was made available to the scientific community as a tool for support to Tourism research, but it needs to be updated and improved through the collaboration of its users, the monitoring of the scientific production, and the closeness to the practice of Tourism to fulfill its role. The construction of a terminology thesaurus that will be able to properly represent the scientific field of Tourism in Brazil is expected in the future.

This initiative is believed to be capable of encouraging other researchers from emerging fields of study and investigation, such as Gastronomy and Hospitality, to make joint efforts with Information Science researchers to deal with the evolution, systematization, and categorization of the thesaurus, contributing both to a more effective scientific communication and to the organization of knowledge.

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CONTRIBUTIONS

Mirian Rejowski: Definition of the research problem and objectives, development of the theoretical proposition, conduction of the bibliographic review and theoretical foundations, choice of methodological procedures, data analysis, critical revision of the manuscript, writing of the manuscript.

Cristina Hilsdorf Barbanti: Conduction of the bibliographic review and theoretical foundation; choice of methodological procedures; data collection; data analysis; elaboration of tables, graphs, and figures; calculations and projections, adequacy of the manuscript to the *RTA standards*.