2014 Visa Openness Report

ICAO Air Services Negotiation Event
(ICAN 2014)

Bali, Indonesia
17 November 2014

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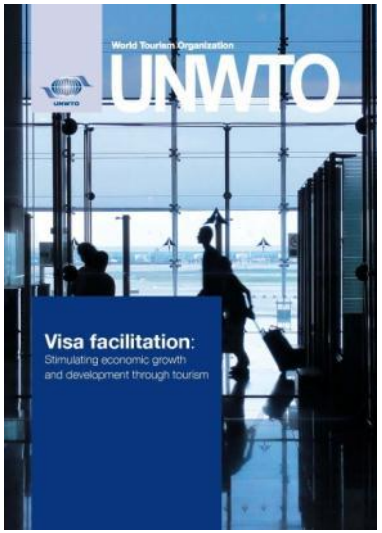
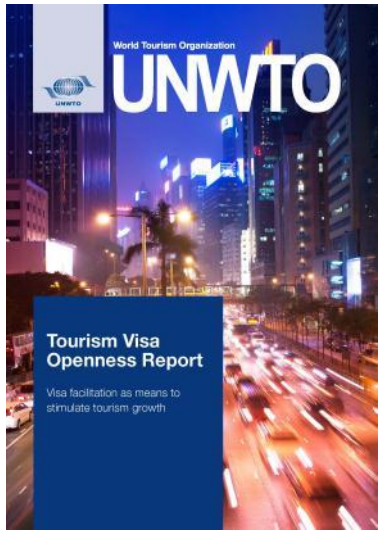
Visa Facilitation

- Visa provide essential functions
  - Immigration Control
  - Security
  - Limitation of duration of stay and activities
  - Application of measures of reciprocity

- However … visa also act as a constraint to international travel and its economic benefits

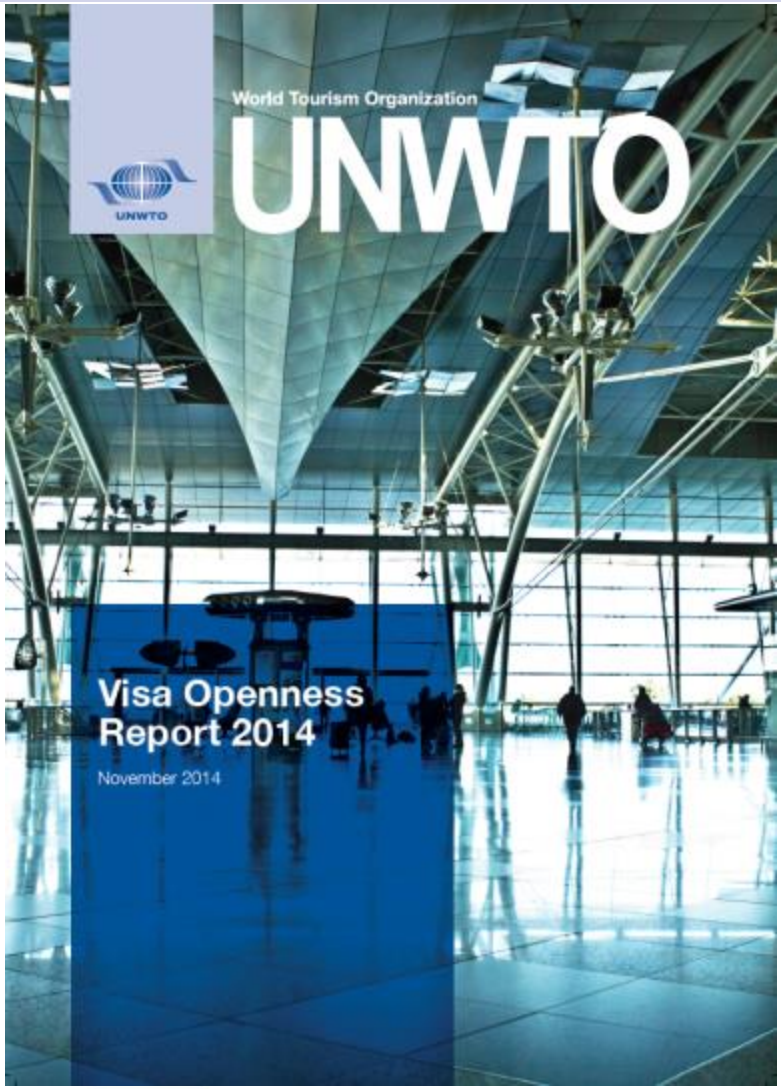




Classification of Visa Policies

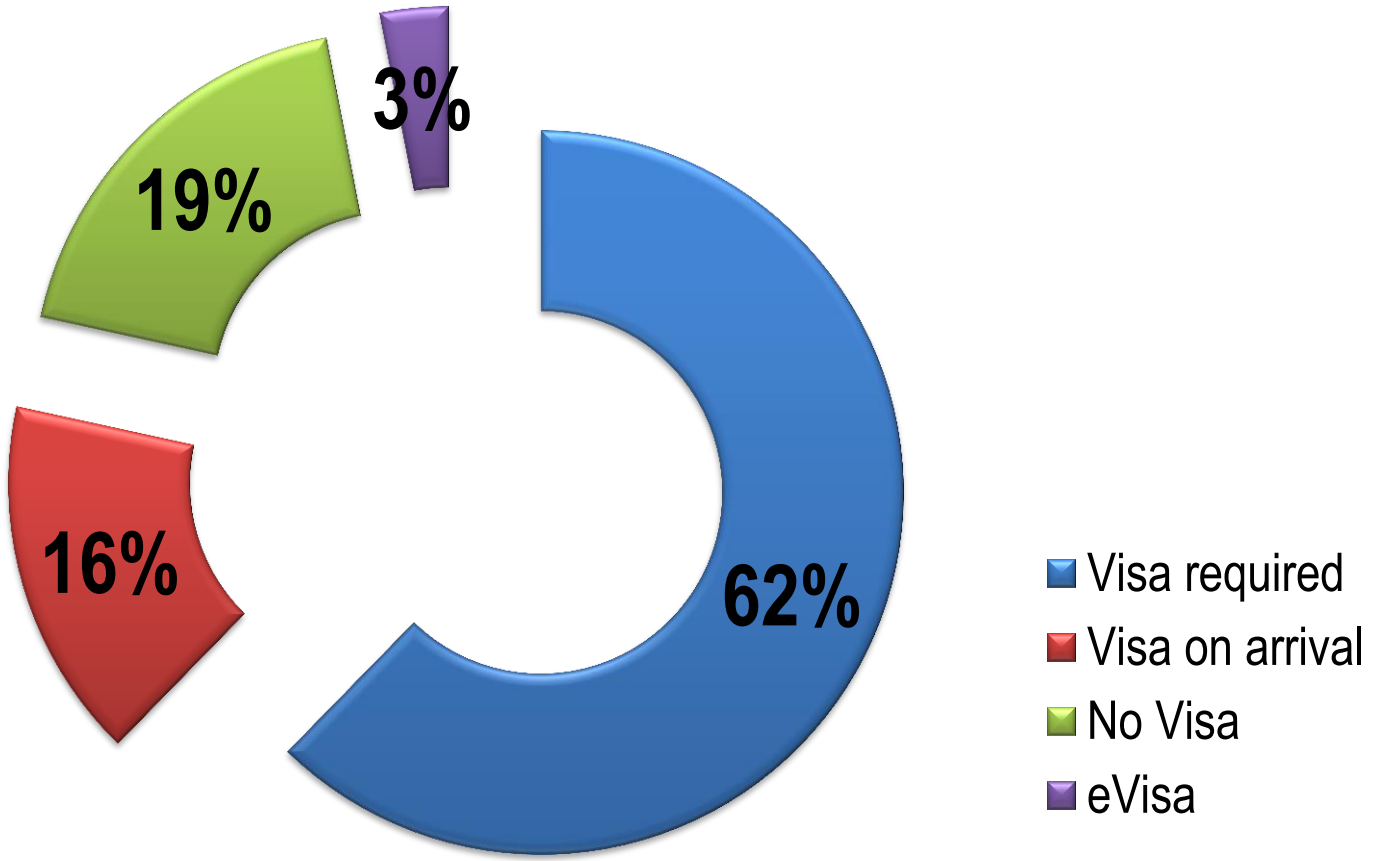
- No visa
- Visa on arrival
- eVisa
- Traditional visa

For BARBADOS, the following types of visas are required from the following countries:						
Columns	1	2	3	4	5	6
Types of visa	Visa required	Visa on arrival	eVisa	No visa required	Correction	Comments
Afghanistan	x					
Albania				x		
Algeria	x					
Andorra	x					
Angola	x					
Antigua and Barbuda				x		
Argentina				x		
Armenia				x		
Australia				x		
Austria				x		
Azerbaijan				x		
Bahamas				x		
Bahrain	x					
Bangladesh				x		
Barbados	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belarus				x		
Belgium				x		
Belize				x		
Benin	x					
Bhutan	x					
Bolivia	x					
Bosnia and Herzegovina	x					
Botswana				x		
Brazil				x		

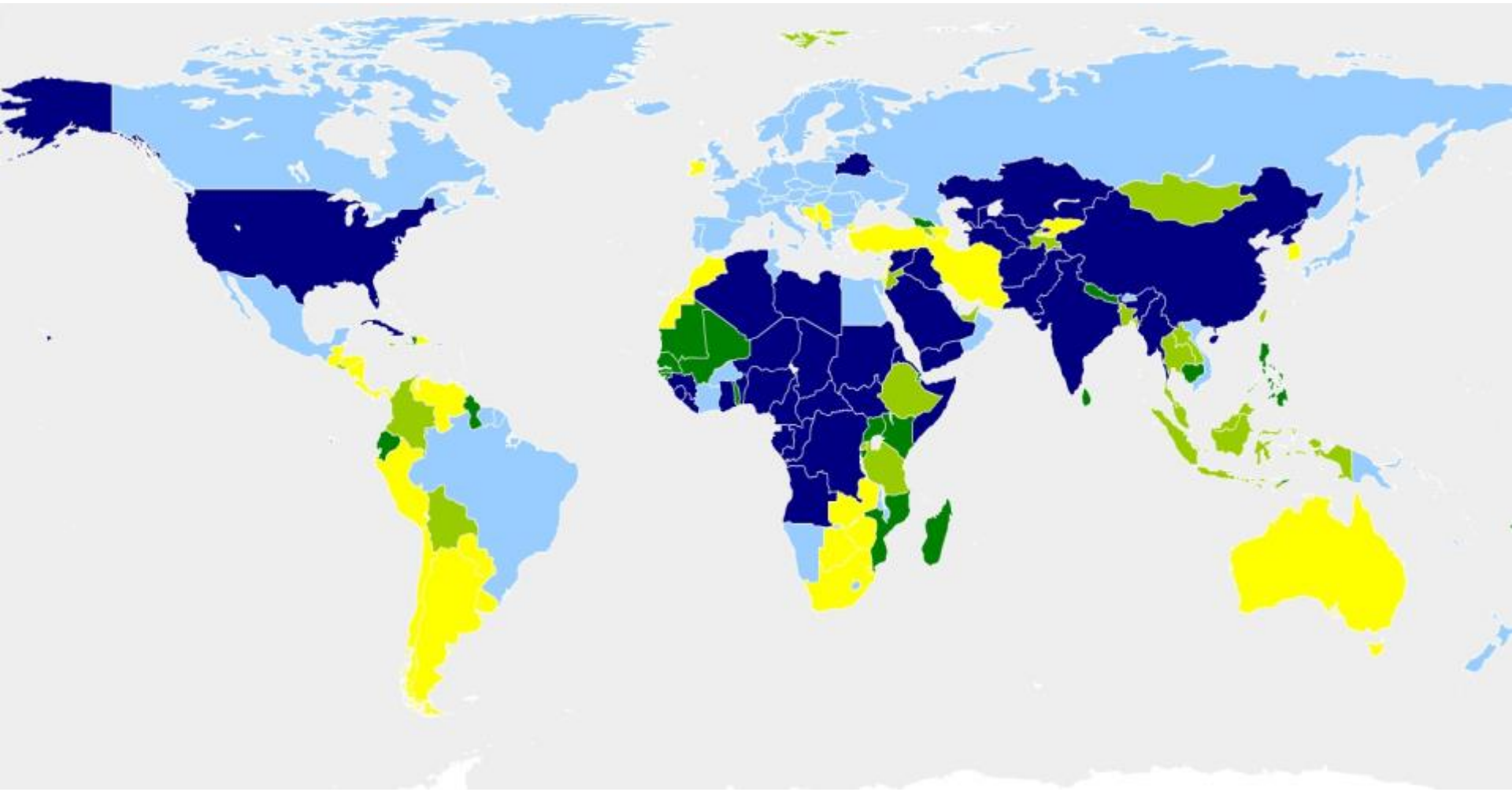

World Tourism Organization
UNWTO
Visa Openness Report 2014
November 2014

2014 Status

World Population Affected, 2014

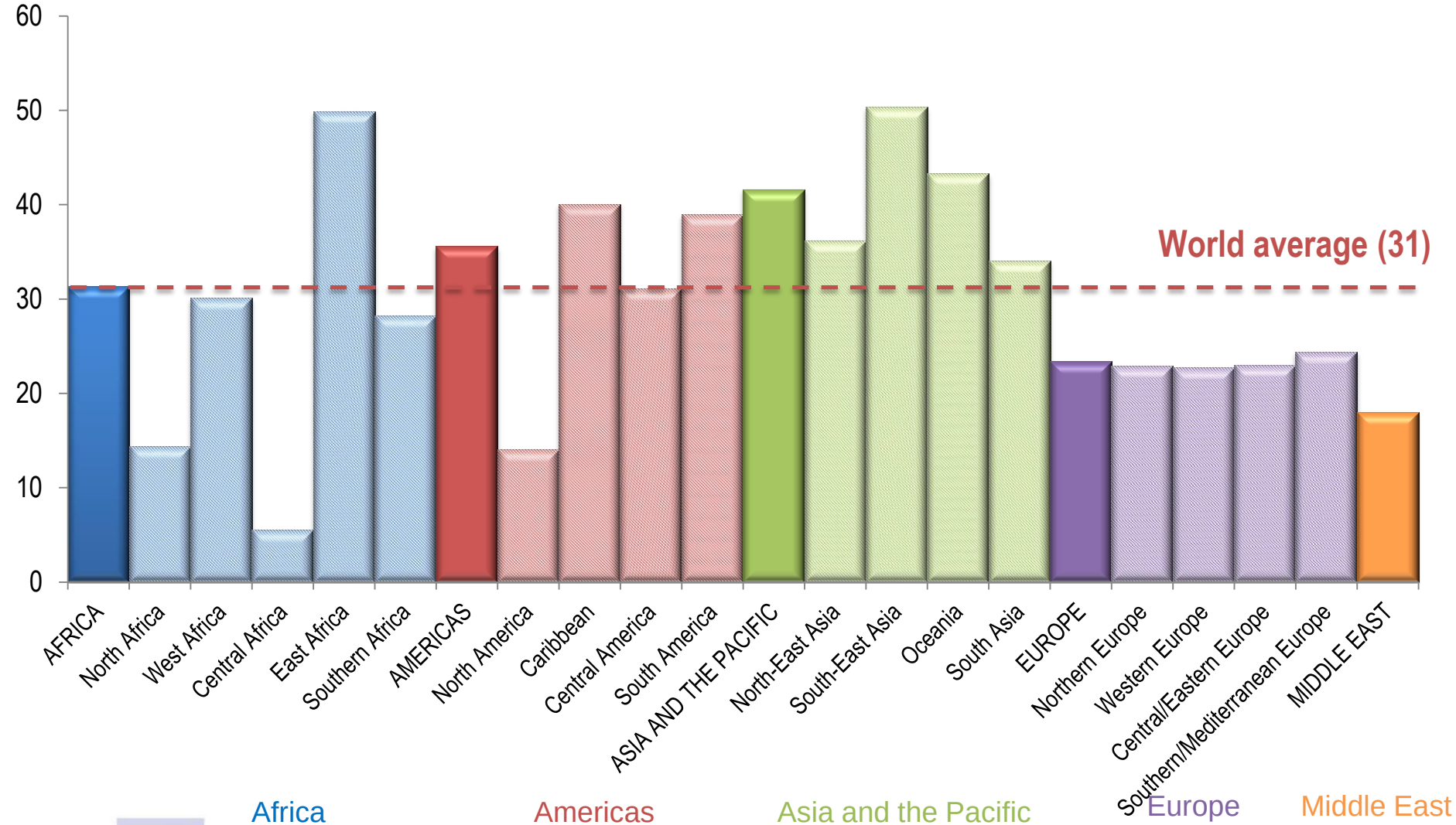


2014 Openness Index

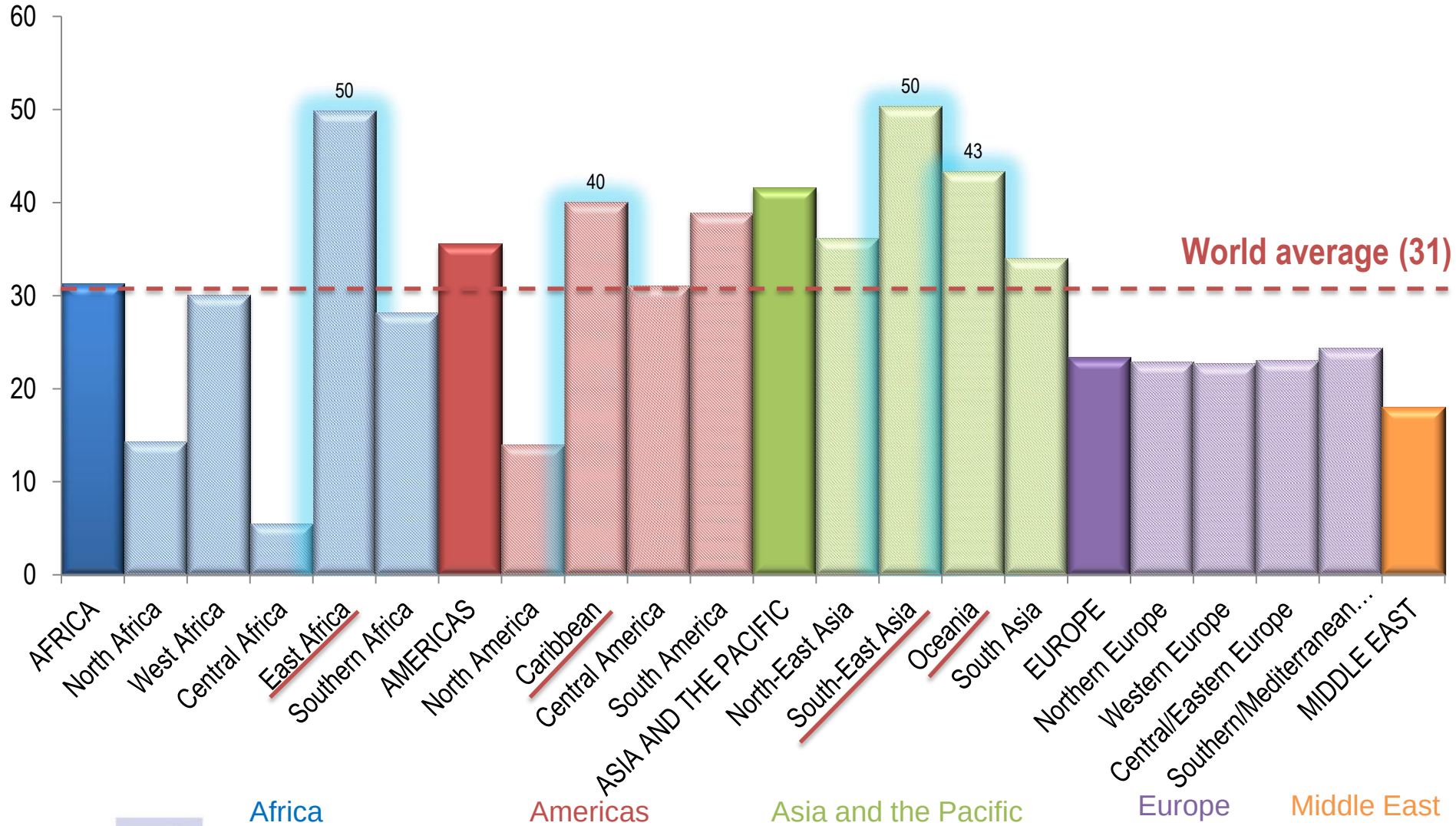


Dark blue 0-10, Light blue 11-23, Yellow 24-39, Light green 40-69, Dark green 70-100

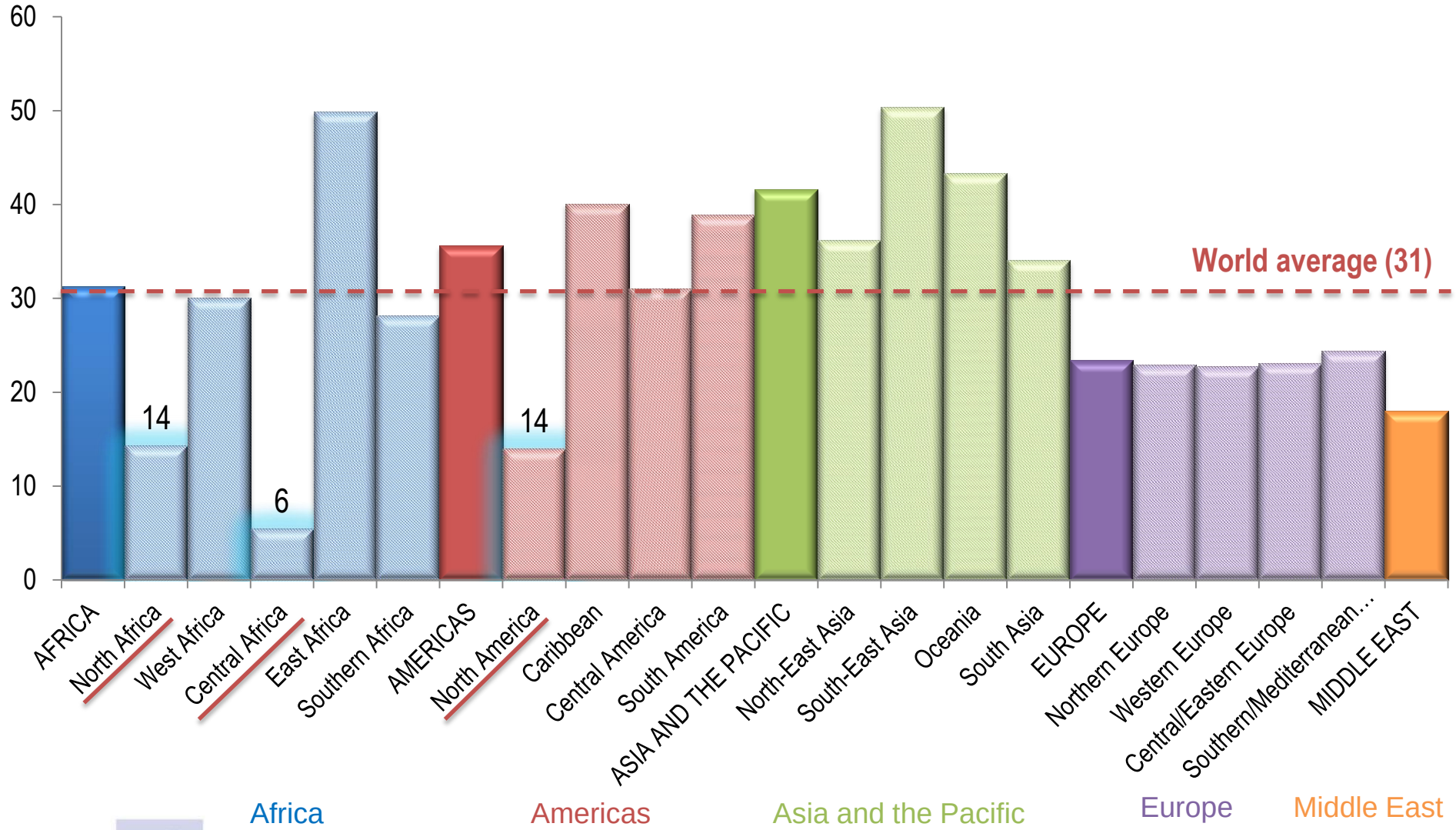
2014 Status – Openness Score



2014 Status – Most Open Destinations



2014 Status – Most Restrictive Destinations



World Population Affected, 2008-2014

Requests for traditional visas decreased from 77% to 62%

The Least Restrictive Destinations

Openness: 100

Cook Islands
Dominica
Micronesia
Niue

Openness: 99-80

Haiti
Macao (China)
Philippines
Georgia
Hong Kong (China)
Mauritius

Openness: 79-70

Turks & Caicos Islands
Fiji
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Montserrat
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Guyana
Seychelles
Vanuatu
Cambodia
Mali
Cabo Verde
Guine-Bissau
Togo
Palau
Nepal
Uganda
Senegal
Ecuador
Mozambique
Burundi
Mauritania
Timor-Leste
Sri Lanka
Comoros Islands
Madagascar
Samoa
Tuvalu
Maldives
Djibouti
Kenya

Destinations Improving Visa Procedures, 2010-2014

195-180 Improvements

- Niue
- Micronesia
- Palau
- São Tomé e Principe
- Djibouti
- Burundi
- Haiti
- Mozambique
- Rwanda
- Guine-Bissau

179-130 Improvements

- Togo
- Cabo Verde
- Mali
- Iran
- Senegal
- Mauritania
- Uganda
- Guyana
- Bangladesh
- Lao (P.D.R.)
- United Arab Emirates
- Kenya
- Tanzania

129-75 Improvements

- Ecuador
- Bolivia
- Macao (SAR)
- Armenia
- Sri Lanka
- Georgia
- Colombia
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Nicaragua
- Montserrat
- Tajikistan
- Mauritius

Drivers of Change

- 54 destinations significantly facilitated the visa process for citizens (of 20 or more countries)
- Between 2010 and 2014 visa requirements were facilitated for 6,748 destination-source market pairs
- Significant changes (20 or more) were predominant
- Most common change was visa on arrival (57% of all changes)

87 States Represented at the 1963 Conference

Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Bielorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo(Leopold-Ville), Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, France, Greece, Guatemala, Holy See, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Republic of South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

UN Conference on International Travel and Tourism

States agreed:

"Governments should extend to the maximum number of countries the practice of abolishing, through bilateral agreements or by unilateral decision, the requirement of entry visas for temporary visitors."

Research - Economic Blocs and Thematic Routes

Visa Facilitation in G20 Economies - 2012

- **5% to 25% international tourist arrivals growth**
- **US$ 206 billion in add'l tourism receipts**
- **5 million additional jobs by 2015**

G20 Los Cabos Summit Leaders' Declaration

The G20 Leaders recognized at their June 2012 Summit, the role of tourism as

"a vehicle for job creation, economic growth and development"

furthermore, they committed to

"work towards developing travel facilitation initiatives in support of job creation, quality work, poverty reduction and global growth."

Visa Facilitation in APEC Economies - 2013

- 9% to 13% int'l tourist arrivals growth
- Between US$ 62 billion and US$ 89 billion in tourism receipts
- 1.8 million to 2.6 million additional jobs by 2016

APEC High Level Policy Dialogue on Travel Facilitation

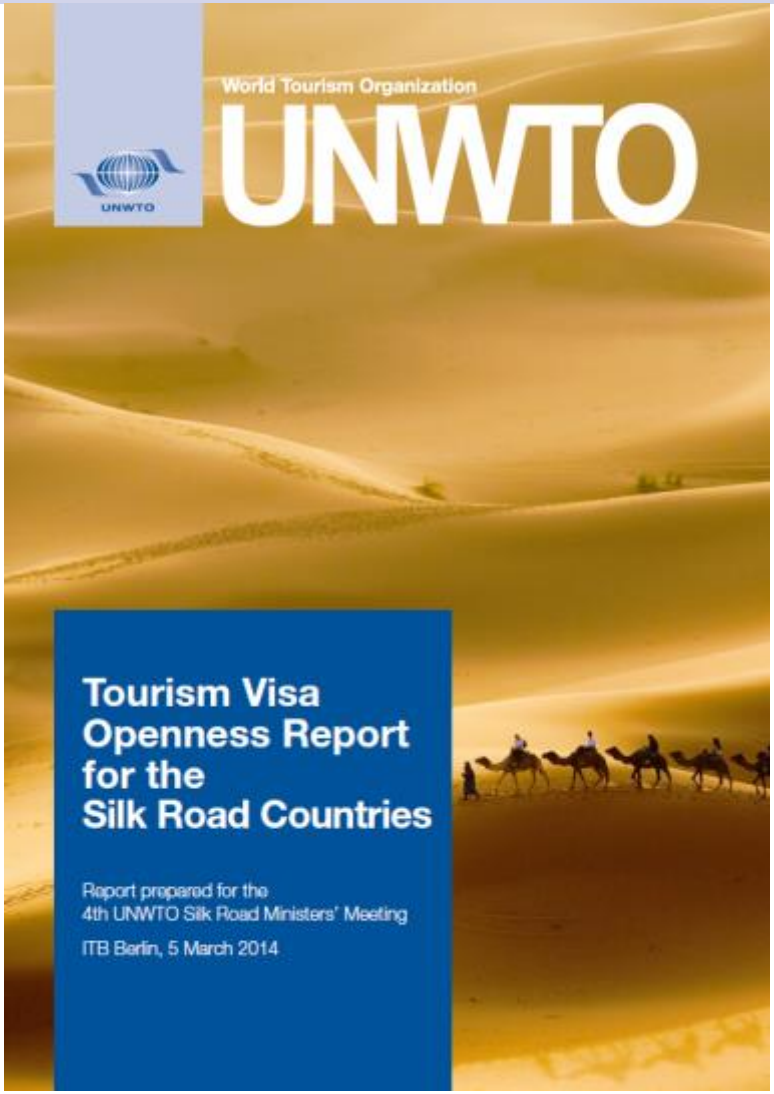
APEC 2013 Leaders' Declaration:

"…we will…progress work on the Travel Facilitation Initiative as a way to promote tourism and facilitate business…"

Visa Facilitation in the Silk Road Countries

Presented at the 4th UNWTO Silk Road Ministers' Meeting at ITB Berllin, 2014

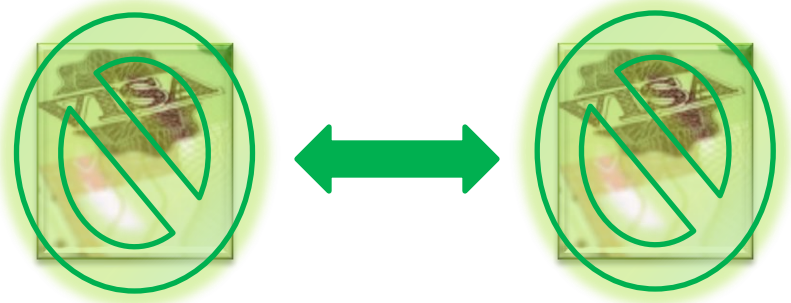
The development of tourism in the Silk Road relies more than usual on a prevailing tourism interest that produces cooperative initiatives and solutions for the tourism sector.



Reciprocity

Global Status and Selected Economic Blocs

Global Reciprocal Policies, 2014



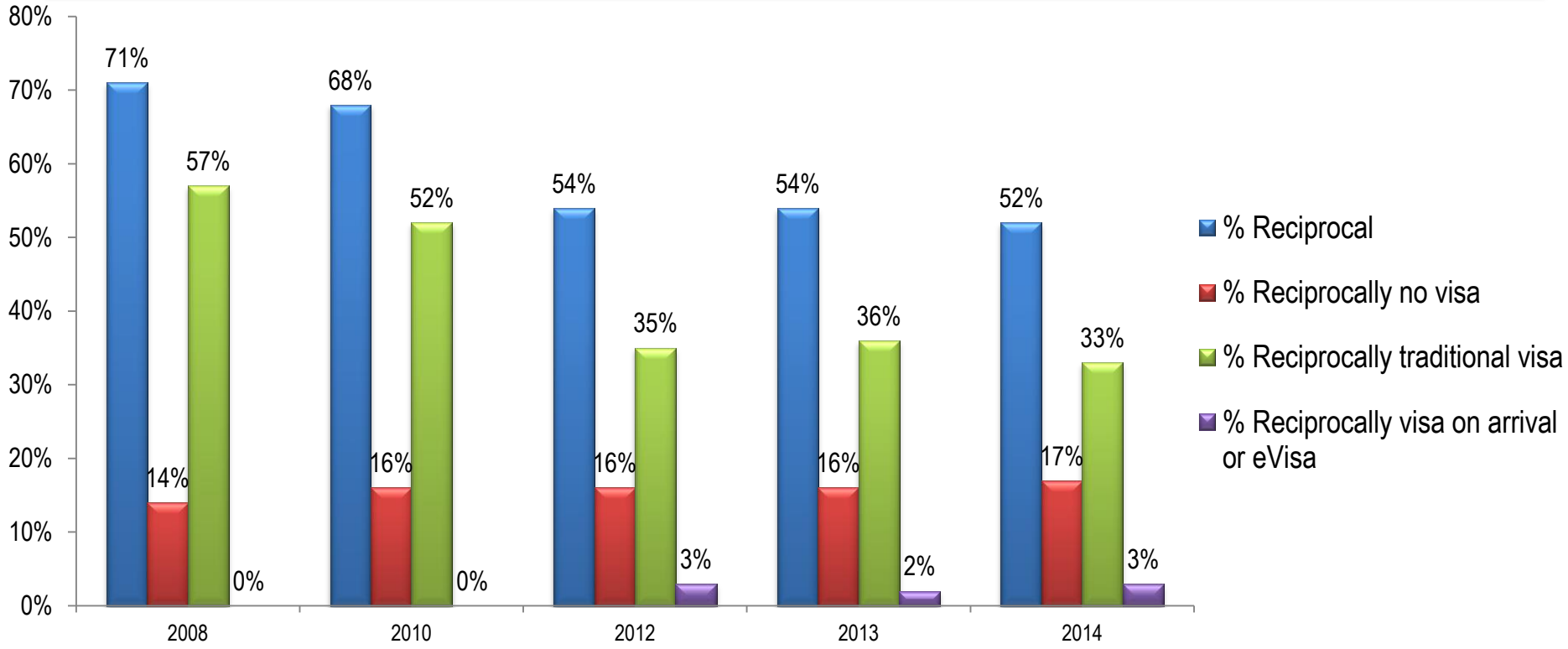
- **17**% of visa policy pairs between countries are reciprocally open

- 33% of visa policy pairs between countries reciprocally require traditional visas

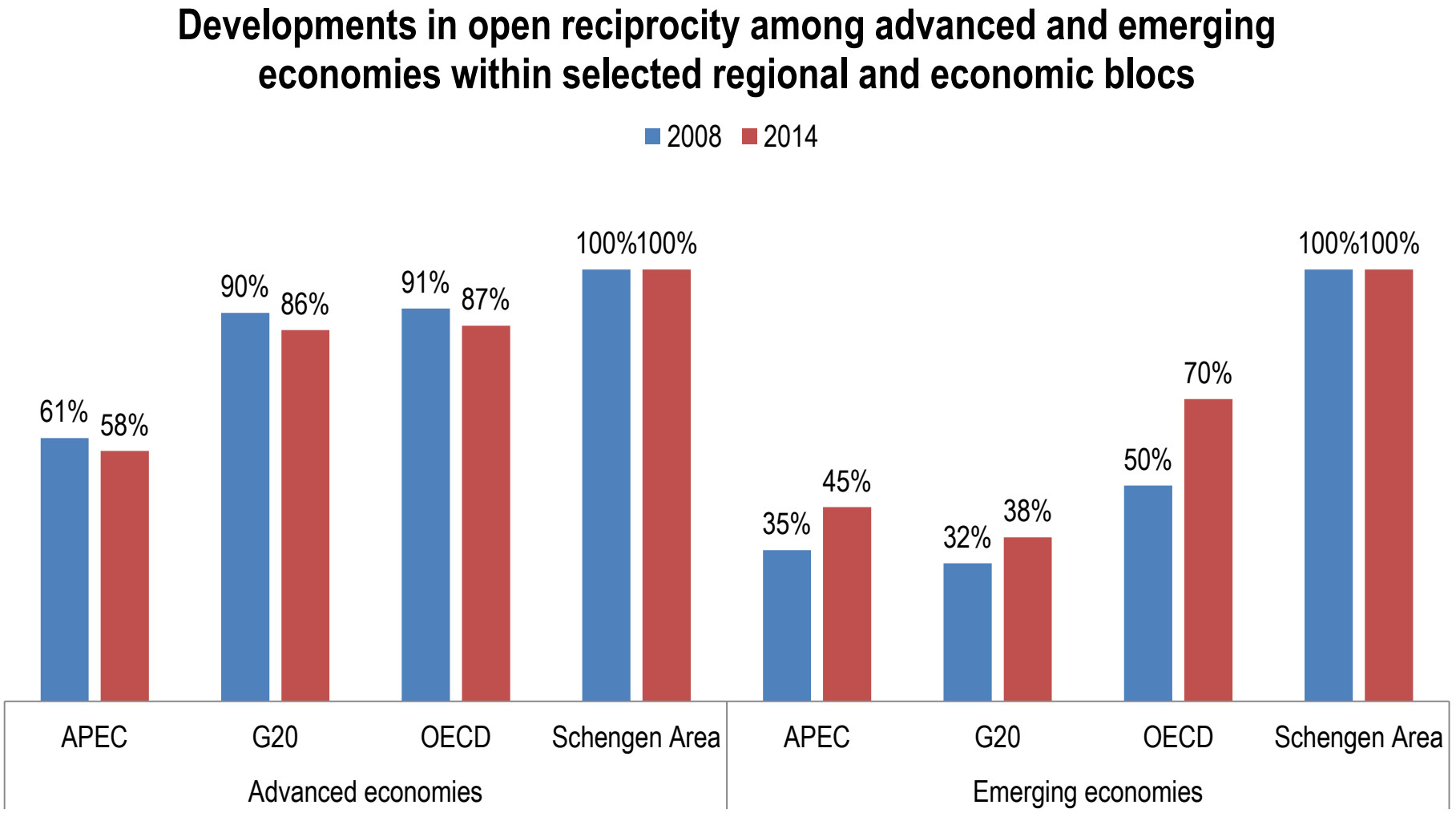
Global Reciprocal Policies, 2008-2014

Reciprocal visa restrictions decreased from 57% to 33%

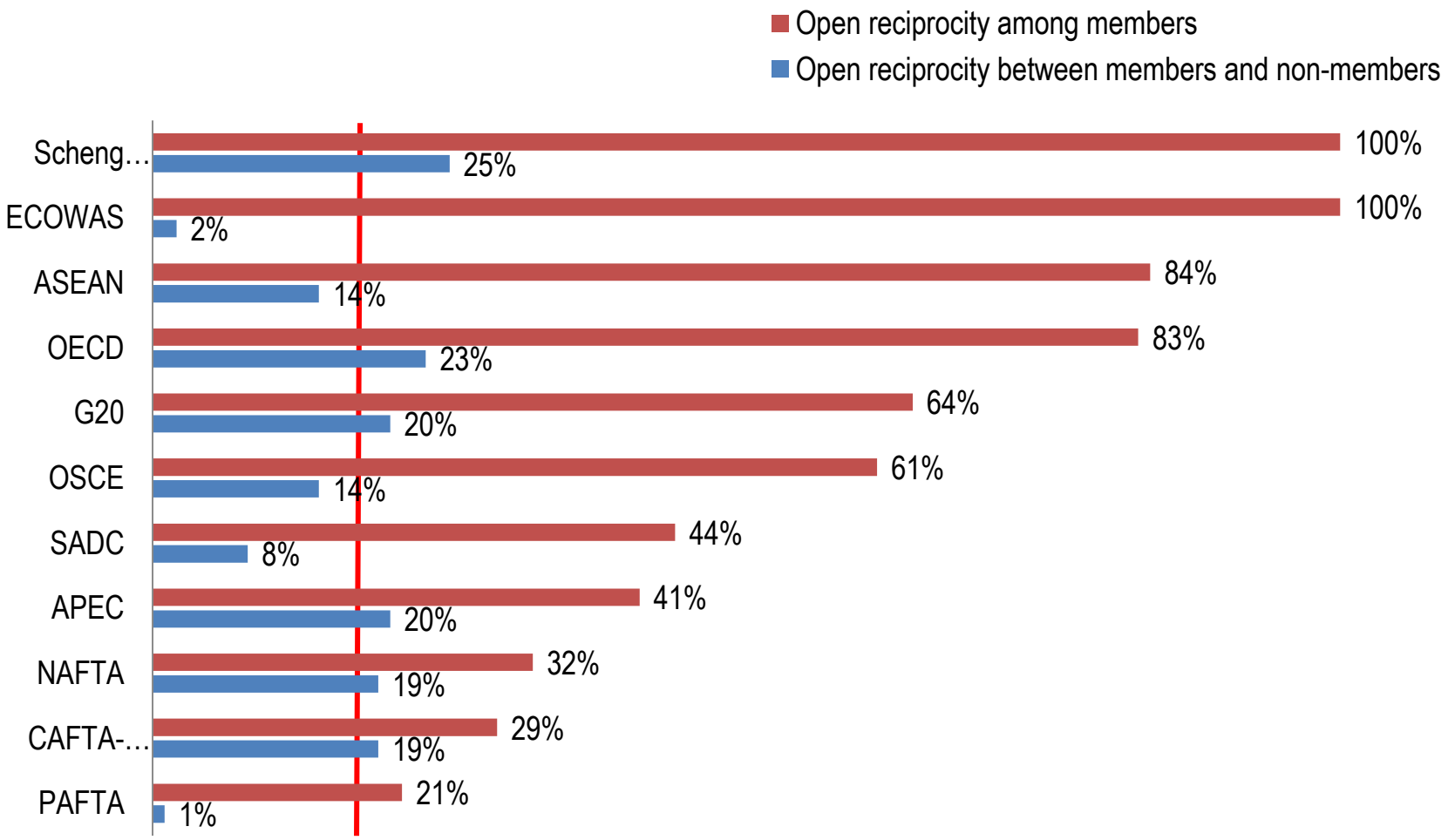
Reciprocal and nonreciprocal visa facilitation measures increased from 43% to 67%



Open Reciprocity, 2008-2014



Open Reciprocity – 2014
(among members and between members and non-members)



Recommendations

- **Improve delivery of information** (Availability and reliability of information – multiple languages, useful information)
- **Facilitate processes** to obtain visas (Reduce bottlenecks, such as personal interviews, needed documents, wait times)
- **Differentiated treatment** to facilitate tourist travel (For means of transportation (e.g. cruise ship passengers) or specified geographical areas or ports of entries)
- **Institute eVisa programmes** (If exempting from entry visa is not possible)
- **Establish regional agreements** (To move freely between member states once admitted by one of the member states)

Thank you!

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World Tourism Organization

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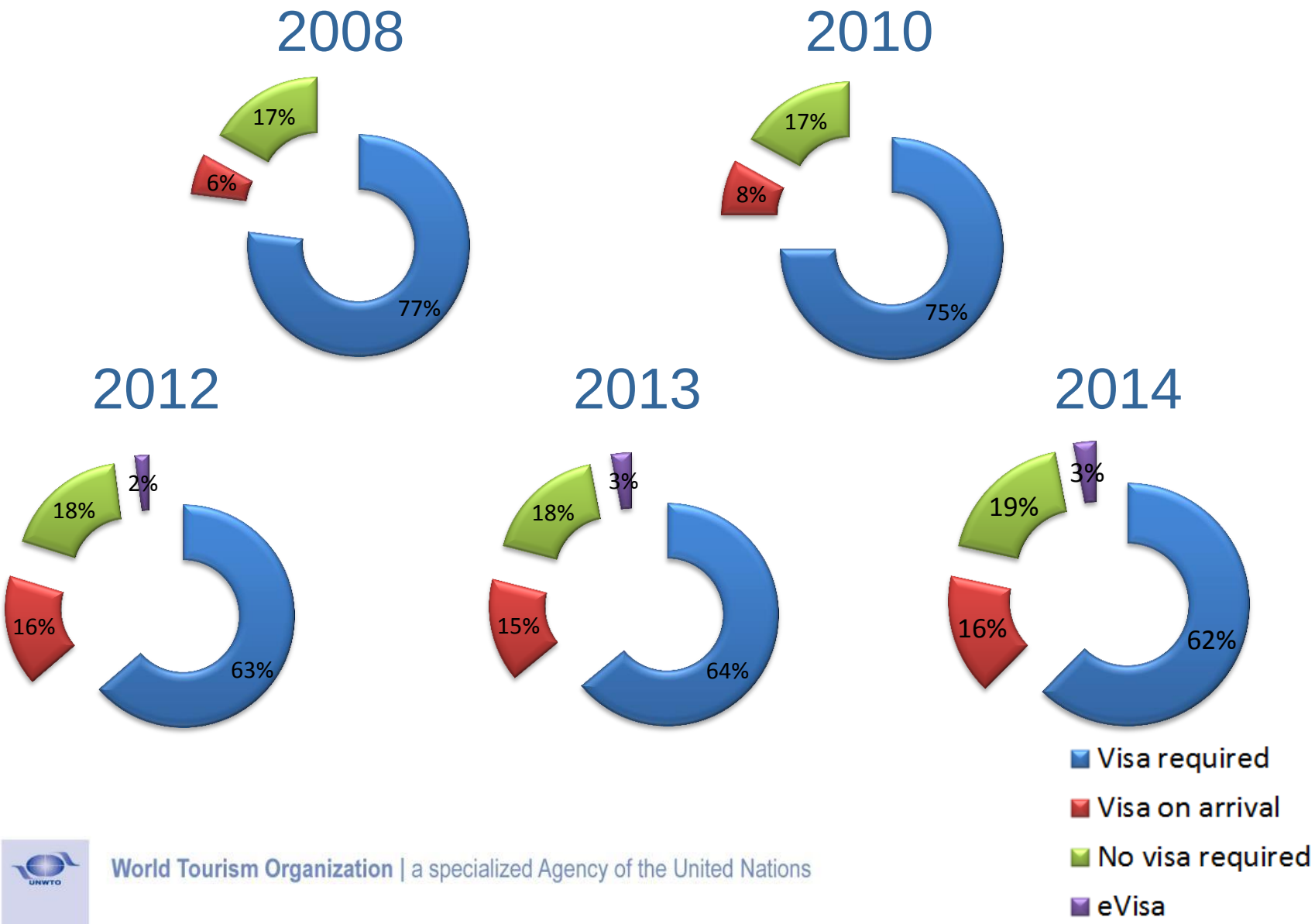
World Population Affected, 2008-2014