



# 2014 Visa Openness Report

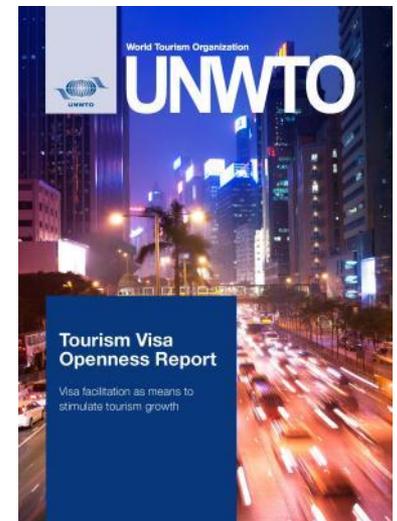
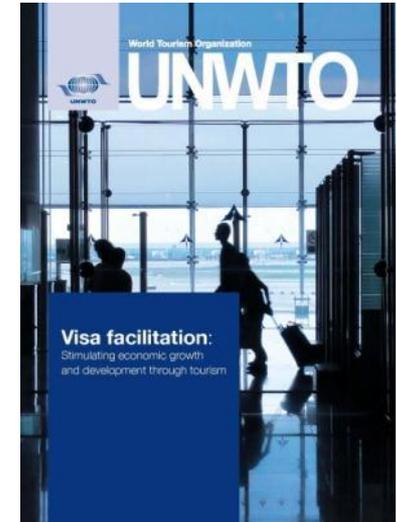
**Regional Seminar on MRTDs and  
Traveler Identification Management**

Madrid, Spain  
25-27 June 2014

Dr. Dirk Glaesser  
Director  
Sustainable Development of Tourism

# 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

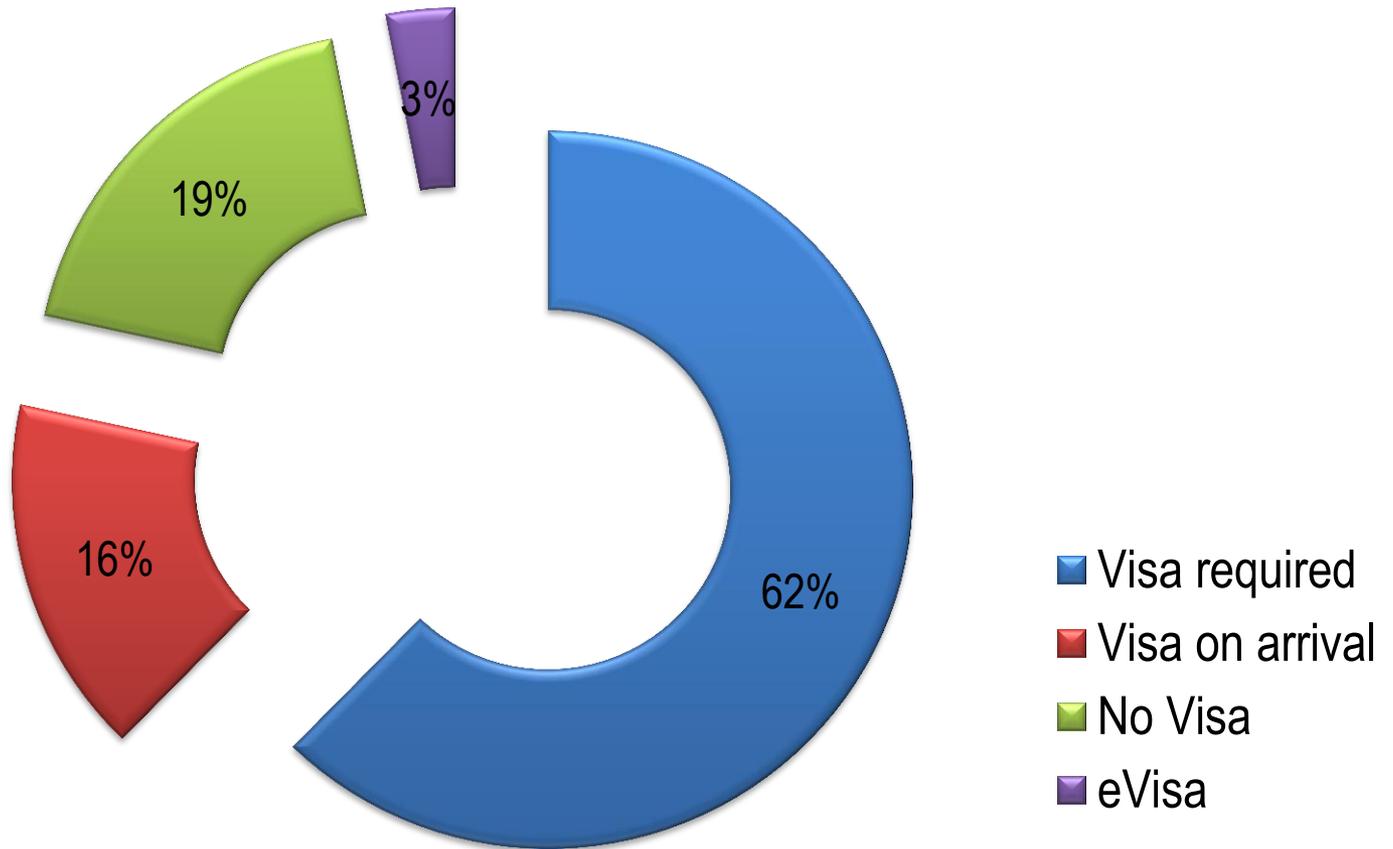
For BARBADOS, the following types of visas are required from the following countries:						
Columns	1	2	3	4	5	6
Types of visa	Visa required	Visa on arrival	eVisa	No visa required	Correction	Comments
Afghanistan	x					
Albania				x		
Algeria	x					
Andorra	x					
Angola	x					
Antigua and Barbuda				x		
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		

# 2014 Status

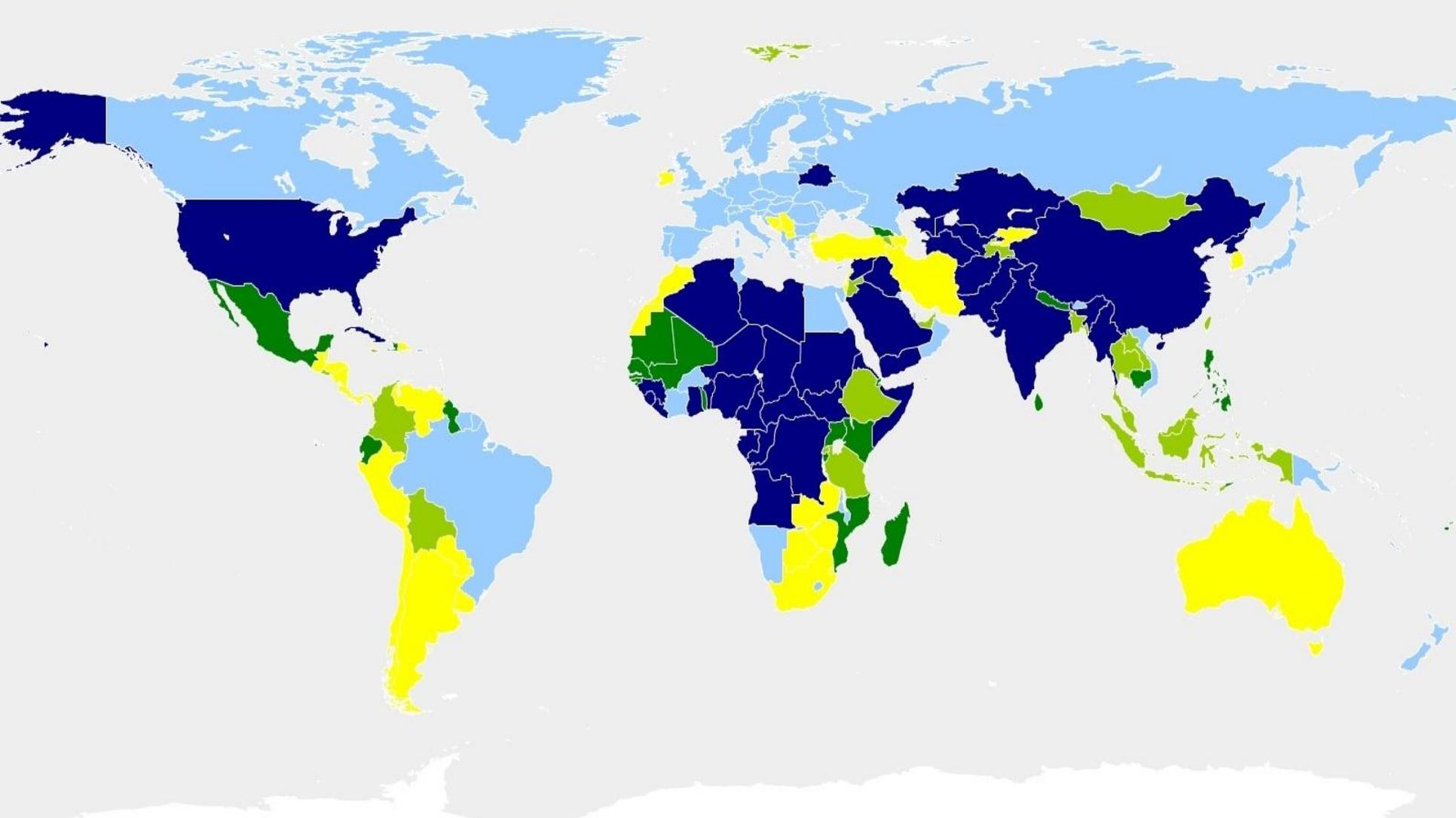


World Tourism Organization | a specialized Agency of the United Nations

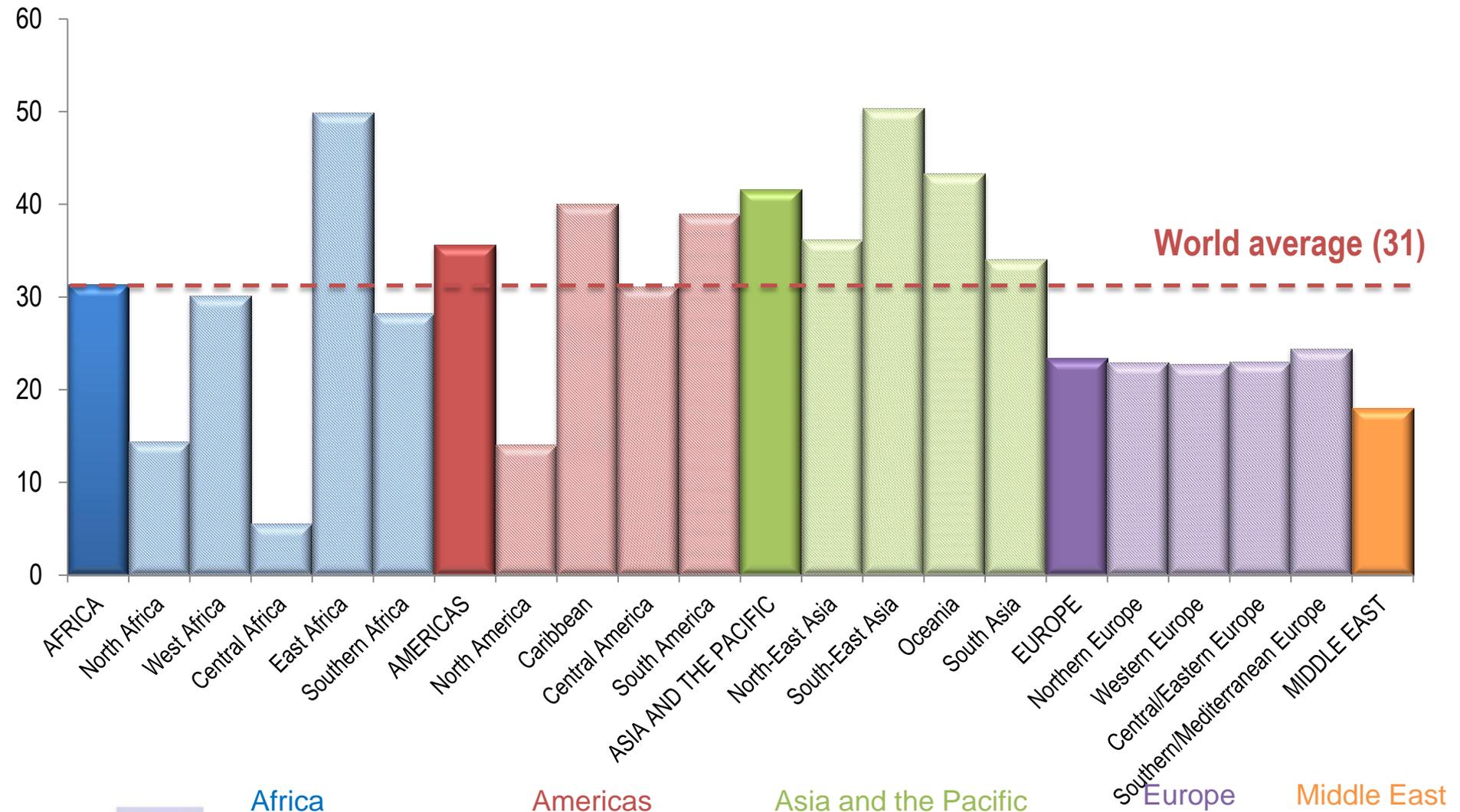
# World Population Affected, 2014



# 2014 Openness Index



# 2014 Status – Openness Score



Africa

Americas

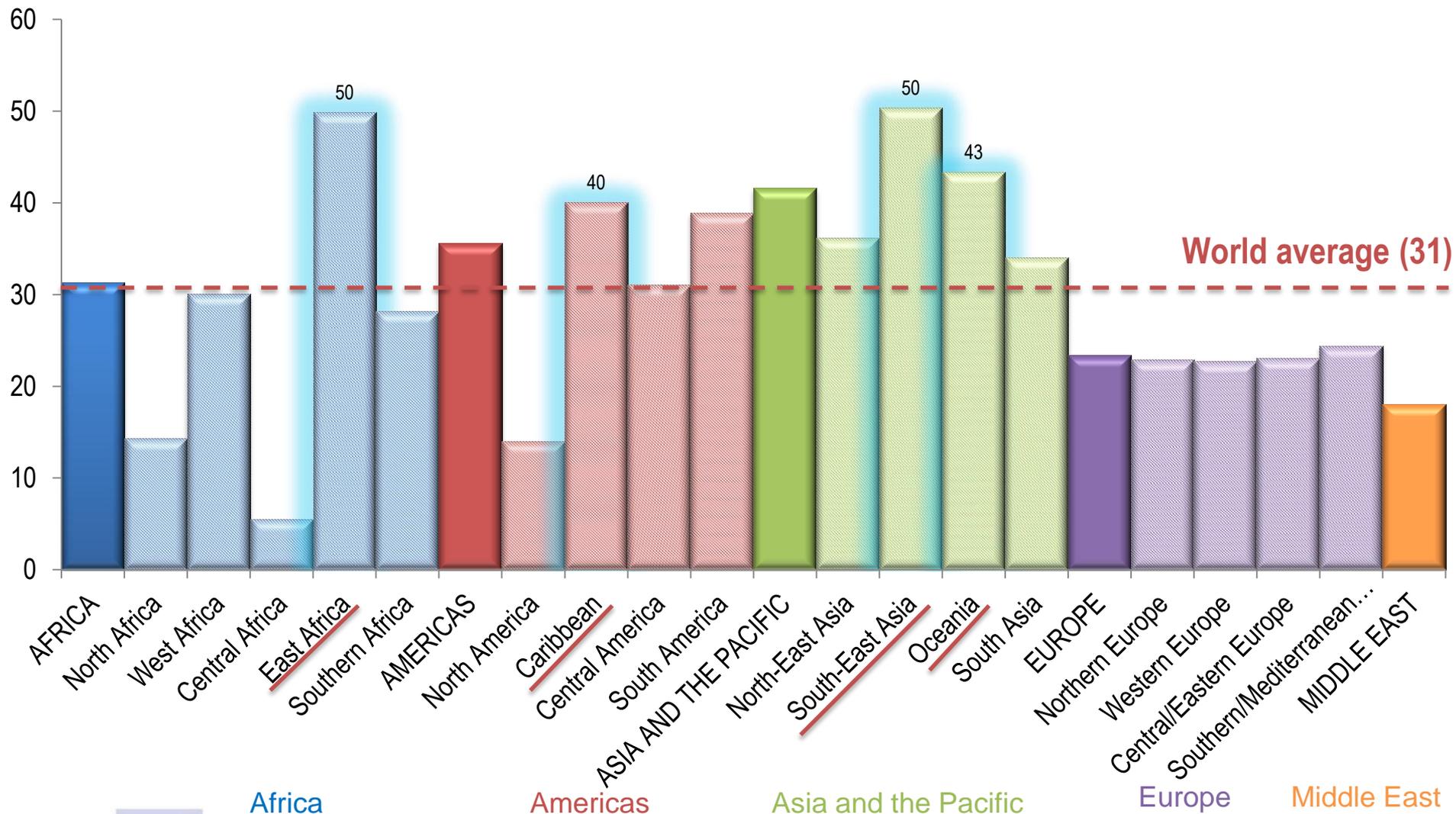
Asia and the Pacific

Europe

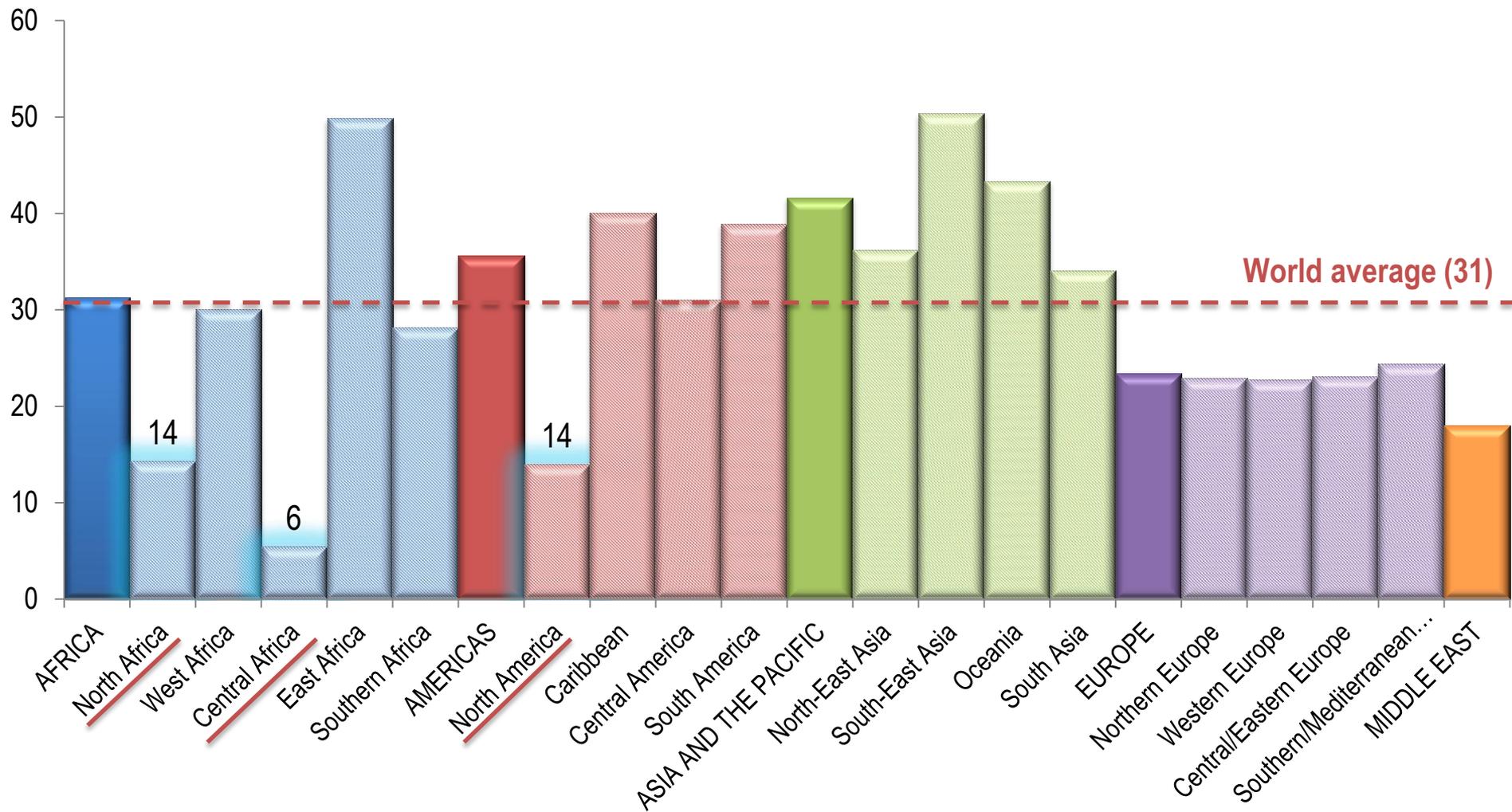
Middle East



# 2014 Status – Most Open Destinations



# 2014 Status – Most Restrictive Destinations



Africa

Americas

Asia and the Pacific

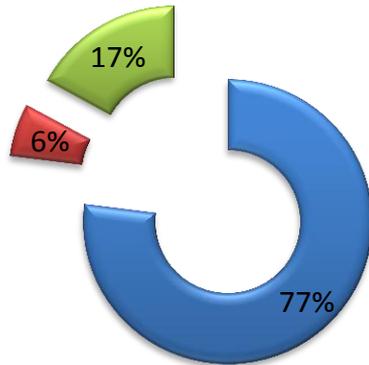
Europe

Middle East

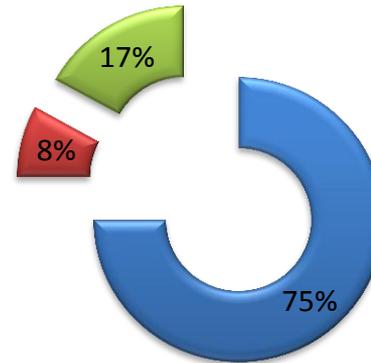


# World Population Affected, 2008-2014

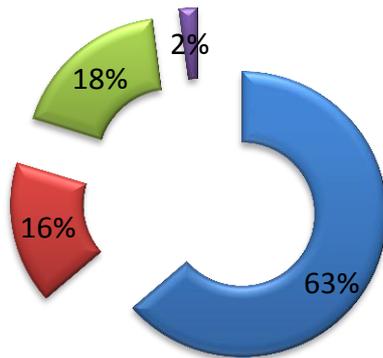
2008



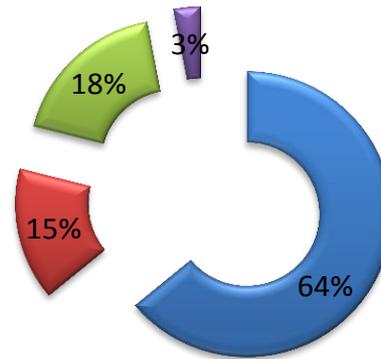
2010



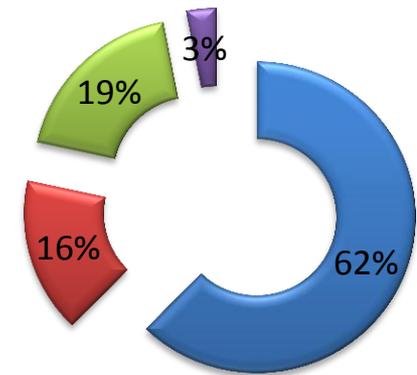
2012



2013



2014

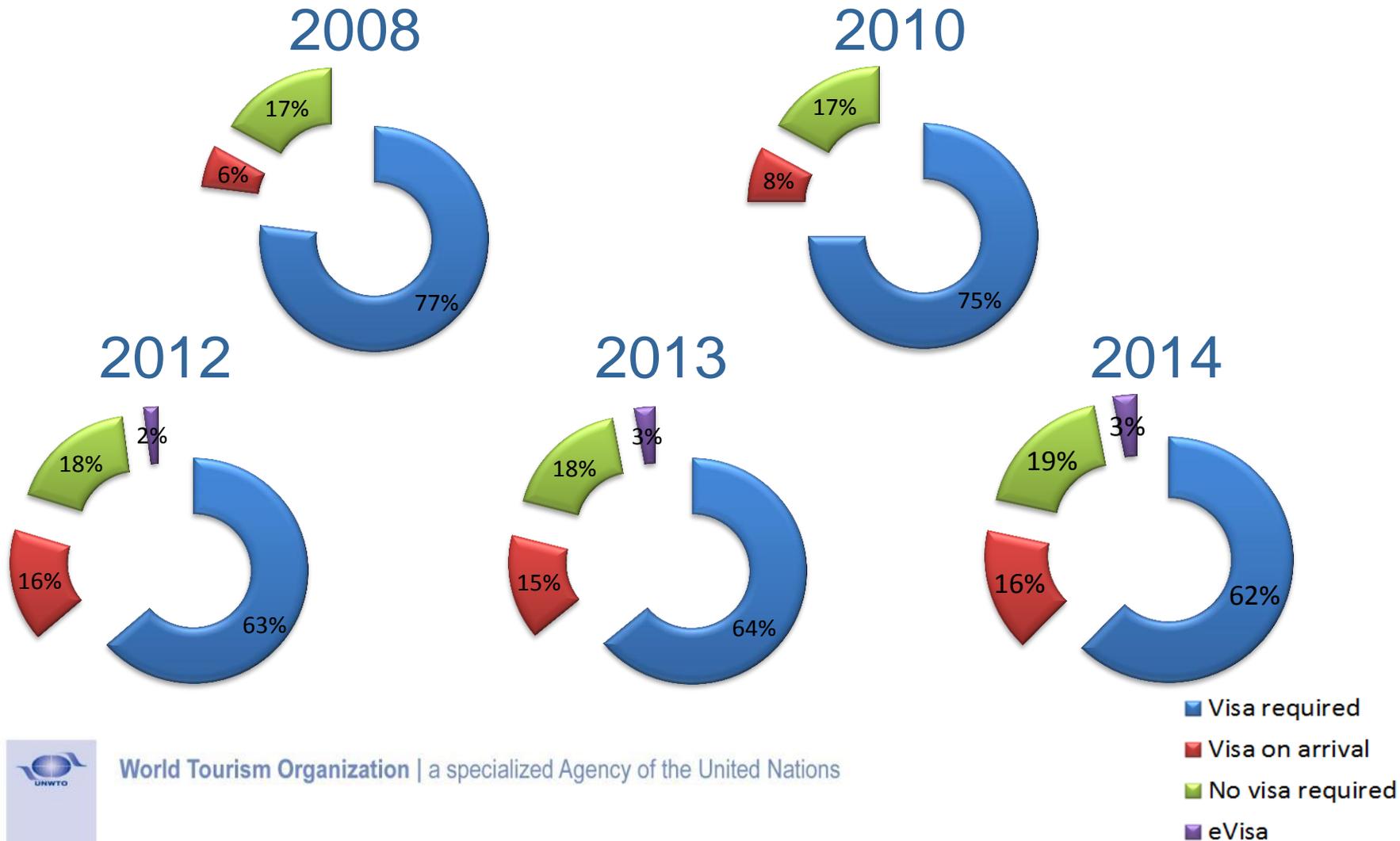


- Visa required
- Visa on arrival
- No visa required
- eVisa



# 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  
Islands

## Openness: 79-70

Turks & Caicos Islands  
Fiji  
Saint Kitts and Nevis  
Montserrat  
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines  
Guyana  
Seychelles  
Vanuatu  
Cambodia  
Mali  
Cape Verde  
Guinea-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 Príncipe
- Djibouti
- Burundi
- Haiti
- Mozambique
- Rwanda
- Guinea-Bissau

## 179-130 Improvements

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

## 129-75 Improvements

- Ecuador
- Bolivia
- Macao (SAR)
- Armenia
- Sri Lanka
- Georgia
- Columbia
- 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, Byelorussian 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.”*



# Visa Facilitation in G20 Economies

- 5% to 25% international tourist arrivals growth
- US\$ 206 billion in 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”*

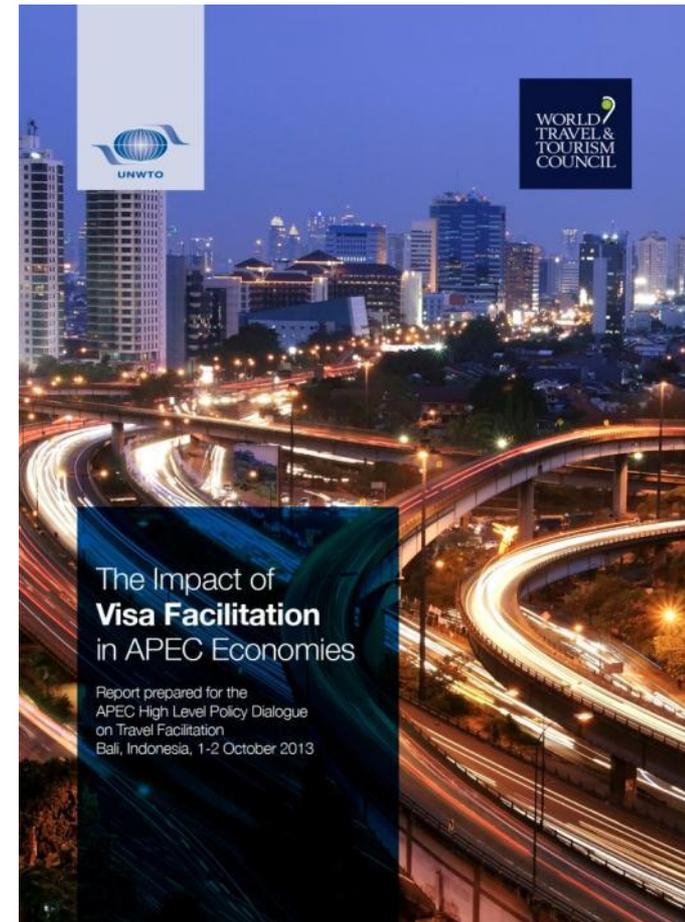
furthermore, they committed to

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



# Visa Facilitation in APEC Economies

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

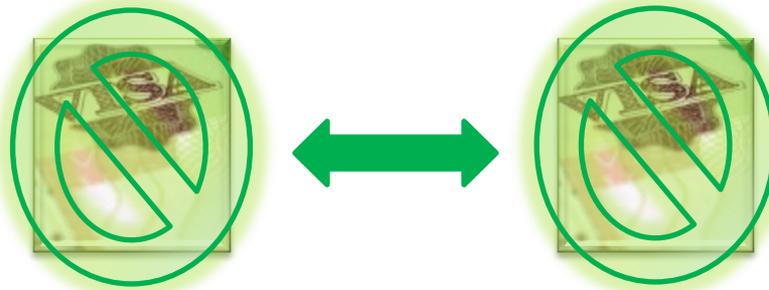


# Reciprocity

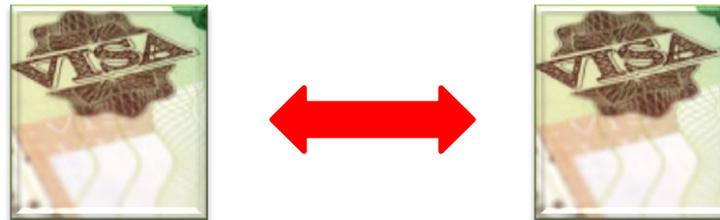
## Global Status and Selected Economic Blocs



# Global Reciprocal Policies, 2014



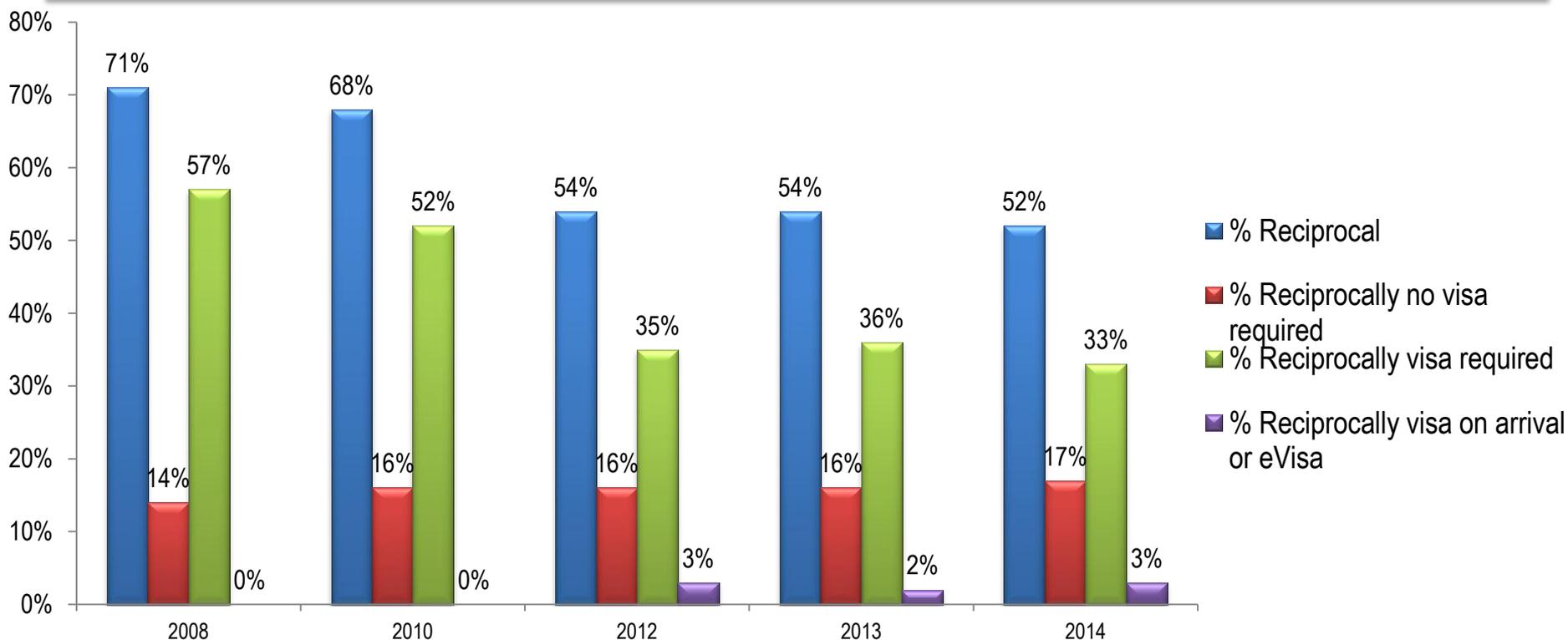
- **17%** of visa policy pairs between countries are reciprocally open



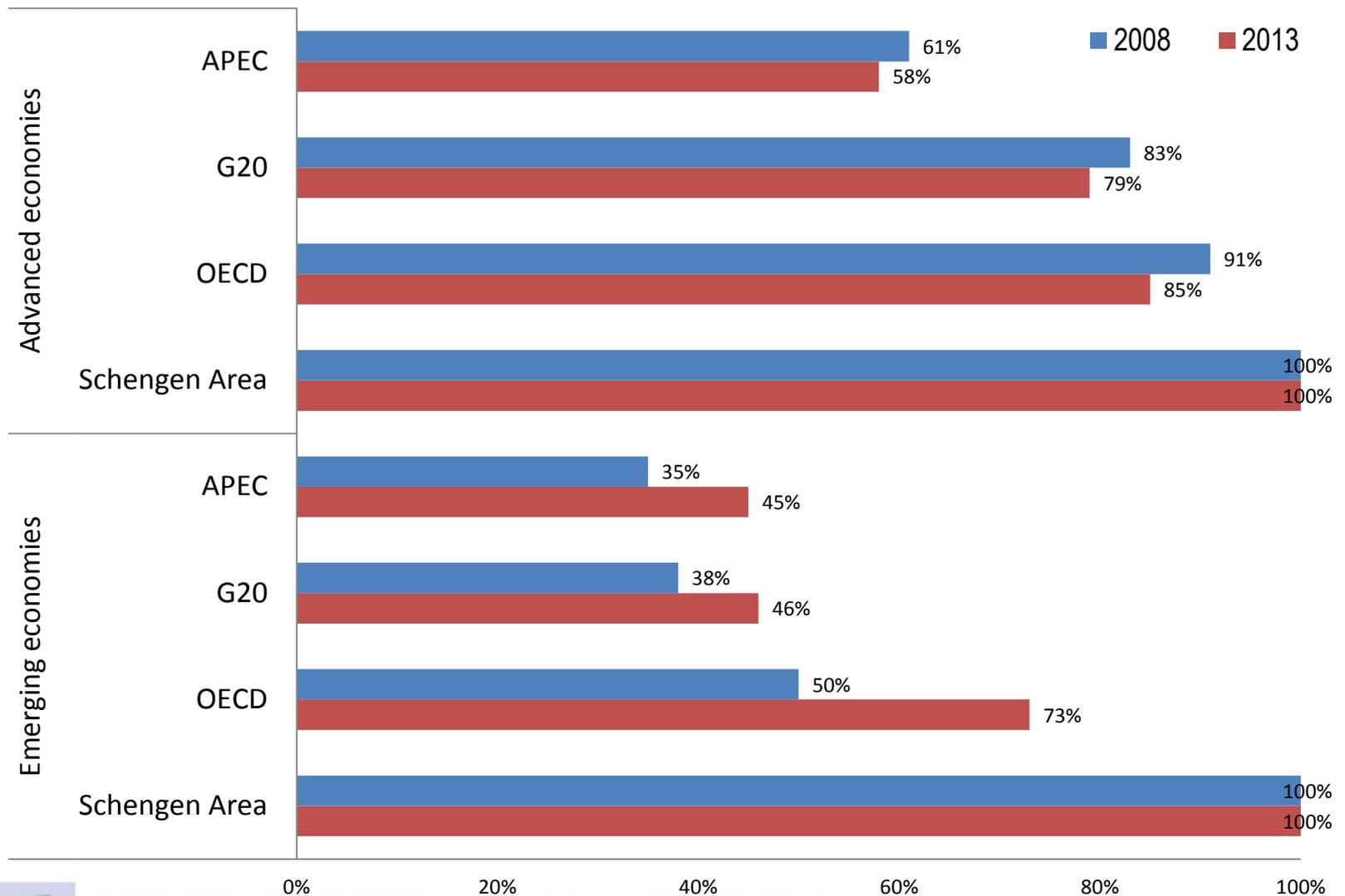
- **33%** of visa policy pairs between countries reciprocally require traditional visas

# Global Reciprocal Policies, 2014

Reciprocal visa restrictions decreased from 57% to 33%  
Reciprocal and nonreciprocal visa facilitation measures increased from 43% to 68%

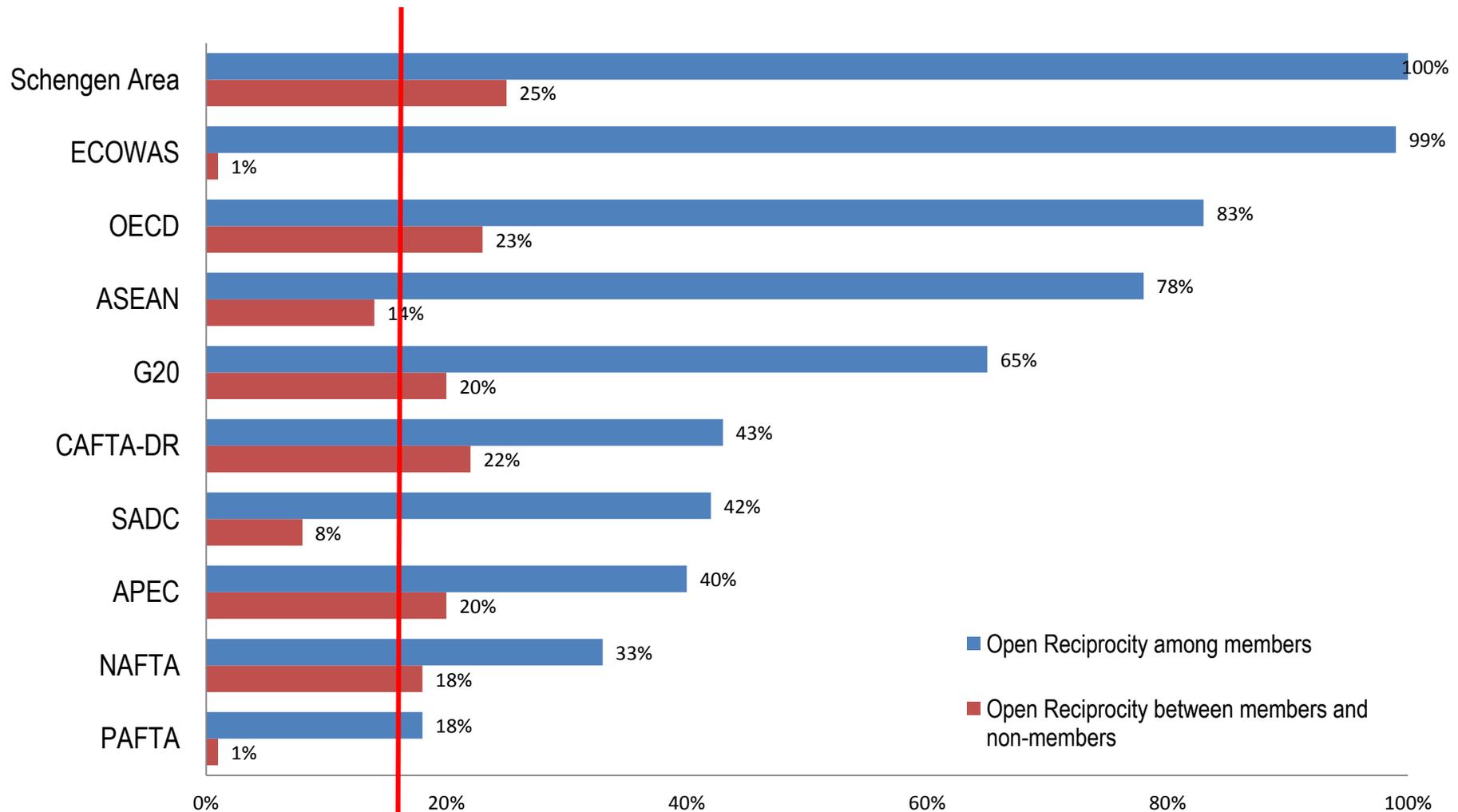


# Open Reciprocity, 2008-2013



# Open Reciprocity – 2013

(among members and between members and non-members)



16% World average



# Recommendations

- **Improve delivery of information** (Availability and reliability of information – multiple languages, useful information)
- **Facilitate processes** to obtain visas (Decrease temporarily bottlenecks such as personal interviews, needed documents, wait times etc.)
- **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 countries once admitted by one of the member states)





# Thank you!

**Dr. Dirk Glaesser**

Director,  
Sustainable Development of  
Tourism  
World Tourism Organization

.....  
Tel: + 34 91 5678 224  
Fax: + 34 91 5713 733  
email: [dglaesser@unwto.org](mailto:dglaesser@unwto.org)  
[www.unwto.org](http://www.unwto.org)