Visa Facilitation in Africa

56th Regional Commission for Africa

Luanda, Angola
29 April 2014
Visa Facilitation

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

- However … visas also act as a constraint to international travel and its economic benefits
Visa Facilitation – Global Summary 2013

- On average 2/3 of the world’s population need a visa prior to departure
- 18% without a visa
- 15% visa on arrival
- 3% eVisa

- Between 2010 and 2013, 44 destinations significantly facilitated the visa for citizens of 20 or more countries

- The most common facilitation measure: ‘Visa on arrival’
Visa Facilitation in Africa
Openness

The openness index ranges from 0 to 100 and indicates to what extent a destination is facilitating tourism. The higher the score, the better.
Openness of African countries

- Africa’s openness improved from 11 to 29 between 2008 and 2013
- In comparison, the world’s openness improved from 20 to 30 between 2008 and 2013
- Africa’s openness has continued to improve in 2014 to 32
Openness of African subregions

- **World**: 30 (2013) vs 31 (2014)
- **Emerging economies**: 29 (2013) vs 32 (2014)
- **Advanced economies**
  - **Africa**: 14 (2013) vs 13 (2014)
  - **North Africa**: 23 (2013) vs 31 (2014)
  - **West Africa**
  - **Central Africa**: 5 (2013) vs 6 (2014)
  - **East Africa**: 50 (2013) vs 51 (2014)
  - **Southern Africa**: 25 (2013) vs 28 (2014)
Data Collection & Verification

Visa Policy Data Verification - Introduction

The following pages present the outcome of our data gathering process concerning your country specific entry requirements for tourism purposes. By following the four steps that are explained below, you can revise and adjust - if necessary - the data we have collected. Your revision will allow us to use the correct data in our study.

For the purpose of our study, we have defined four main categories for tourist visas:

- **Category 1: Visa required:** This category comprises all traditional paper visas which are issued in the passport, as well as any other types of traditional visas that have to be obtained prior to departure.
- **Category 2: Electronic visa or eVisa:** Electronic visas or eVisas are obtained online and are valid for travel to the destination without prior visa application. Usually, this visa has the form of a stamp, sticker or other visible evidence of clearance in the passport.
- **Category 3: Visa on arrival:** Visas in this category refer to entry authorizations which can be obtained in the destination country upon arrival. These visas are usually issued for a traditional visa, one which can be obtained by a traveler directly online through the internet, a travel agent, tour operator or purchasing an entry at the time of making a travel reservation.

- **Category 4: No visa required:** This category means that travelers do not need any kind of entry permit when entering your country.

### 4 Steps

The table on the following pages presents the outcome of our data collection process. The table shows what type of visa is required from citizens of the indicated countries when travelling to your country for tourism purposes.

**Step 1:** Please look at the table and revise the appointed visa category for each case.

**Step 2:** If a visa category is incorrect in the table, please note down the correct visa regulation in Column 5.

**Step 3:** In case you have further comments, please share them with us in Column 6 and/or in the text box at the end of this paper.

**Step 4:** In case there are two different visas marked in the table, these are the cases for which we have found different information. For these cases, your specification is very much appreciated. Please simply write down the correct category in Column 5.

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For BARBADOS, the following types of visas are required from the following countries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Visa required</th>
<th>eVisa on arrival</th>
<th>eVisa required</th>
<th>Correction</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Albania</td>
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<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andorra</td>
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<td>Angola</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td>Antigua &amp; Barbuda</td>
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<td>Argentina</td>
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<td>Armenia</td>
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<td>Australia</td>
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<td>Bahrain</td>
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<td>Bangladesh</td>
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<td>Barbados</td>
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<td>Belarus</td>
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<td>Belgium</td>
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<td>Belize</td>
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<td>Bhutan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bosnia &amp; Herzegovina</td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>Botswana</td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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1 The following assumptions were made for the collection and analysis of visa policies:
1. Only citizens of certain countries have been taken into account for the verification process.
2. Visa categories and visa regulations have been taken into account as the primary factors.
3. Visa requirements are accurate and up-to-date as of the publication date.

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2013: World population affected by...

African countries’ policies:
- No visa: 62%
- Visa on arrival: 28%
- eVisa: 9%
- Visa required: 1%

Global policies:
- No visa: 64%
- Visa on arrival: 18%
- eVisa: 15%
- Visa required: 3%
World population affected by visa policies of African countries, 2008-2014

- **2008**
  - No visa required: 88%
  - Visa on arrival: 9%
  - eVisa: 3%
  - Visa required: 3%

- **2010**
  - No visa required: 86%
  - Visa on arrival: 8%
  - eVisa: 6%
  - Visa required: 6%

- **2012**
  - No visa required: 63%
  - Visa on arrival: 8%
  - eVisa: 29%
  - Visa required: 1%

- **2013**
  - No visa required: 62%
  - Visa on arrival: 9%
  - eVisa: 28%
  - Visa required: 1%

- **2014**
  - No visa required: 58%
  - Visa on arrival: 9%
  - eVisa: 32%
  - Visa required: 1%
World population affected by visa policies of African countries, 2008-2014

Traditional visa policies decreased from 88% to 58%
Visa on arrival policies increased from 3% to 32%
How African countries are opening to global tourism

• Between 2008 and 2014, African countries have **reduced the requirement for traditional visas for 30%** of the global population

• In the same period African countries have increased their openness by implementing visa on arrival policies in the place of traditional visa requirements

• Between 2013 to 2014, all regions of the world benefitted from African countries substituting traditional visa requirements for visa on arrival policies
Regional markets affected by visa policies of African countries, 2014

Citizens of the Americas
- No visa: 48%
- Visa on arrival: 14%
- eVisa: 37%
- Visa required: 1%

Citizens of Africa travelling to other African countries
- No visa: 52%
- Visa on arrival: 22%
- eVisa: 25%
- Visa required: 1%

Citizens of Europe
- No visa: 50%
- Visa on arrival: 13%
- eVisa: 36%
- Visa required: 1%

Citizens of Asia and the Pacific
- No visa: 63%
- Visa on arrival: 4%
- eVisa: 32%
- Visa required: 1%

Citizens of the Middle East
- No visa: 62%
- Visa on arrival: 5%
- eVisa: 32%
- Visa required: 1%
Regional markets affected by visa policies of African countries, 2014

Citizens of the Americas and Europe are able to travel to African countries with the fewest visa requirements.
Regional markets affected by visa policies of African countries, 2014

Citizens of Asia and the Pacific and the Middle East are required the most, on average, to obtain visa prior to travelling to African countries.
Visa policies for African citizens travelling to other African countries, 2014

52% Visa required vs 48% Europe and 50% Americas

25% Visa on arrival vs 36% Europe 37% Americas

22% No visa vs 13% Europe 14% Americas
African population affected by visa policies of African subregions, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>No visa</th>
<th>Visa on arrival</th>
<th>Visa required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa (total)</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Africa</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Africa</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Africa</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Africa</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Africa</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
World population affected by visa policies of African subregions, 2014

- No visa
- Visa on arrival
- Visa required

Africa (total):
- 9% No visa
- 32% Visa on arrival
- 58% Visa required

North Africa:
- 13% No visa
- 1% Visa on arrival
- 86% Visa required

West Africa:
- 6% No visa
- 35% Visa on arrival
- 59% Visa required

Central Africa:
- 2% No visa
- 1% Visa on arrival
- 91% Visa required

East Africa:
- 8% No visa
- 61% Visa on arrival
- 31% Visa required

Southern Africa:
- 28% No visa
- 0% Visa on arrival
- 72% Visa required

World Tourism Organization | a specialized Agency of the United Nations
Thank you!

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