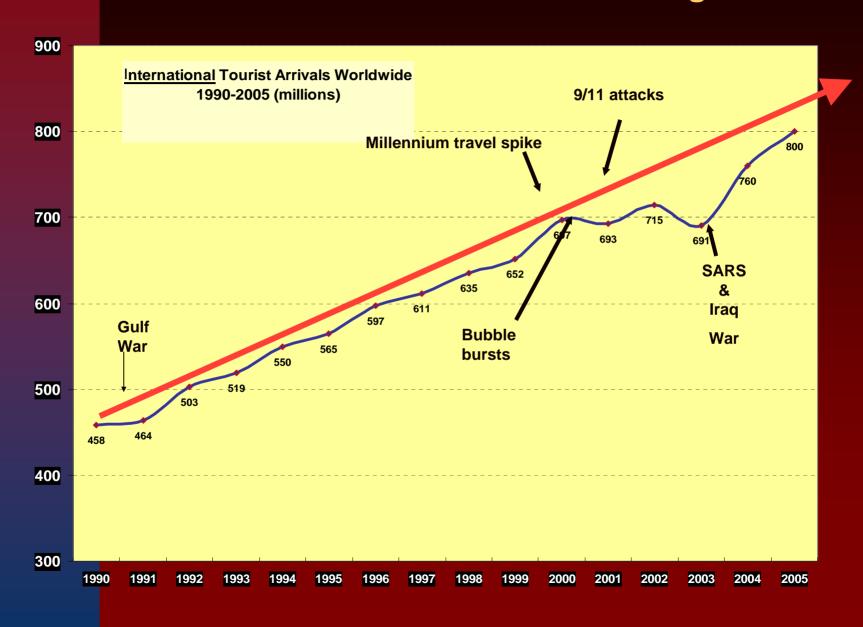
# Advancing the Contribution of Tourism to Poverty Reduction and Socio-Economic Development:

#### The Role of the World Bank

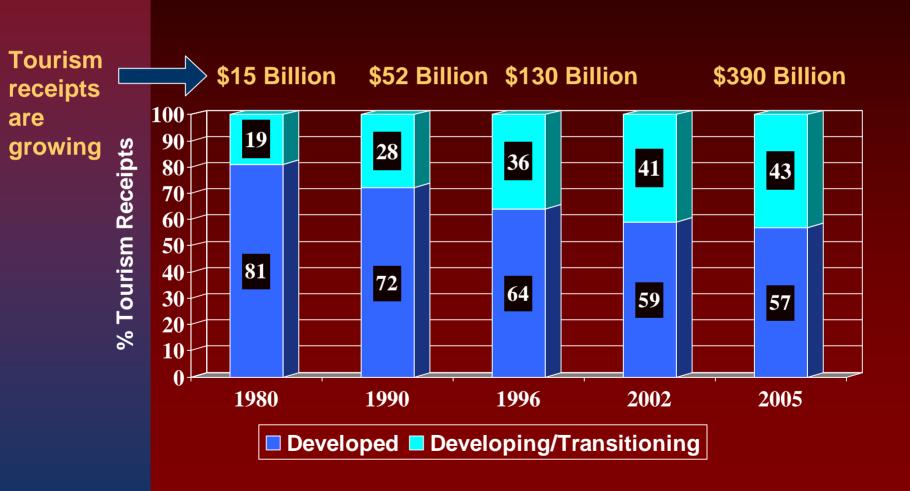
May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2007

Michael Wong, World Bank, Africa Region, Private Sector and Finance

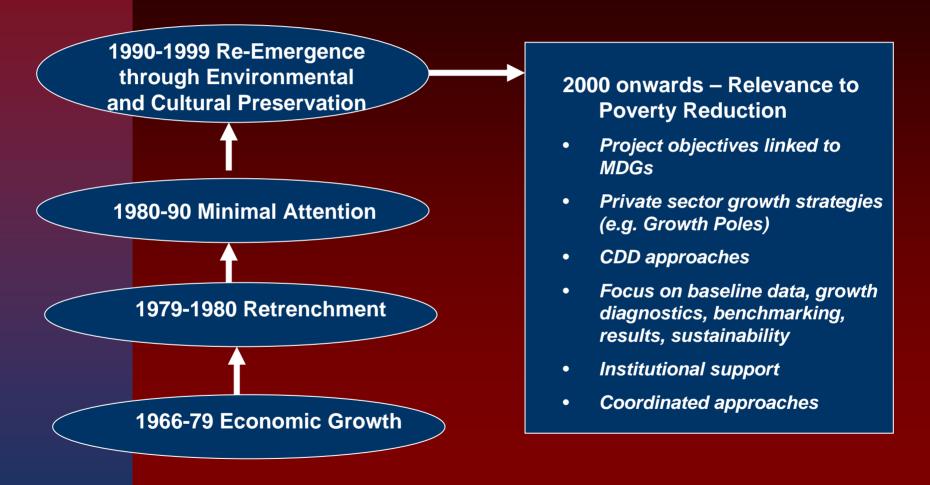
# **TREND 1. Tourism Growth is NOT Slowing Down**



# TREND 2. Developing Countries are Getting a Bigger Share



### TREND 3. The Bank's Perspective is Evolving



## **TREND 4. Client Demand is Growing**

- 80% of PRSPs cite tourism as a key growth opportunity
- The Bank Group is being approached for tourism advice and lending, to date 79 countries
- Sub-national governments are focusing on tourism as an opportunity for local economic growth
- Ministries of Finance want economic growth from tourism assets

#### **LESSON 1. Learn from Successes**

In Many Developed Countries Tourism is a Proven Mechanism for Sustained Economic Development

#### But, it takes...

- Political will
- Participatory planning (local, regional & national)
- Legal & regulatory environment that levels the field for investment
  employment
- Human resources at all skill levels
- Investments from the public sector (infrastructure platform, public goods)
- Private sector Investment

These are the areas for intervention in developing countries

#### **LESSON 2. Everybody Needs Access**

- For tourism to be a genuine tool for socio economic growth and poverty reduction, people need access to:
  - Land or a place to do business
  - Finance or credit
  - Skills
  - Markets

These are areas where the Bank has the skills to help, because these are not that different to other economic sectors.