This map shows dollars made through tourism. Worldwide US$573 billion was made from tourism in 2003. This money mainly goes to rich countries such as the United States, Spain, Italy and France. 10% of the world’s territories take 72.7% of all tourist receipts.

Territories that are small and poor have low total tourist receipts when measured in US dollars, partly because a dollar buys more in a poor territory than it does in rich one. This difference in buying power helps people from rich places to travel to poor places, but hinders a reverse flow.

“...the people who survived the disaster here need money. If tourists do not come back soon, they will face another disaster – this time a financial one."

Giovanni Romchi, 2005 [referring to the 26 Dec 2004 tsunami]

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