



Caribbean Regional Sustainable Tourism Development Programme
CTO Lot 3: Sustainable Tourism Policy Development

CLIMATE CHANGE-ING THE INDUSTRY?

The International Policy and Market Response to Global Warming and the Challenges and Opportunities that Climate Change Issues Present for the Caribbean Tourism Sector

Wyndham Nassau Resort
18-19 March, 2008

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Introduction

- Caribbean Regional Sustainable Tourism Development Programme 2005-2008
 - Lot 3 Sustainable Tourism Policy Development
 - Regional Policy Framework for a More Sustainable Tourism Development in the Caribbean
 - Four consultancies on issues deemed of critical importance for sustainability of tourism
 - At the end of November 2007, project launched on the issue of Global warming and climate change
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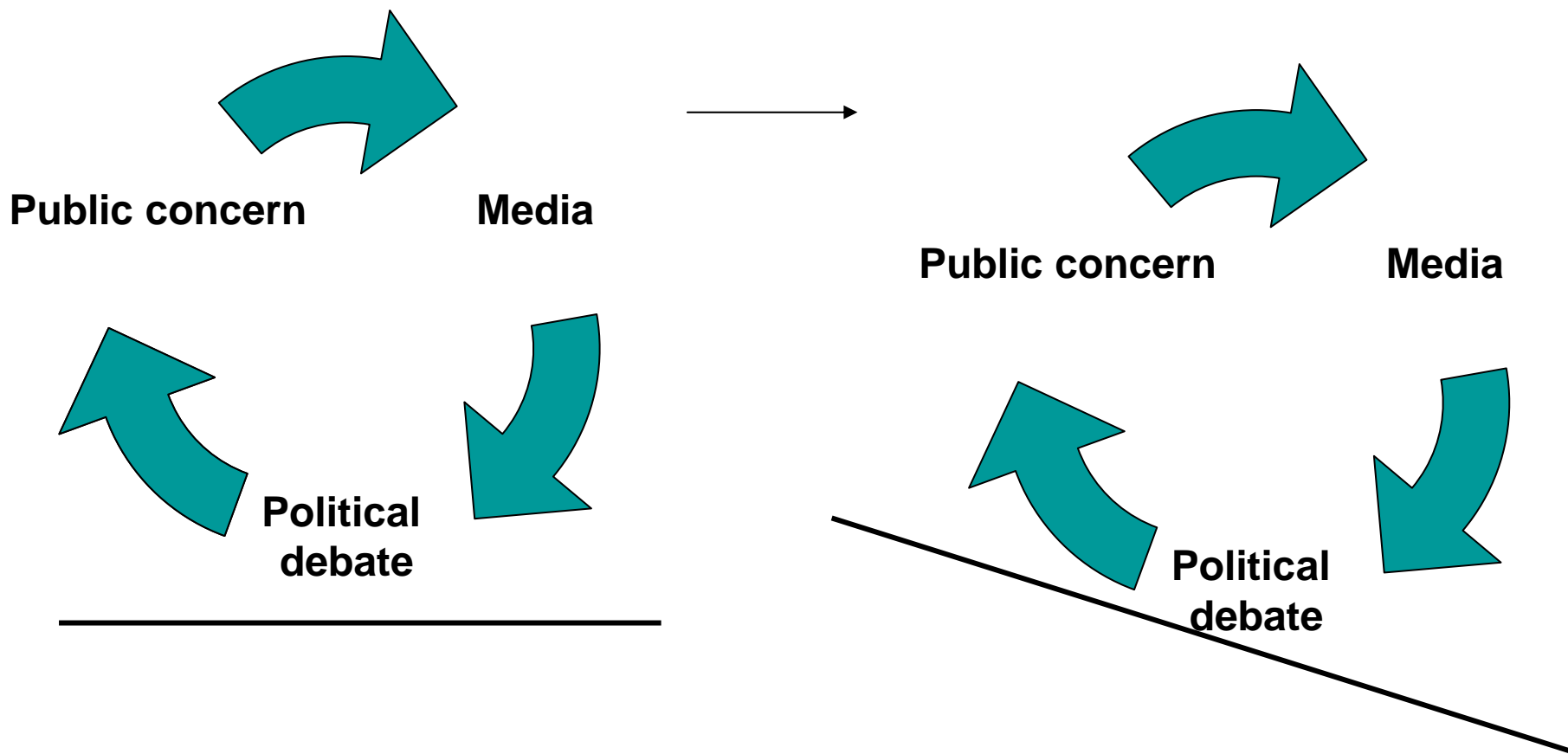


Why focus on Global Warming and Climate Change?

- Caribbean states have historically not contributed to this problem
 - Service sector and manufacturing industries in these countries are not liable to the same restrictions as those in the developed countries
 - However, tourism is the exception because unlike other sectors where the product is transported to the markets, the region's tourism is dependent on airlift to bring the consumers to the market in an acceptable level of comfort
 - And, the aviation sector is often seen as one of the main culprits – it's a "luxury" and its growing
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Critical mass achieved





Some examples:

- The Times, October 24, 2007:
 - “Activists plan to cause chaos when Terminal 5 at Heathrow is opened”
 - “Climate debate needs facts not alarmism”
 - “UN Secretary General to visit polar ice-cap”
 - “Meet the lean green machine (Fuel cell motorbike)”
 - “History of mass extinction is a grim lesson on climate change”
- Daily Nation, September 25, 2007:
 - “Arthur: Cut greenhouse gas”
 - “‘Action’ watchword for climate summit”
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Threats....opportunities?

- There were perceived to be many unknowns:
 - What are the governments in key source markets planning?
 - How does the European Union plan to coordinate the response from its member states to achieve emission targets?
 - It is likely that long haul destinations across the board will be affected – not just the Caribbean
 - But there were also perceived to be opportunities:
 - Carbon Offset Funds
 - Uptake of environmental technology
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