



RIGHTS AND RESOURCES
INITIATIVE



SUPPORTING FOREST TENURE, POLICY AND MARKET REFORMS

Tenure Rights, Land Grabs and Food Security

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Rights and Resources Initiative

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Oaxaca, Mexico

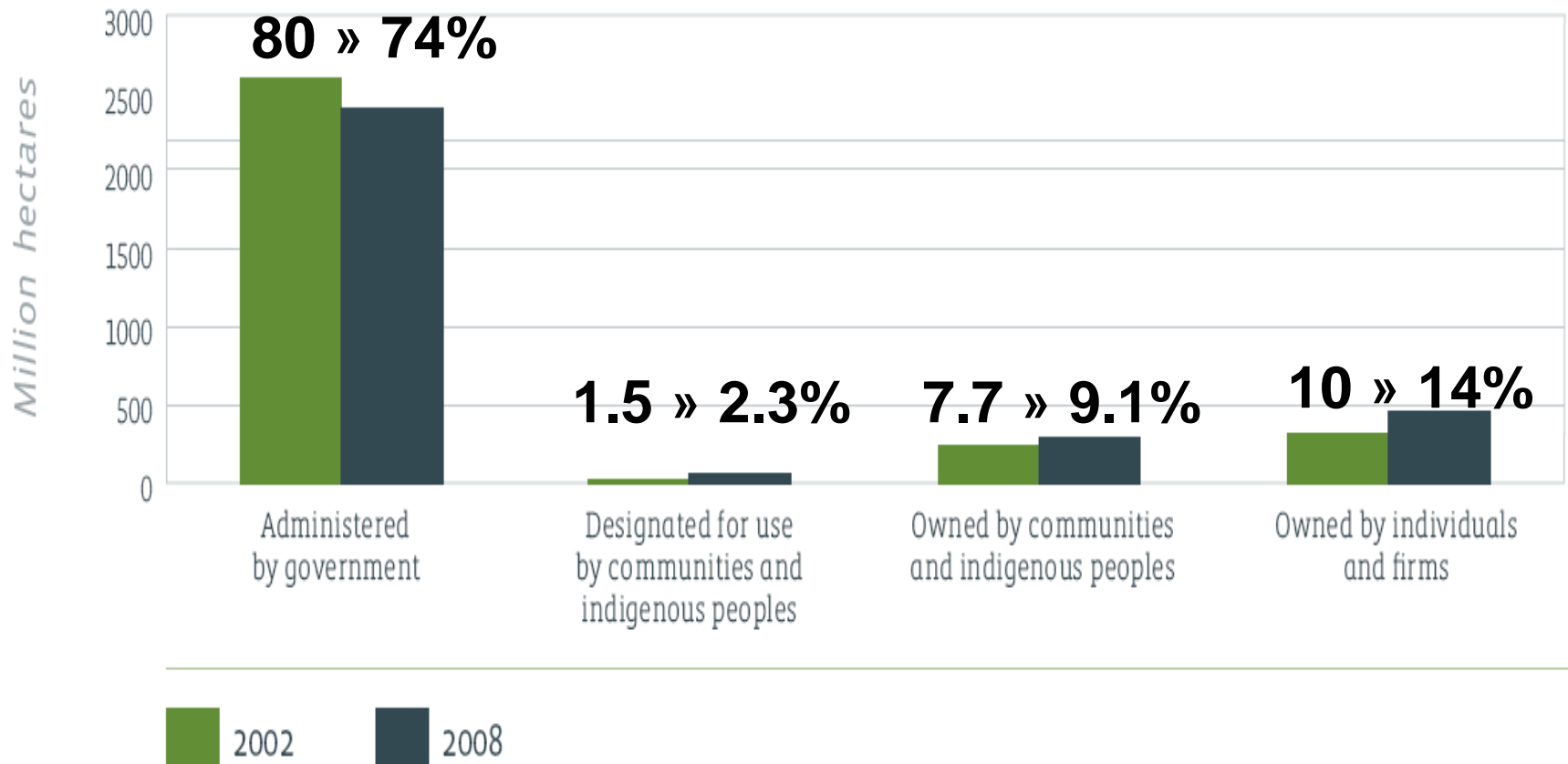


Outline

1. Who owns the world's forests and how is this changing?
2. Land grab phenomenon: evidence and characteristics
3. Implications for forests and forest people

Trends in statutory forest tenure

FOREST TENURE DISTRIBUTION BY TENURE CATEGORY IN 25 OF THE 30 MOST-FORESTED COUNTRIES, 2002–2008

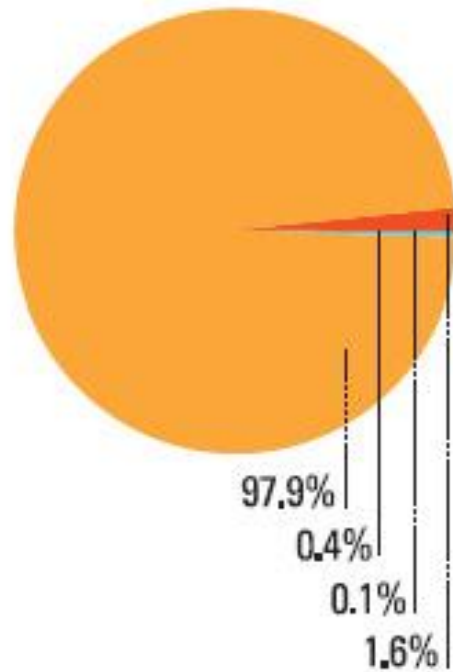


Source: Sunderlin, W., J. Hatcher and M. Liddle. 2008. *From Exclusion to Ownership?: Challenges and Opportunities in Advancing Forest Tenure Reform*. Washington D.C.: Rights and Resources Initiative.

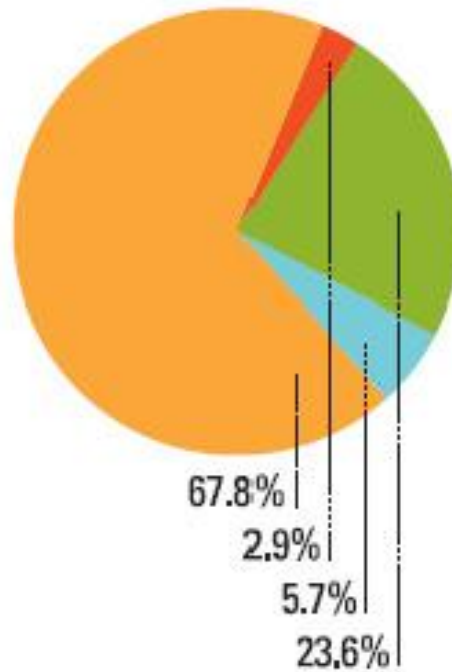
Regional differences striking

Statutory Forest Tenure by Region, 2010

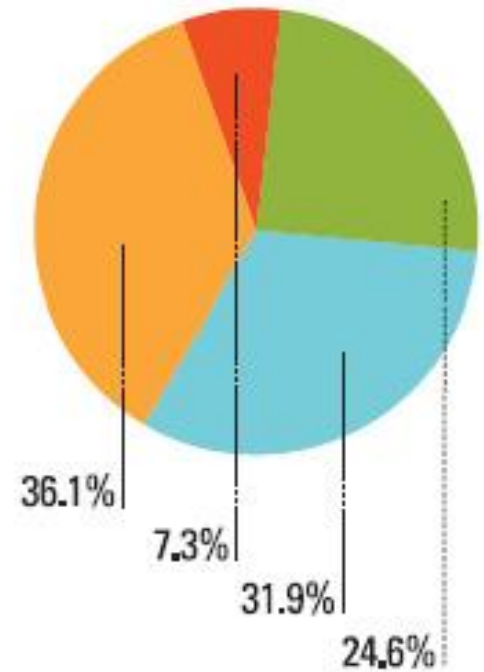
Africa



Asia



Latin America



- — Administered by Government
- — Owned by communities & Indigenous peoples
- — Designated for use by communities & Indigenous peoples
- — Owned by individuals & firms

Oil/Gas on indigenous territories, Peru

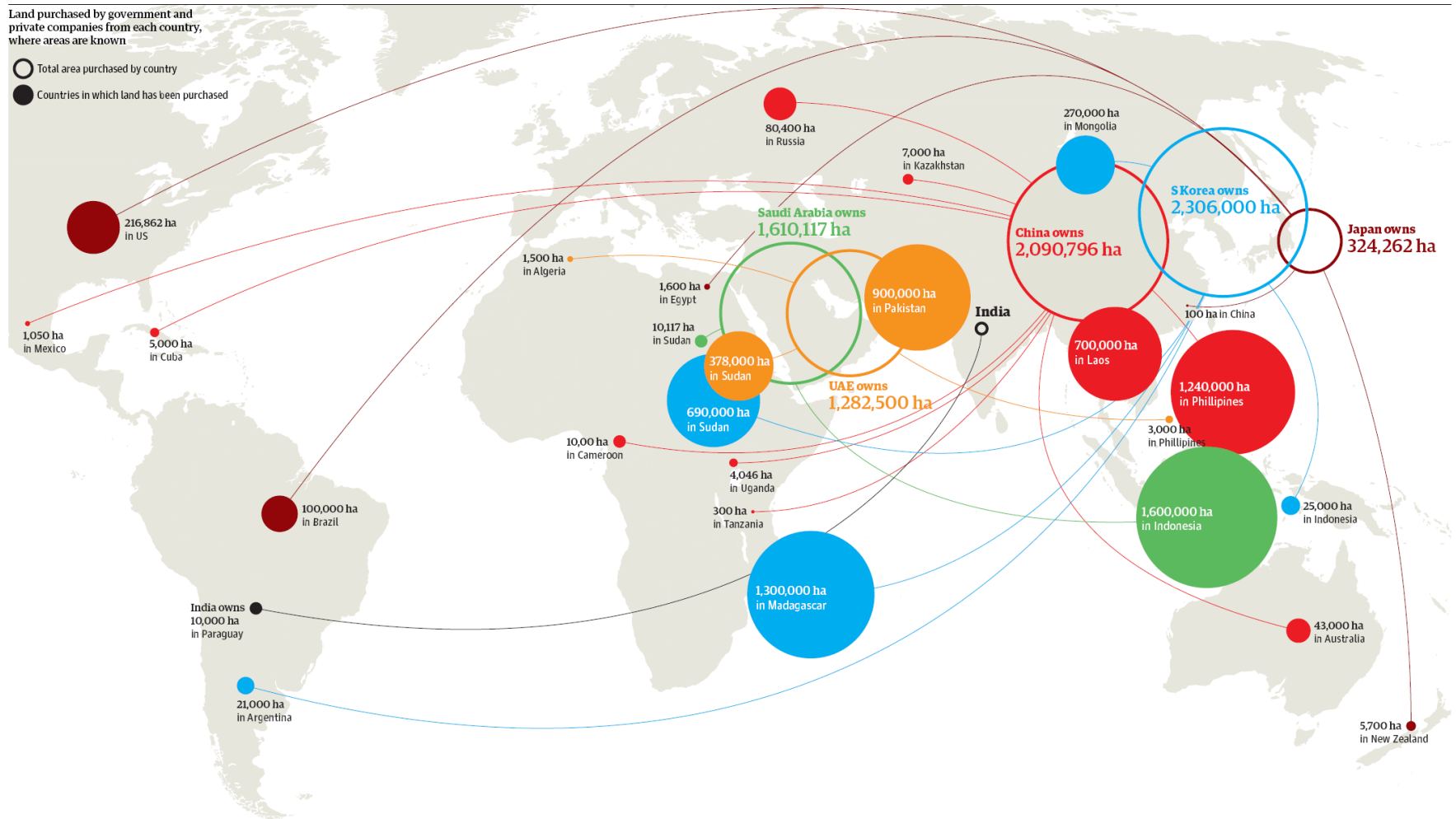


2008: The World notices land deals

World land grab

Land purchased by government and private companies from each country, where areas are known

- Total area purchased by country
- Countries in which land has been purchased



Solid evidence that the land grab is real...

World Bank Report, 2010

- 2008 commodity price boom dramatically increased interest in agricultural land
 - deals for agricultural land rose from 4mHa/year to 45mHa/year
 - To produce food and biofuels but also for speculation
- Africa was target of more than 70% of deals
- Production begun on less than a third of land
- Investors targeting areas with high production value

Targeting weak tenure

Table 2.1: Estimated probability that a country is targeted by investments

Dependent variable	Probability of attracting investment interest		Probability of attracting implemented investment
	Coefficient		
	Model 1	Model 2	Model 2
Nonforest noncultivated suitable land	0.3049**	0.2987**	0.3916***
Forest noncultivated suitable land	0.0503	0.0396	0.0770
Yield gap (in percent)	-0.3635	-0.2774	-1.7457**
Rural land tenure recognition ^a	-0.5117***	-0.6906***	-0.3416*
Investment protection rank ^b		-0.0058*	0.0033
Number of countries	104	102	102
Pseudo R-squared	0.311	0.339	0.268

Note: Significant at ***=1%; **=5%; *=10%. Estimation with robust standard errors. Constant estimated but not shown.

a. Variable B6091 from the 2009 Institutional Profiles Database measuring the share of the population in rural areas whose land rights are recognized. Countries where rural land tenure is recognized are attractive if the coefficient is significantly positive.

b. Doing Business, 2009 classification of investment protection. The countries protecting investments are attractive if the coefficient is significantly negative.

Source: Arezki and others 2010

Trend continues in 2011

- In developing countries, as many as 227 million hectares of land – **an area the size of Western Europe** – has been sold or leased since 2001, mostly to international investors.
- The **bulk of these land acquisitions has taken place over the past two years** (*Oxfam, 2011*)
- Much of the land grab appears to be speculative
- Recognition of IP and community forest rights doubled between 1985 and 2000 and increase 5%/year 2000-2008
- **No measurable progress in 2010 (Mozambique example)**

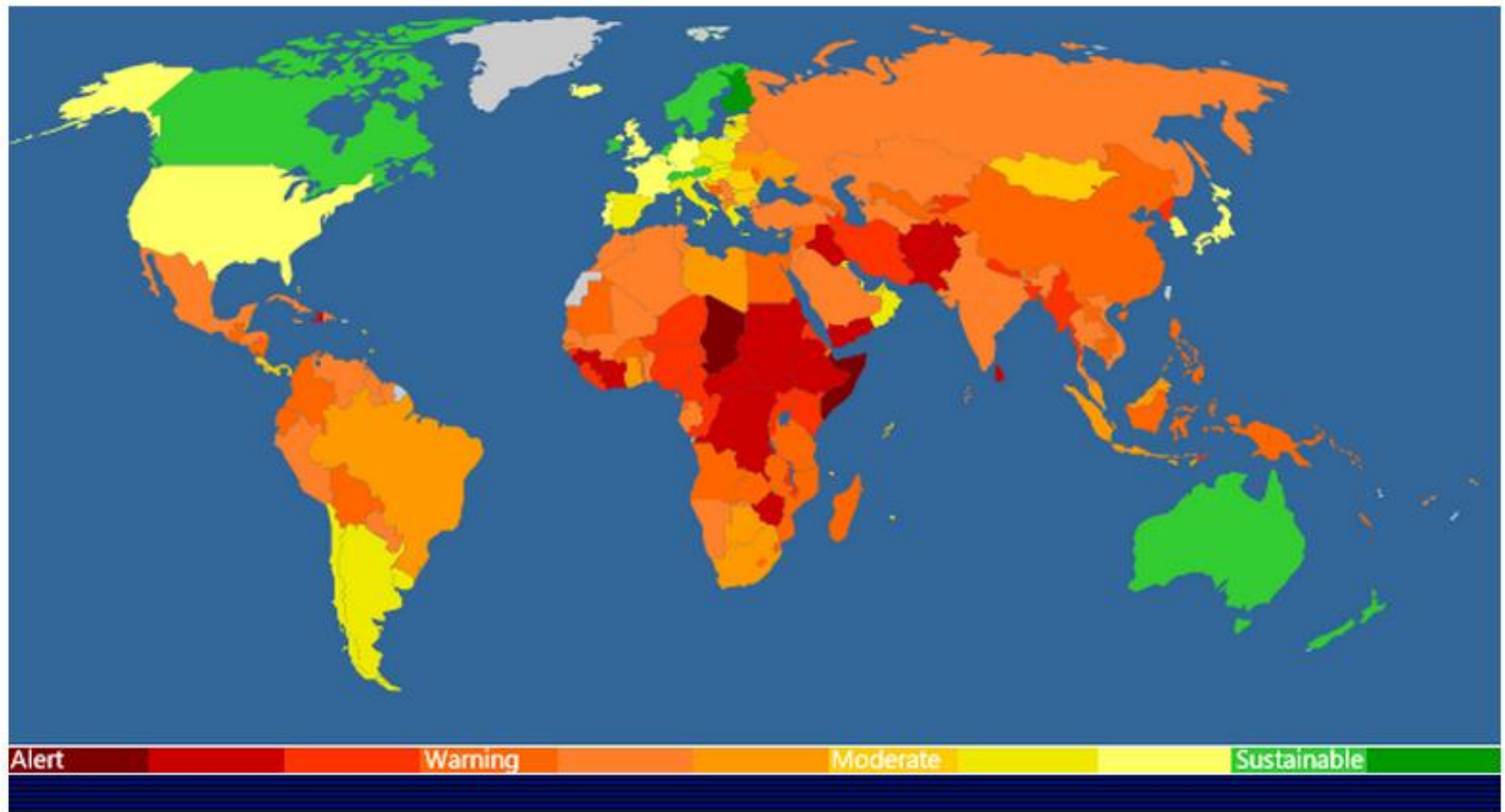
Land grabs defined

Tirana declaration (2011). Land grabs are land acquisitions that:

- Violate human rights, and particularly the equal rights of women;
- Flout the principle of free, prior, and informed consent of the affected land users, particularly indigenous peoples;
- Ignore the impacts on social, economic, and gender relations, and on the environment;
- Avoid transparent contracts with clear and binding commitments of employment and benefit sharing;
- Eschew democratic planning, independent oversight, and meaningful participation.

Forests in weak states

The Failed States Index 2011 Interactive Grid



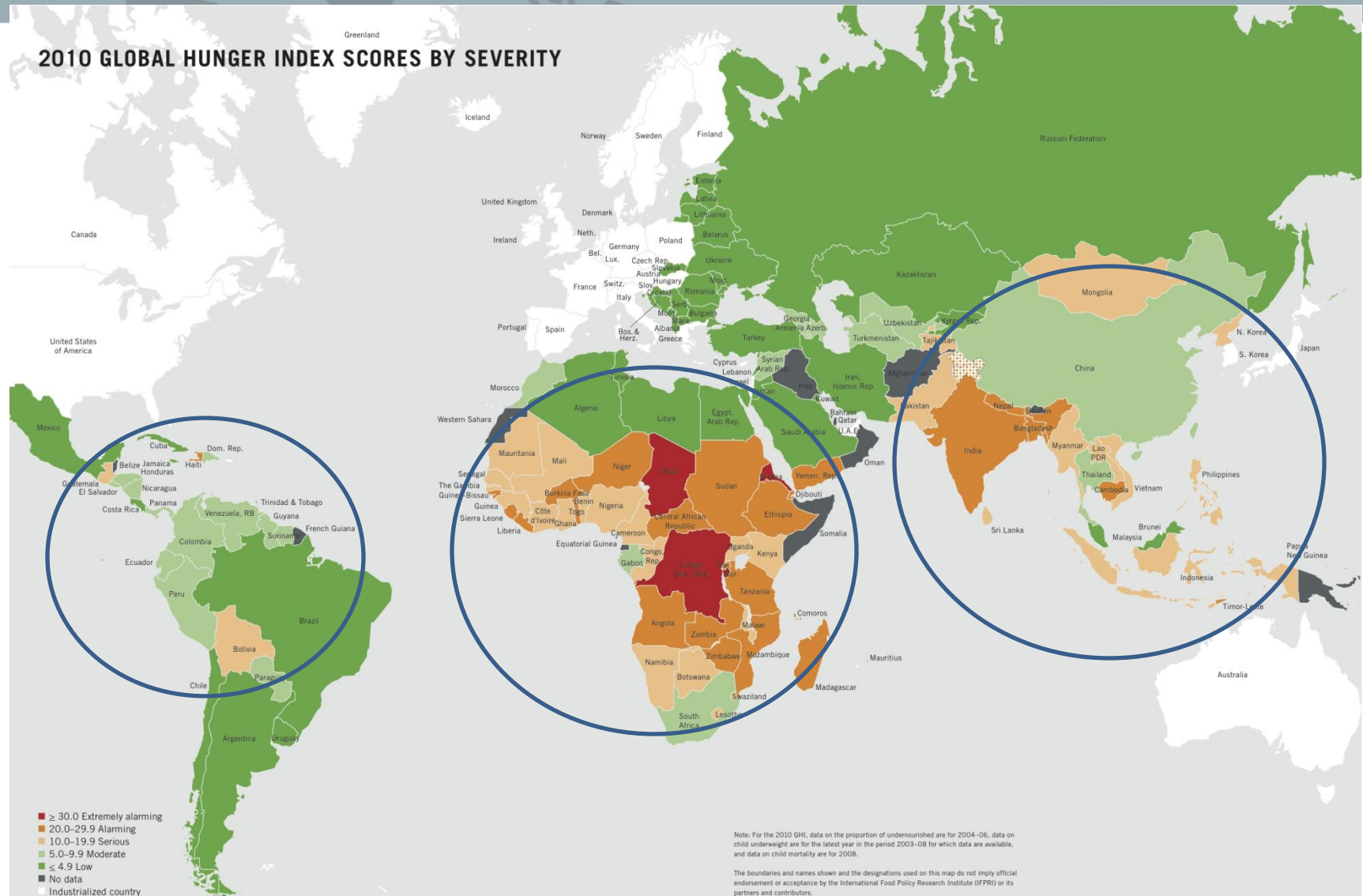
Corruption and conflict are common

	Transparency International rating ¹	Freedom House index ²	Current conflicts ³	World Bank "Doing Business" ranking ⁴
	<i>1-10; top score: Denmark, 9.3.</i>	<i>1 = Free, 7 = Not free.</i>	<i>Tenure-related / total conflicts.</i>	<i>Ease of doing business ranking, of 181 total.</i>
UNREDD	2.6 of 10	3.5 of 7	3 / 3	119
FCPF	2.9	3.6	9 / 13	115
Both	2.9	3.6	12 / 16	116

Sources:

- 1 Transparency International. 2008. Corruption Perceptions Index. http://www.transparency.org/policy_research/surveys_indices/cpi
- 2 Freedom House. 2008. Freedom in the World. Combined Average Ratings, <http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=410&year=2008>
- 3 Wily, Liz A. 2008. Current conflicts around the world. Unpublished.
- 4 Doing Business 2009, <http://www.doingbusiness.org/economyrankings/?direction=Desc&sort=1>

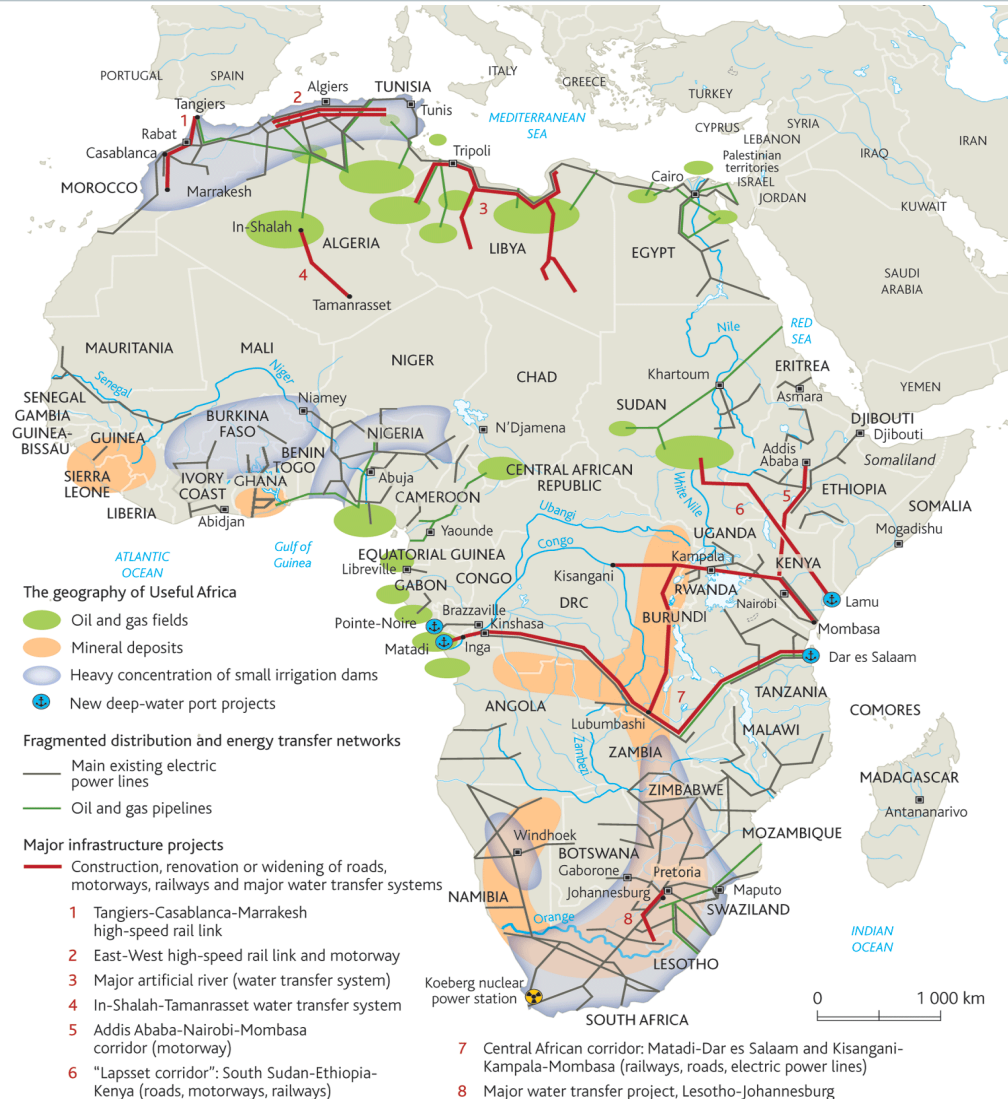
Where hunger is severe



Capital investments in Africa

From now to 2030, a projected 25 trillion dollars will be invested in infrastructure in developing countries. (Cohen and Steers 2009)

“There will be hundreds of billions of dollars of infrastructure investment over the next decade or so in Africa, in ports, rail, roads, mining, hydroelectric, to exploit the resources and bring them to market.” (IFC, May 2011)



Some conclusions and implications

- Land expansion unlikely to slow
- Forest areas likely to be targeted because of their high production value for agriculture
- Major infrastructure projects are likely to continue the trend
- Big questions loom over future progress on tenure reform given the pressures and demands for land

Thank You