



RIGHTS AND RESOURCES
INITIATIVE



SUPPORTING FOREST TENURE, POLICY AND MARKET REFORMS

Status of Governance, Livelihoods and Rights in Rural Areas

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Rights and Resources Initiative

RRI-Oxfam Dialogue on Forests, Governance and Climate Change

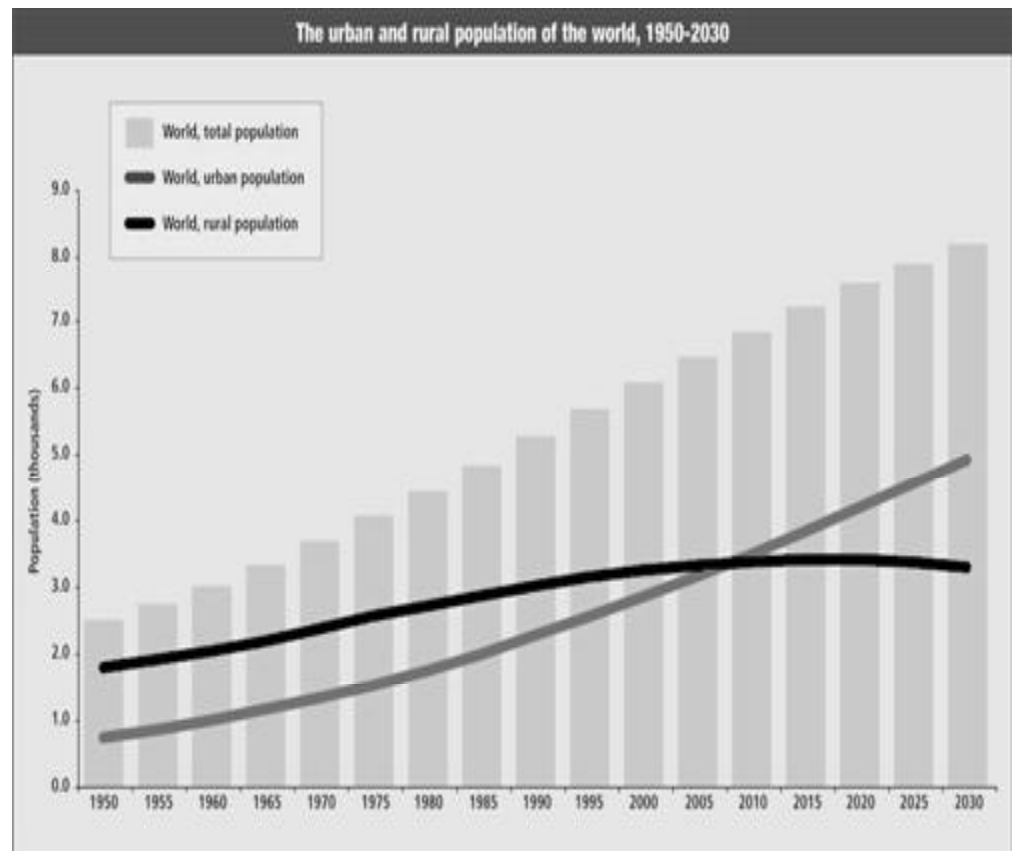
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1. Status and trends in governance, livelihoods and rights in the world's rural and forest areas
2. Treatment of these issues in mitigation, adaptation and food security programs
3. Implications

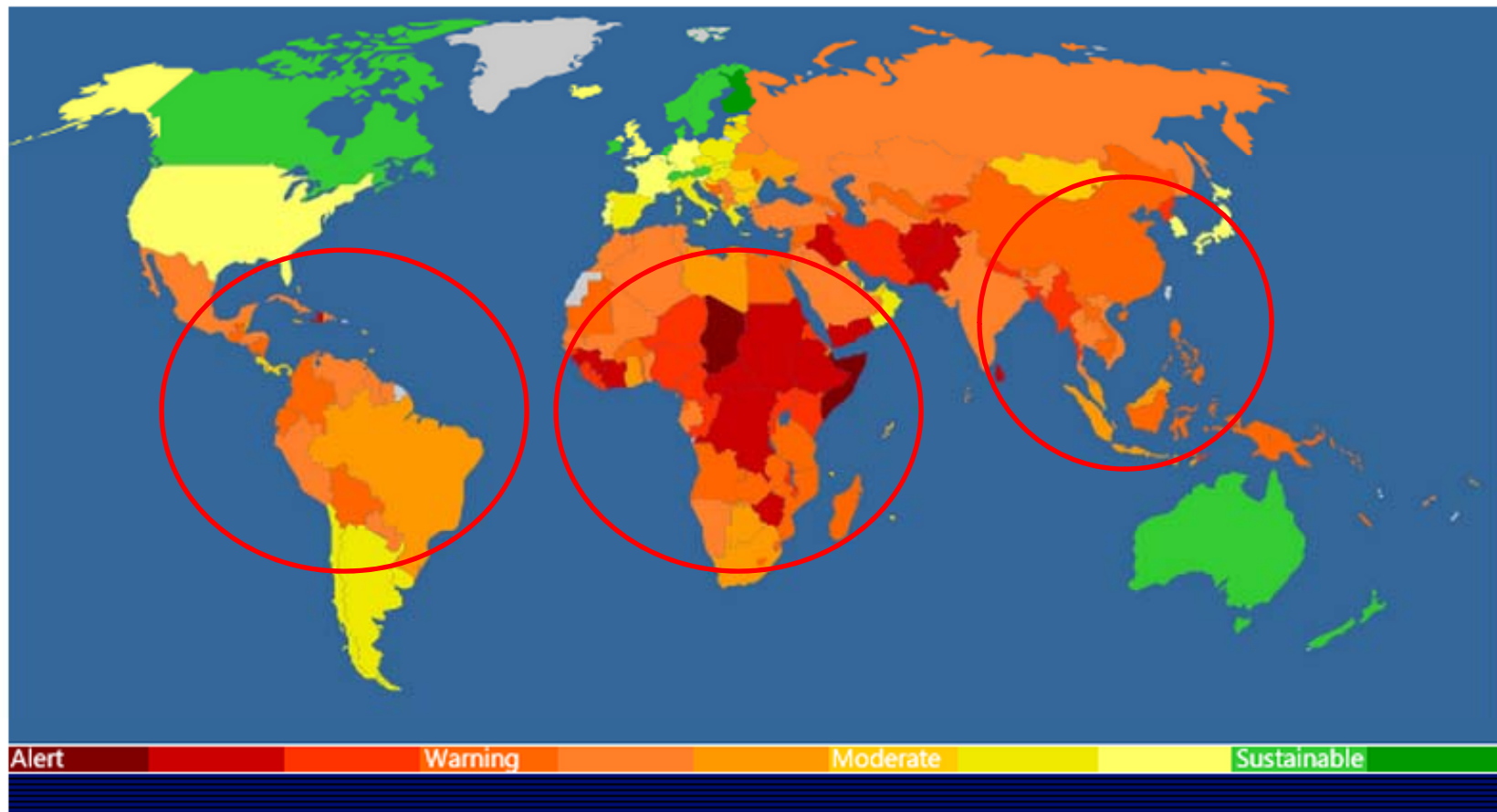
Billions of rural people

- Rural areas in developing countries are home to approximately 3.1 billion people
- Forest areas are home to 300-800 million people (estimated 1 billion forest dependent people)



Living in weak states

The Failed States Index 2011 Interactive Grid



Fund for peace, 2011

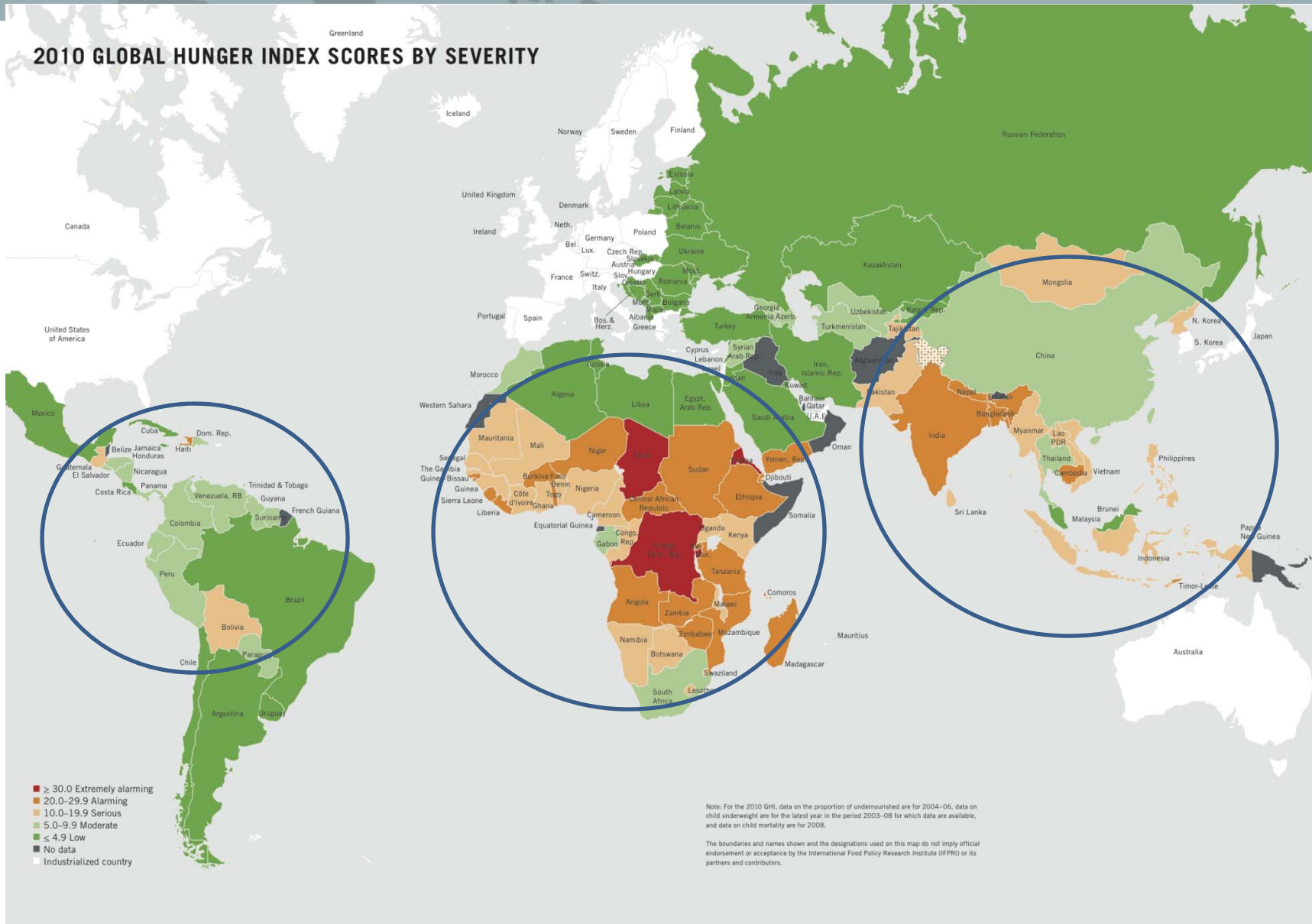
Corruption and conflict are common

	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 Unpublished.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>

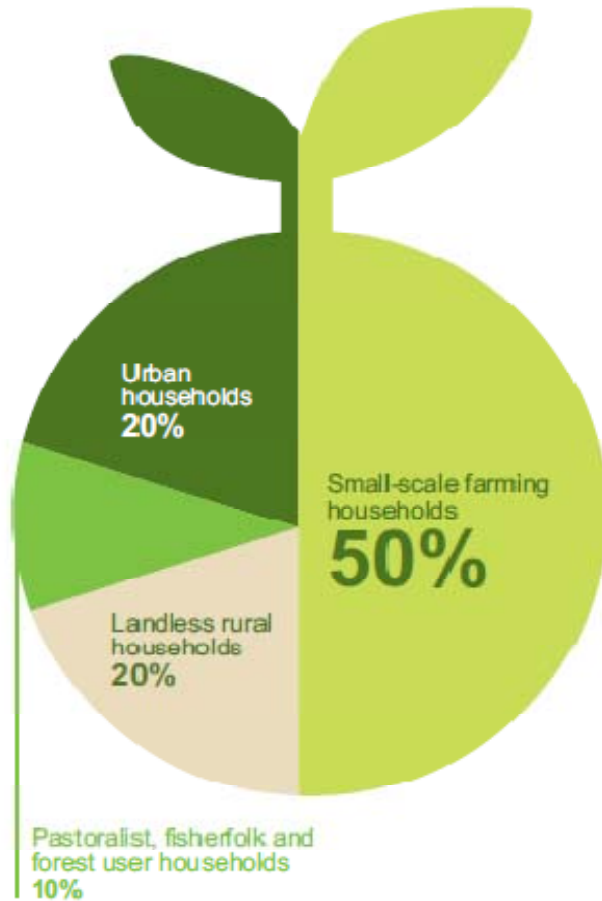
Where hunger is rampant



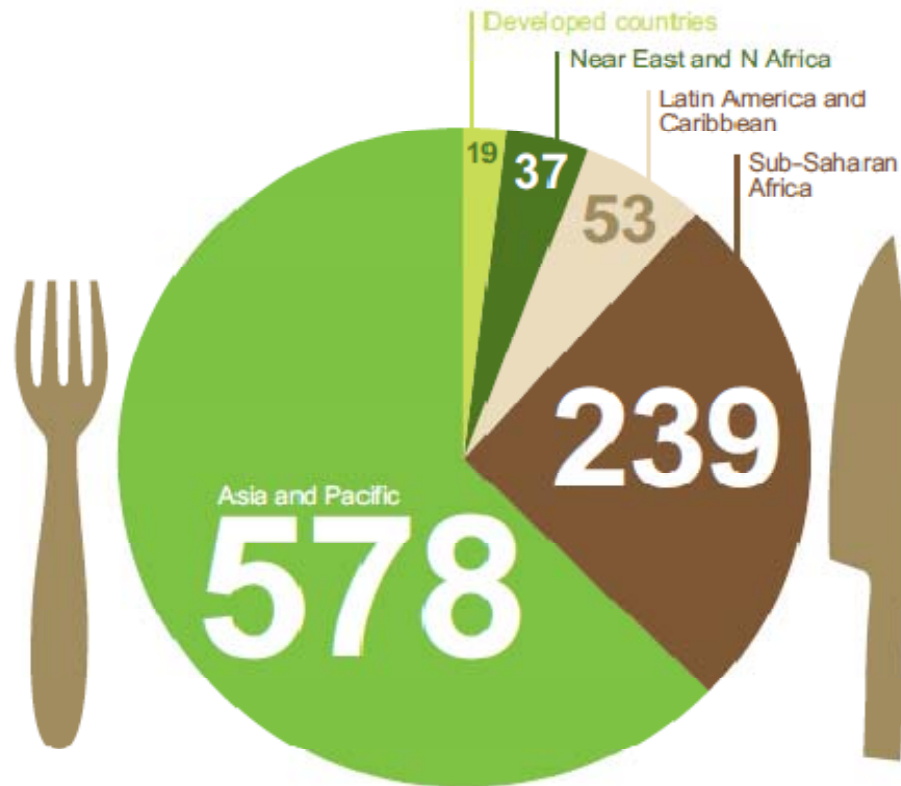
Hunger is rural

Figure 17: Where are the hungry people?

Undernourishment by household type (2005 estimate, %)



Undernourishment by region (2010, millions)



Sources: UN Millennium Project, http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/reports/tf_hunger.htm; FAO, <http://www.fao.org/hunger/en/> and <http://www.fao.org/economic/ess/ess-data/ess-fs/ess-fadata/en/>



Poverty common and highly rural

60% of the rural population in developing countries is poor (less than \$2/day)

34% of rural people are classified as poor (less than \$1.25/day) or approximately 72% of the world's extreme poor

Indigenous Peoples represent 5% of world population but 15% of the world's poor.



Rural land rights in changing contexts

- Generally, customary systems grappling with modern government and demand for resources
- Negotiated overlapping and seasonal uses common
- Legally insecure tenure in most countries
- Land grab phenomenon is real but difficult to measure
- Women's rights to land are generally weaker than men's rights
- Some positive examples of securing customary common and household resources exist

Rural tenure

Foresters often farmers; farmers often foresters

AGRICULTURE

Landlessness

Unequal holdings

- Guatemala 8% owns 80%
- Brazil 1% owns about 50%
- Pakistan: large landlords still control farmland

Individual holdings
common

Informal land markets exist

- Distress sales

FORESTS

General distrust of communities
to manage forests

- Strict management plans even when rights recognized

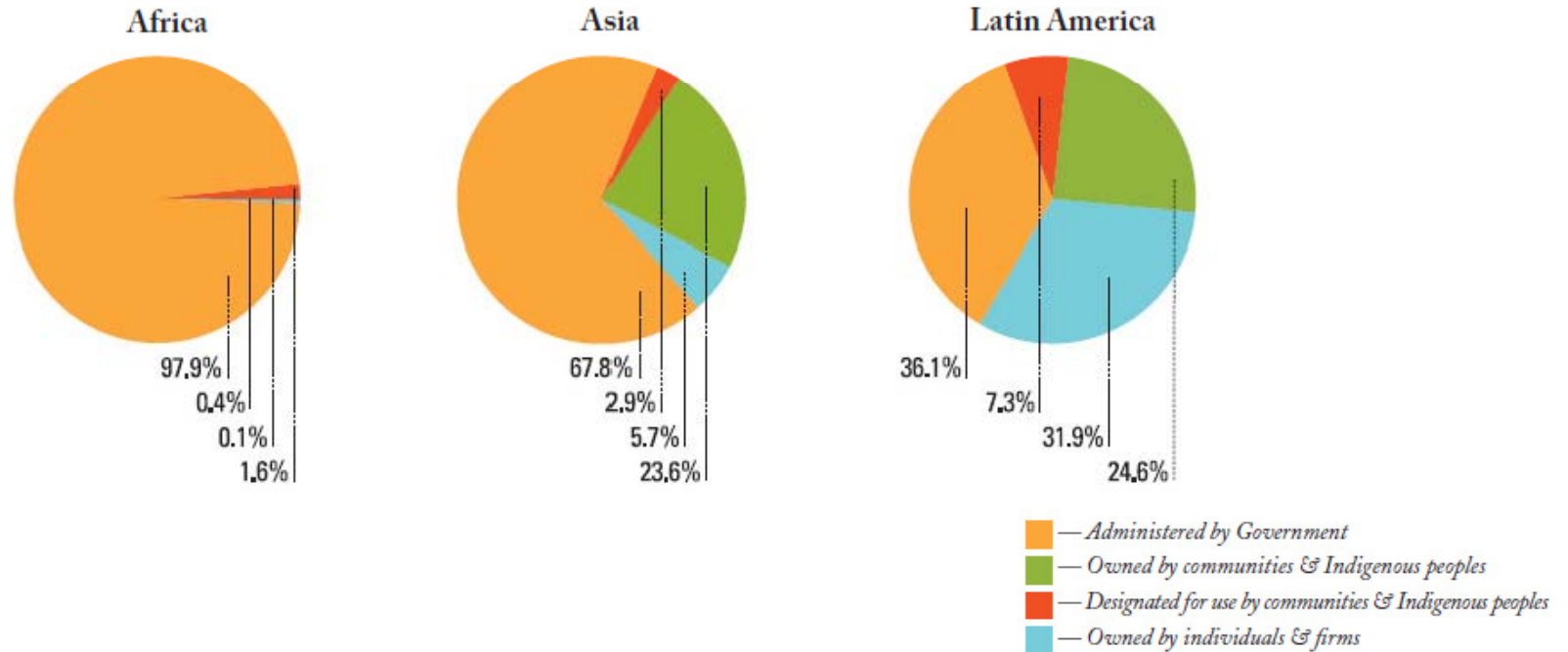
Lack of coherence between land
and forest laws

Common resource tenure

State dominance in allocating
lands for industry, logging,
plantations and Protected Areas

Rate of “Land Grabbing” Faster than Rate of “Recognition”

Forest Tenure by Region, 2010



Recognition of IP and community forest rights:

Doubled between 1985 and 2000

↑5%/year 2000-2008

NO measurable progress in 2010

Miniscule compared to rate of ‘land grabbing’ ↑1000% between ‘08 and ‘09
(World Bank)

But, good lessons emerging

- Rural areas are vibrant and dynamic
- Some national and local governments making progress
- Local tenure and forest management authority key for carbon, biodiversity, and livelihoods (Nelson and Chomitz; Chhatre and Agrawal)
- Large-scale restoration is possible with the right conditions (political will, strong local tenure) (RRI, 2011)
- Early experience shows carbon projects will have a hard time working without secure, clear tenure rights.
- Small-holders contribute to food security are highly productive considering inputs
- Community forest enterprises (eg, Mexico) and restoration (eg, Nepal) can work
- It's hard to be resilient if not secure



Do programs respond to these lessons?

REDD (Reduced Emissions from Deforestation, Degradation)

- Programs devoting energy and funds to determining opportunity costs, MRV systems and benefit distribution, but little on the underlying drivers of deforestation
- Corruption in the forest sector fuels concern over equity, efficiency and effectiveness of REDD. NGOs working with UNREDD to develop governance monitoring.
- WRI analysis of the RPPs shows little operational attention to tenure and governance beyond recognizing their role
- Safeguard policies that could bolster rights and governance weak or in development with little guidance provided by the UNFCCC
- Growing recognition that REDD will not work without clear and secure tenure rights (Oslo Exchange, 2011)

Adaptation

Only a handful of National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPAs) priority plans mention land tenure insecurity, as barriers or risk to adaptation [Tuvalu, Tanzania, Malawi]

Of the 10 projects funded by the Adaptation Fund, 4 mention governance [water]

The disaster community is increasingly concerned with tenure and governance – migration issues, eg

Growing body of work on community-based adaptation and governance.

Food security

- **High-level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis**
 - “Enhance secure and equitable access to natural resources, including land, water and biodiversity by developing people-centred land policies; promoting gender equality in access to land and land tenure, flexible and plural legal systems and dissemination of transparent land information. Land redistribution can be envisaged for landless and land-poor (Comprehensive Framework for Action)”
 - But only 5 national plans out of 33 mention securing land tenure (www.un-foodsecurity.org)

Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests highlight gender; redistributive reforms; fighting corruption; and the recognition of indigenous and other customary tenure

- Under negotiation and unclear impact

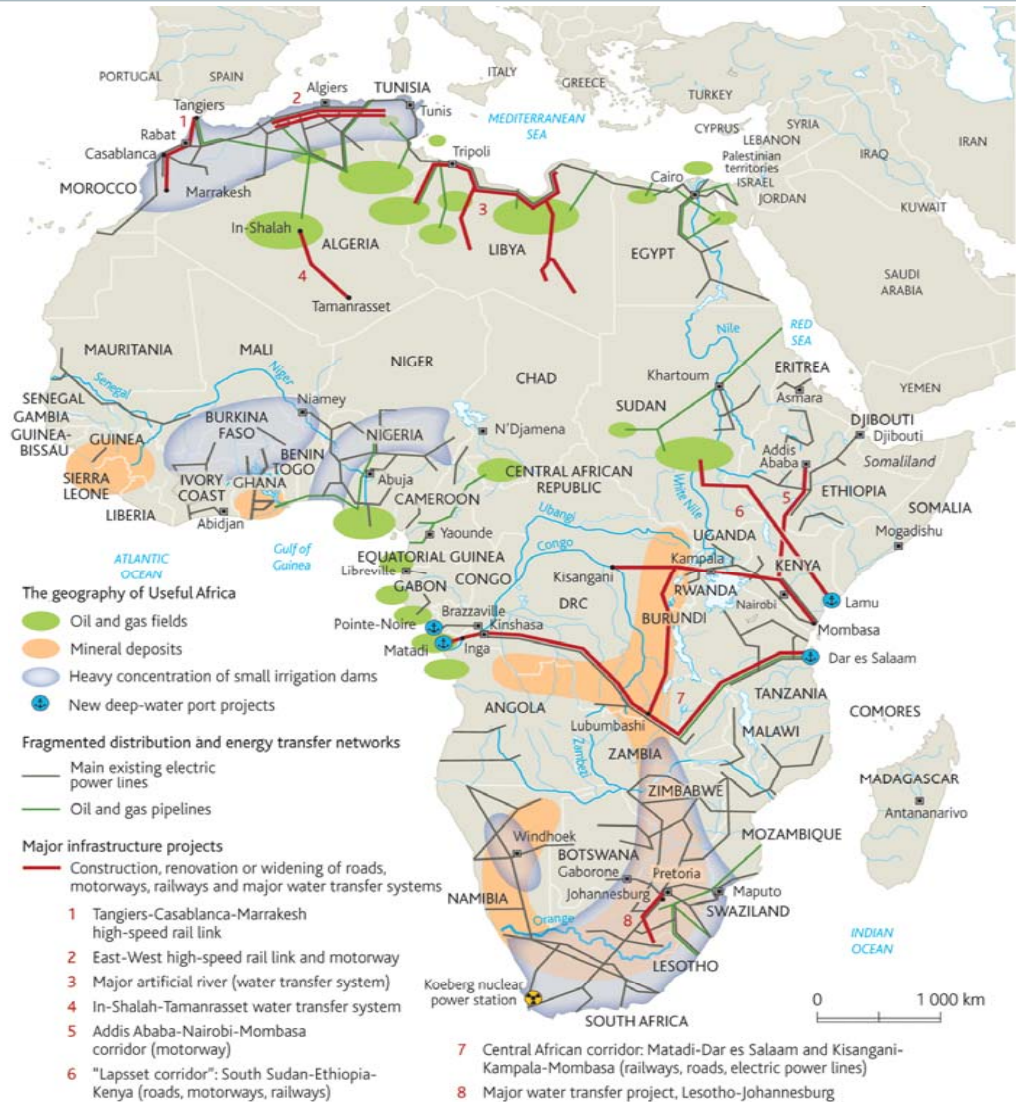
Principles for Responsible Agro-Investment:

- “Existing rights to land and natural resources are recognized and respected.”
- “Processes for accessing land and making associated investments are transparent, monitored, and ensure accountability.”
- But land grabbing appears to persist

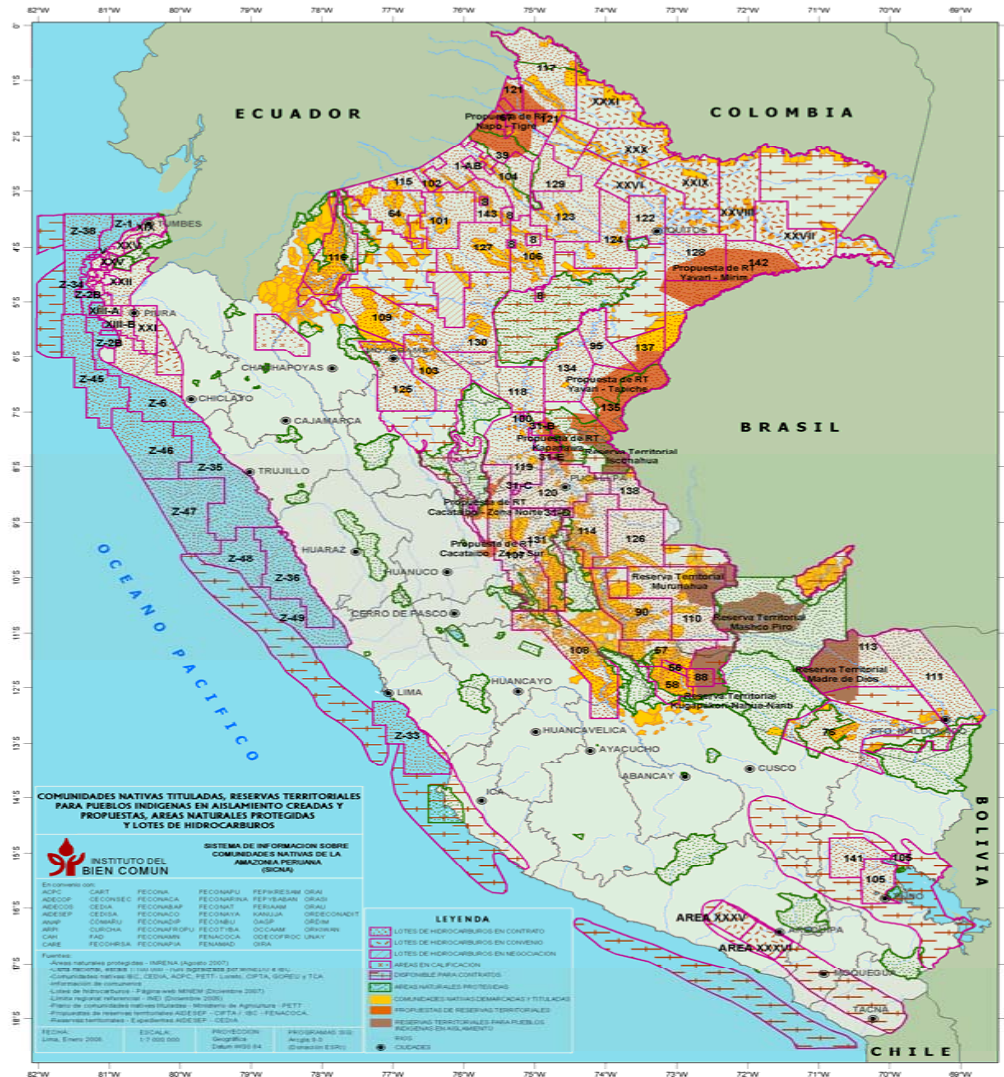
Capital investments in Africa

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)



Oil/Gas on indigenous territories, Peru



Moving forward

Questions

1. Can weak/fragile governments decide to stop deforestation or improve distribution of food, access to markets, etc?
2. Can national and local actions start without strong signals from the international community?
3. How to support national and local programs that are doing the right thing, rather than distracting them?
4. Good evidence that focusing on livelihoods, governance and tenure rights can have big payoffs, but where are the funds to tackle tenure, governance reforms?

Proposals

1. International political support for and funding of tenure reform to meet global climate and hunger challenges
2. Encourage community conservation/enterprises/energy/production necessary for effectiveness and efficiency to meet national environmental goals and wood/fiber and food demand
3. Leverage private sector land-based investment (and their political weight) to direct some funds to local tenure security

Thank you

www.rightandresources.org