

# **Sub-Saharan Africa**

## **Economic Geography**

# Resources

- ✿ Africa has gold, diamonds, and alloys.
- ✿ Timber limited to tropical rainforests, Central Africa.
- ✿ Coast have fish.
- ✿ Some have large amounts of arable land.

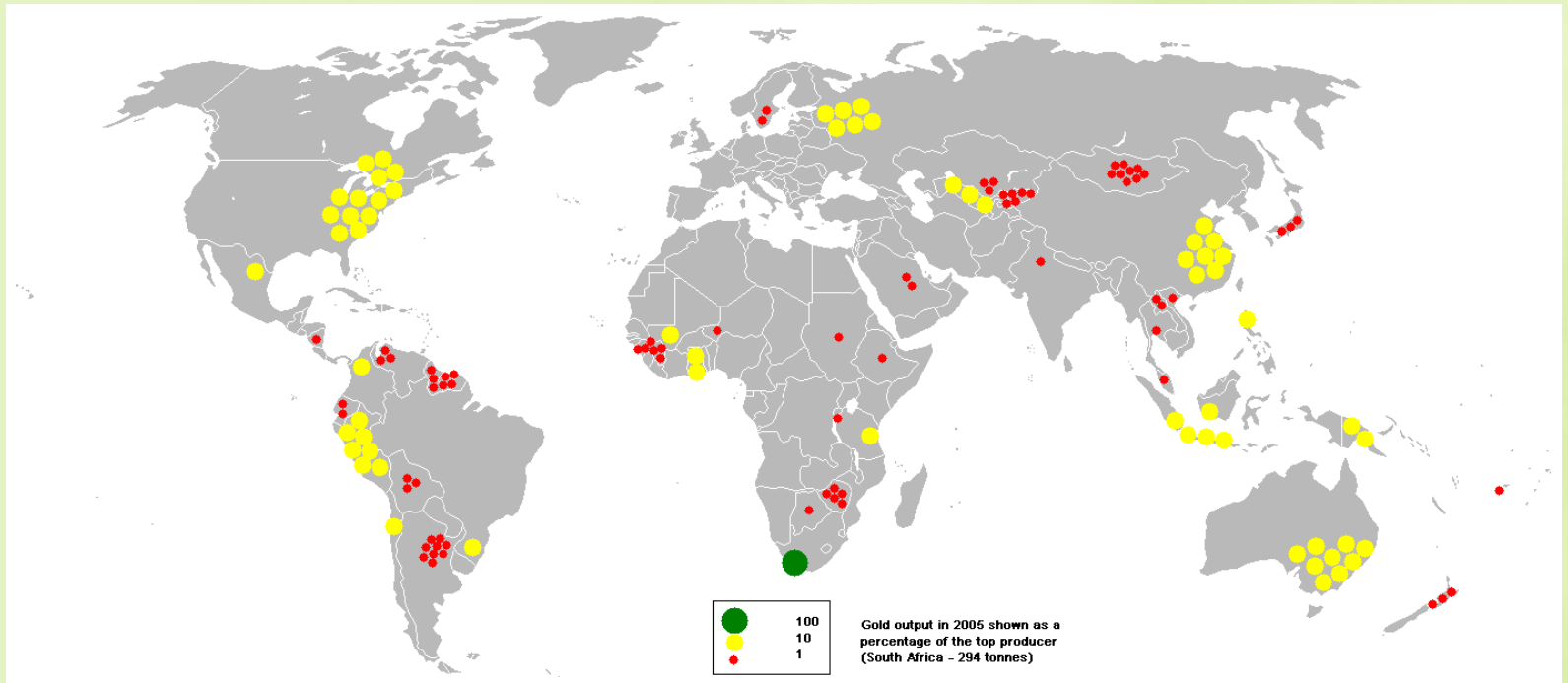


Africa is the world's largest producer of diamonds.



Diamond mining in West Africa.



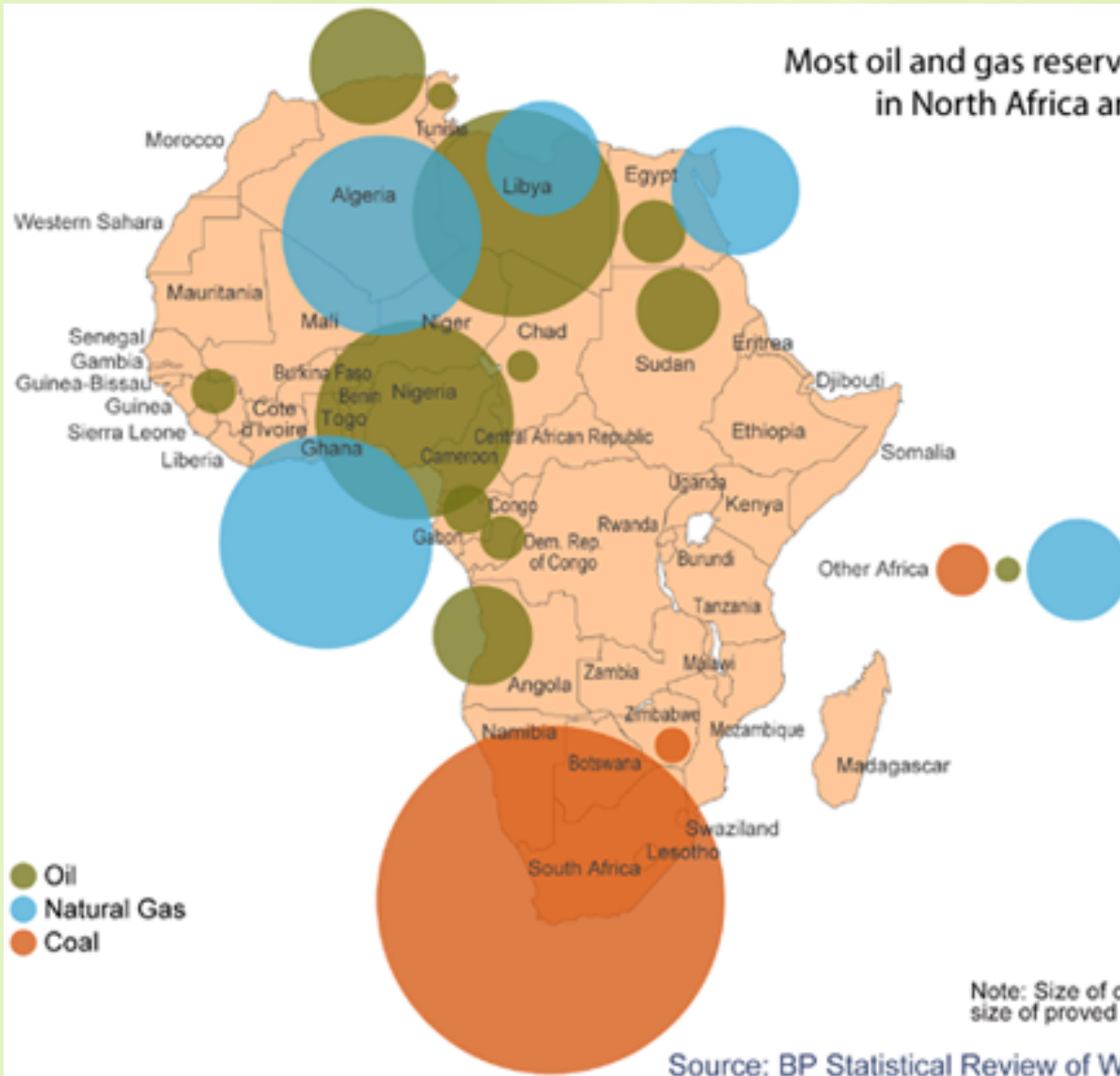


The green dot indicates that South Africa is the world's leading producer of gold.

# Resources

- ✿ Some countries export oil
  - ✿ Nigeria, Gabon, and Angola.
- ✿ Nigeria is a member of OPEC

## Most oil and gas reserves concentrated in North Africa and Nigeria



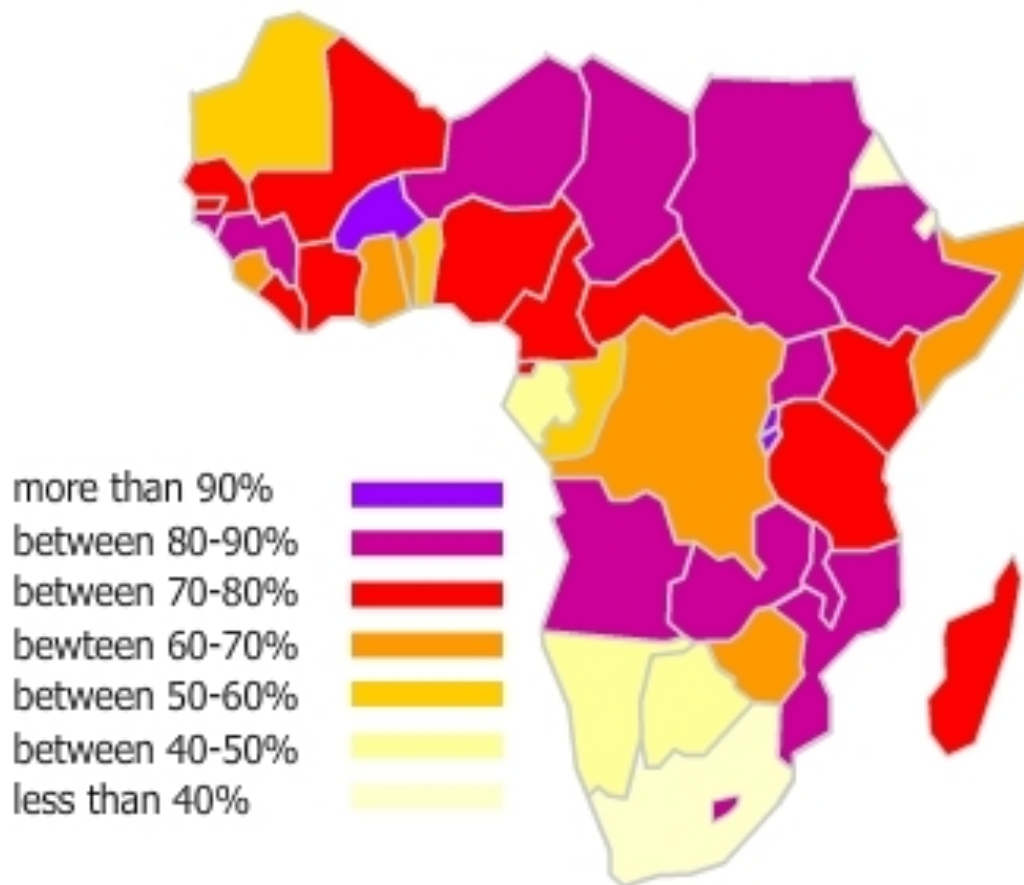


# Agriculture

- ✿ Large % of Sub-Saharan Africa is focused on agriculture
- ✿ Subsistence Farming – Food only for immediate family
- ✿ Slash and Burn Farming

## Sub-Saharan Africa

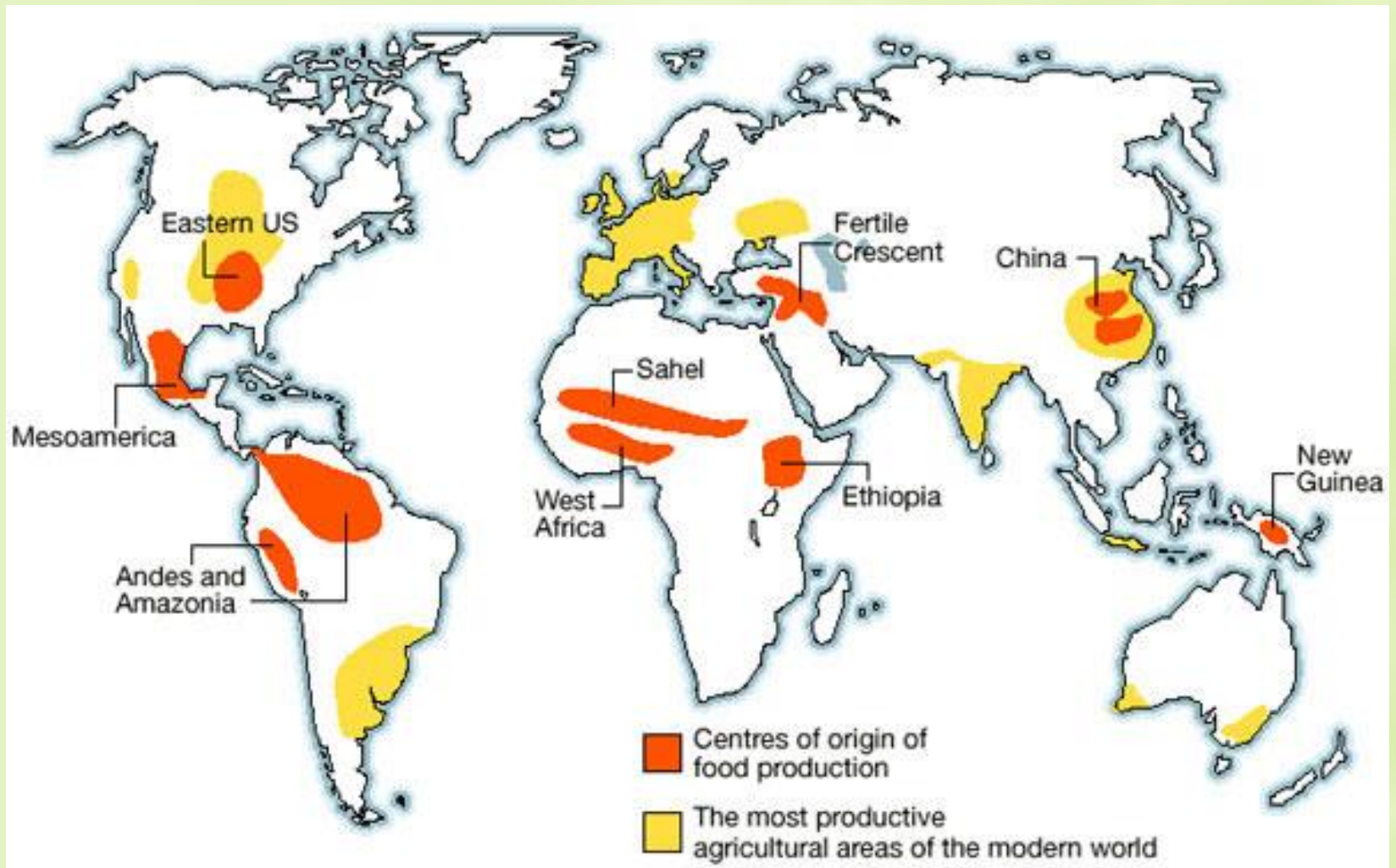
Agricultural labor force as a percentage of total labor force



Sources: FAO, EarthTrends

cc, Biopact 2007

In the purple countries more than 90% of the labor force is engaged in agriculture.

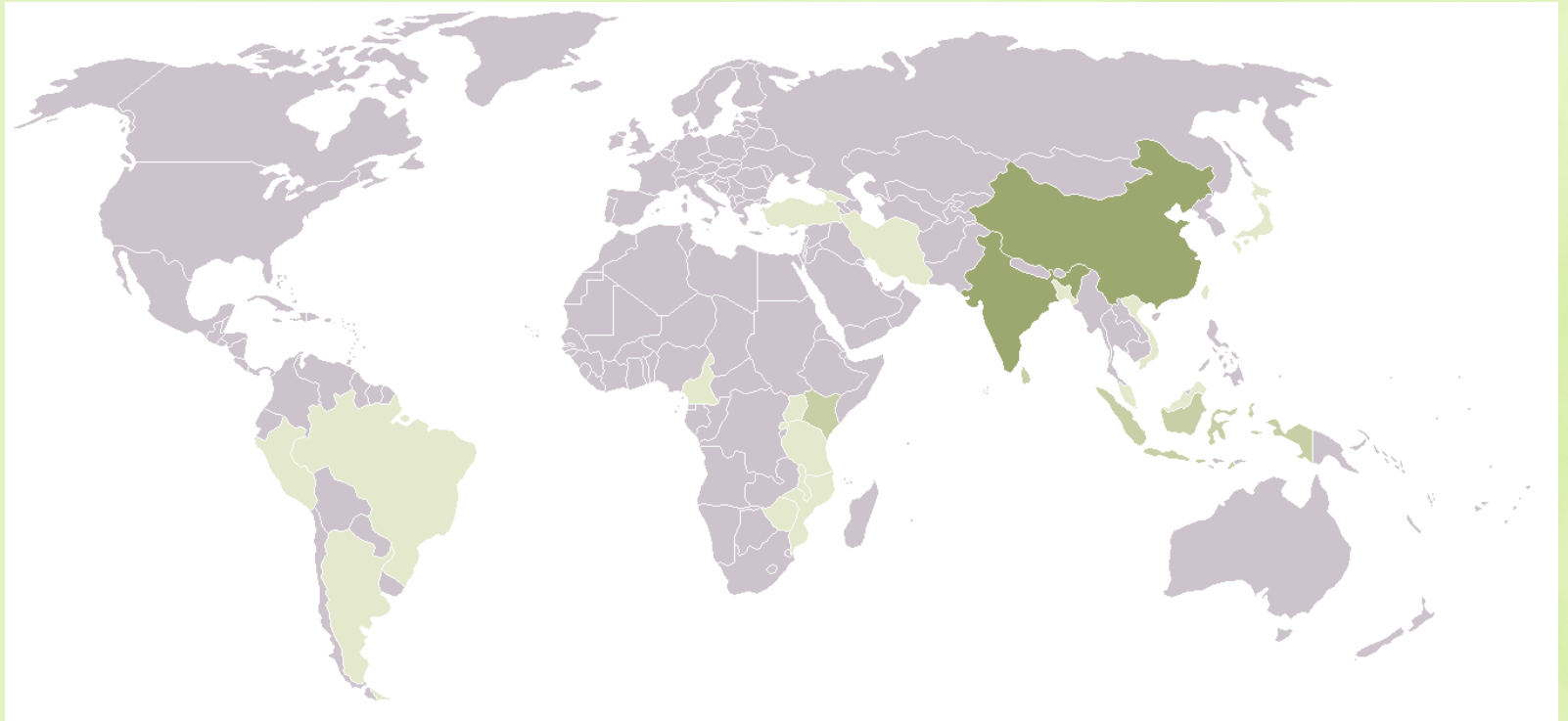


This map shows that the most productive agricultural areas in the world are in middle latitude areas.

# Plantation Farming

✿ Sub-Saharan Africa does have plantation farming These farms grow cash crops such as:

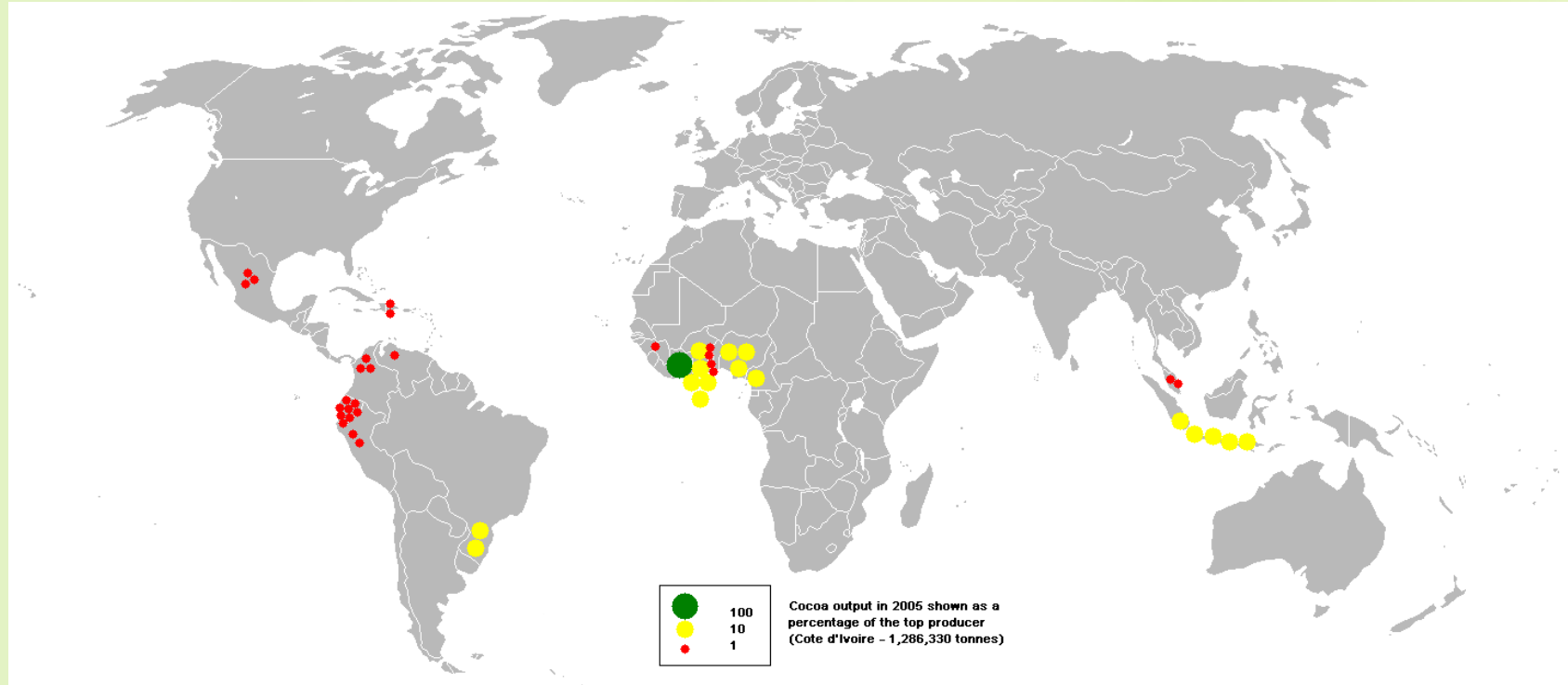
- A. Tea
- B. Cocoa
- C. Palm Oil



Kenya is one of the world's leading producers of tea. several other East African countries also grow tea on plantations.



Tea plantation in Kenya



Cocoa production is clustered in West Africa in countries such as Ghana and Cote D' Ivoire.

# Nomadic Herding

- ✿ A nomad is someone without a permanent home. Herds of animals such as goats, sheep, or cattle.
- ✿ Live on the fringes of the deserts or in tropical wet and dry climates.





**A nomadic woman of the Mursi Tribe**

# Developed or Developing?

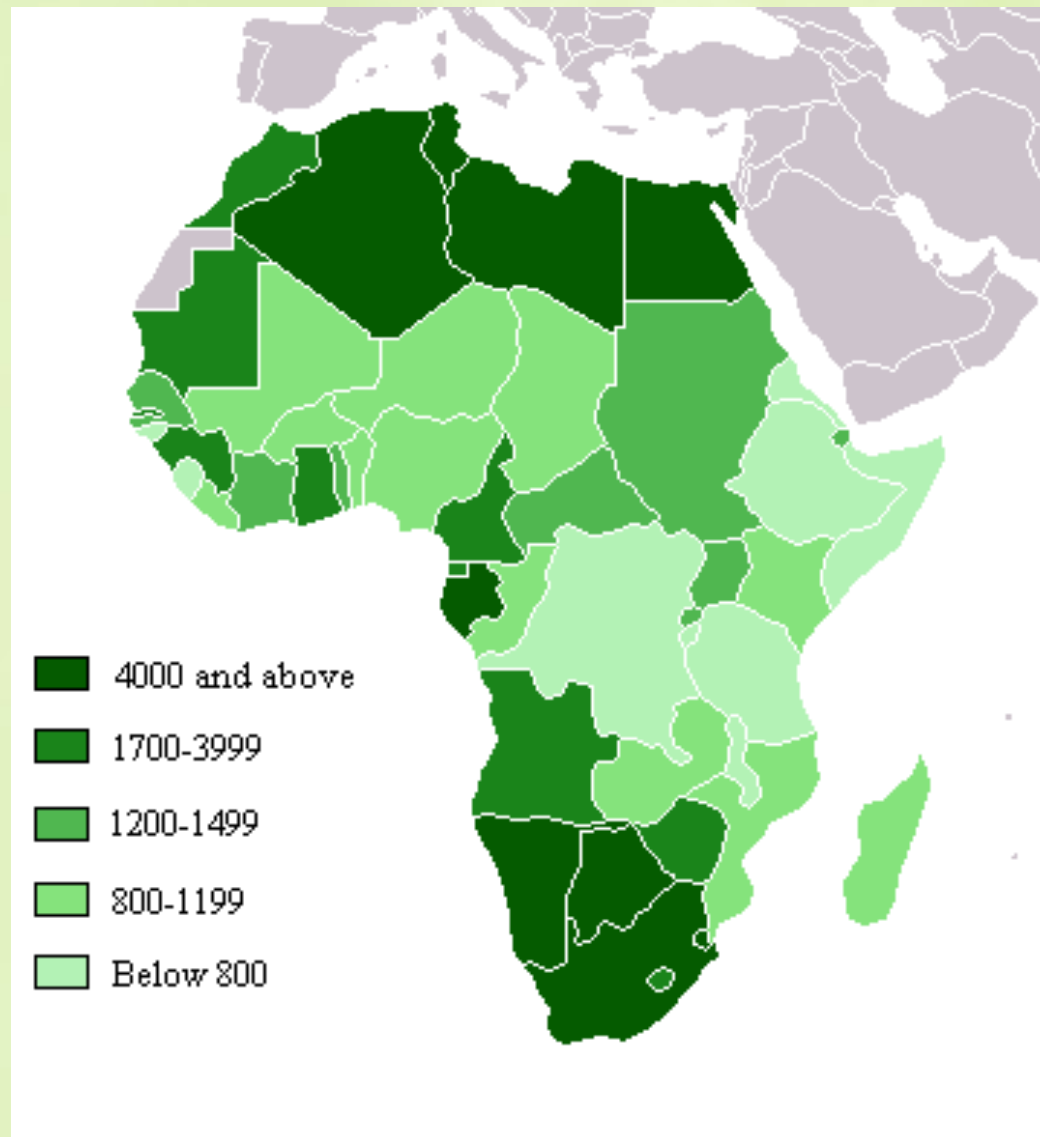
- ✿ Most countries in Sub-Saharan Africa are developing so they have:
  - A. Low per capita GDP
  - B. Low life expectancy
  - C. High population growth rate
  - D. High infant mortality
  - E. Large percentage of population under 15
  - F. Low literacy rates

# Developed or Developing?

- ✿ South Africa is now considered developed, however, there is a large disparity of income.







This map clearly indicates that Africa has some of the poorest countries in the world.

# Why is Africa Poor?

- A. Lack of modern infrastructure
- B. Corrupt governments
- C. Civil wars
- D. Colonization
- E. Large number of landlocked states
- F. Environmental problems such as desertification and droughts

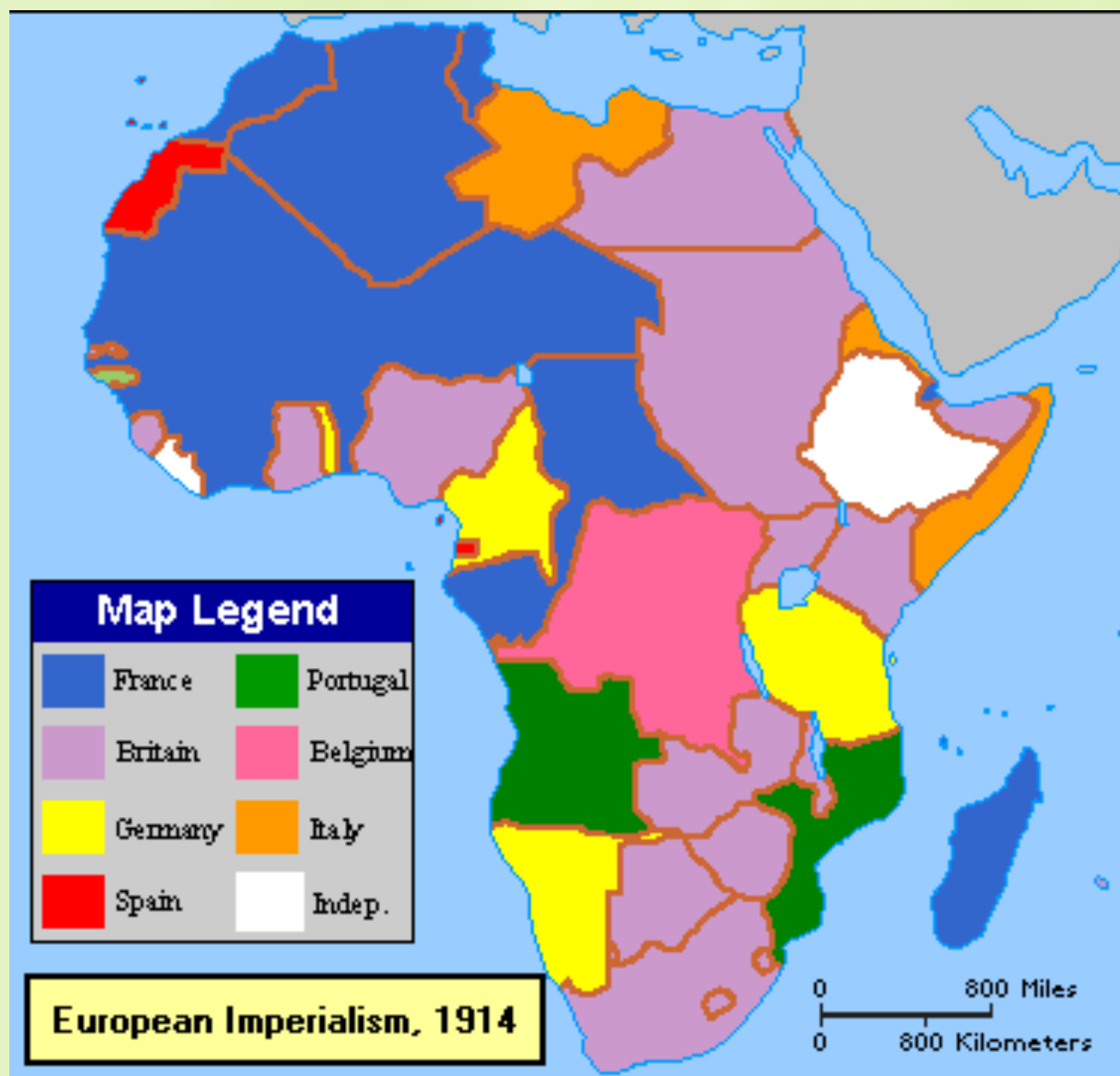
# Population Growth

- ✿ One of the biggest reasons why Africa is poor is that population growth is high.
- ✿ **NOT ENOUGH JOBS & NOT ENOUGH INFRASTRUCTURE**



# Colonization

- ✿ Africa was colonized by European countries in the 19th century. African countries did not gain independence until after the 1950s.



# Summary

- ✿ Most of the economic activity in Sub-Saharan Africa is PRIMARY
- ✿ Using plants for medicine and practicing slash & burn farming are examples of adaptation & modification.