



URBANISATION AND LAND ISSUES



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GLCb2026 Africas Contemporary Security

Challenges

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Urbanisation

- Urbanization is the steady increase in the number of people living in cities or urban centers.
 - **Urbanization:** share of population that live in urb areas.
 - **Urban Growth:** refers to the overall growth in the population that lives in cities.
- The definition of what qualifies a town as an urban centre differs from one country to another depending on the population criteria used.
- It is predicted that the world's urban population will rise from the current 58 percent to 75 percent by 2050.

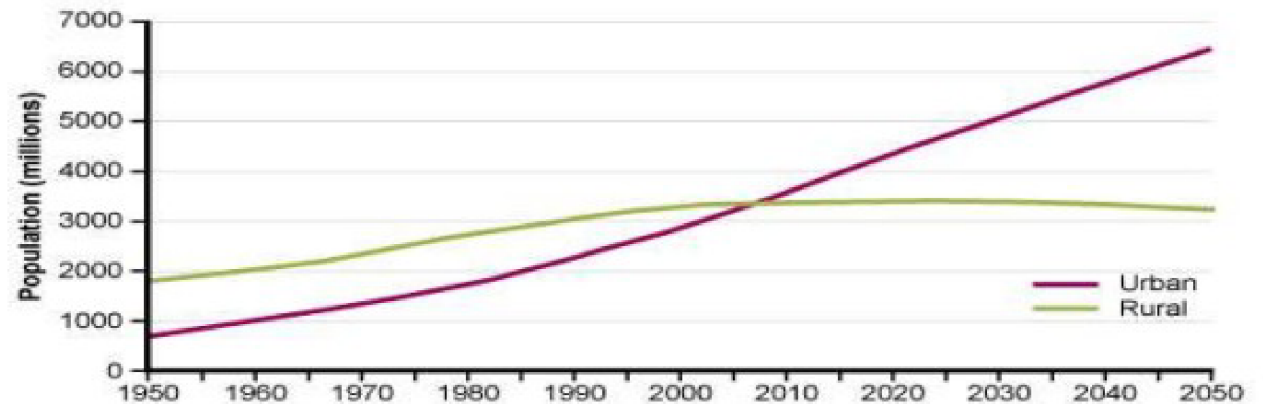
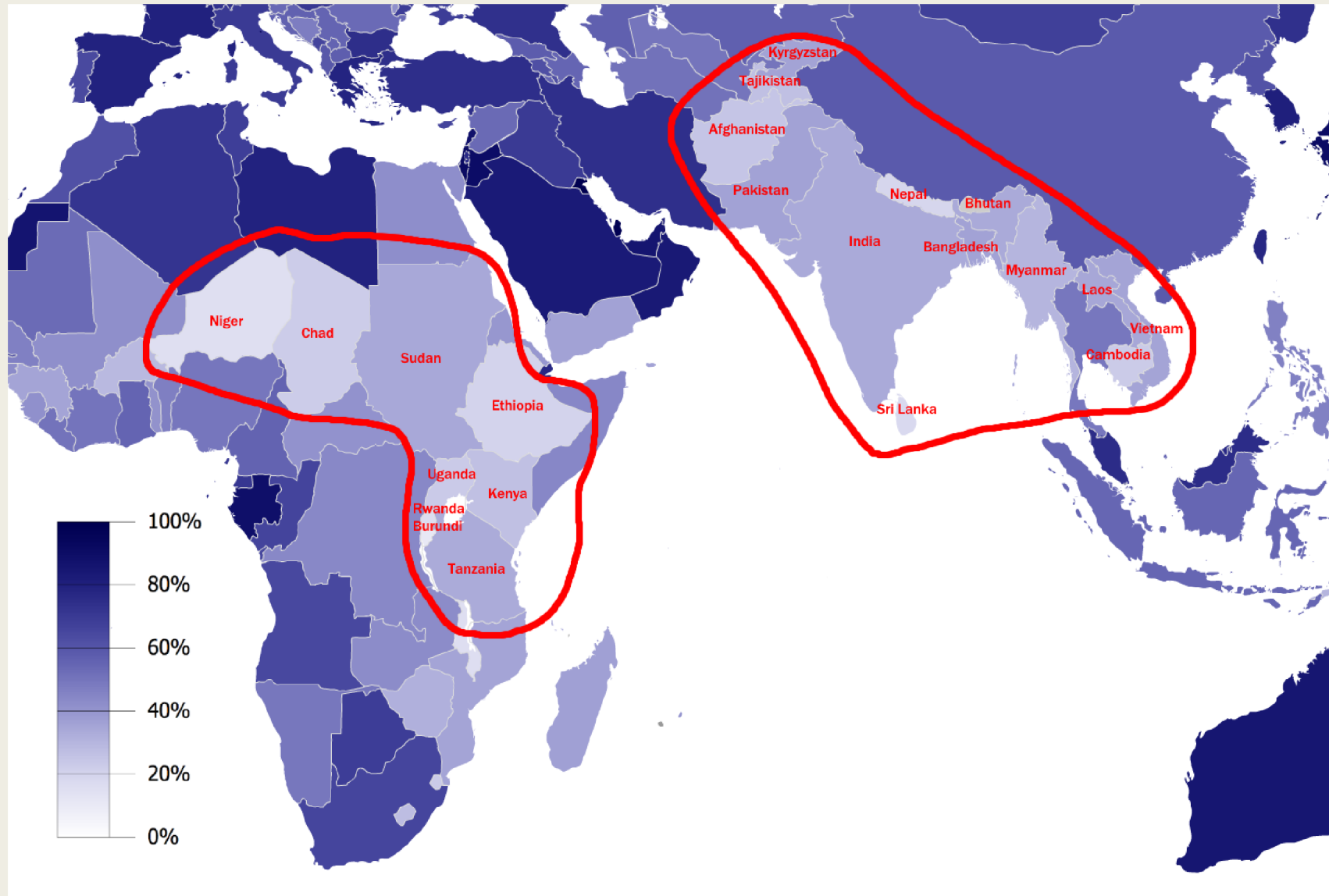


Figure 1. Urban and rural population of the world, 1950–2050 (Source: UNDESA, 2014)

Urbanisation



Scientific Theories of Urbanization

- A) The Theory of Self-Generated Urbanisation
- B) Modernization Theory
- C) Dependency/World-System Theory
- D) Theory of Urban Bias
- Van den Berg et al. - A Study of Growth and Decline → 4 phases of urbanization:
 - a) Urbanization
 - b) Suburbanization
 - c) Deurbanization x reurbanization

Urbanisation in Africa

REGIONS	1950	1980	2000	2015	2050
Sub-Saharan Africa	10.7	22.4	30.8	37.9	54.8
Africa	14.0	26.7	34.5	40.4	55.9
Eastern Africa	5.6	14.5	20.6	25.6	43.6
Middle Africa	14.0	27.5	36.8	44	60.8
Northern Africa	26.0	41.3	48.4	51.6	63.3
Southern Africa	37.7	44.7	53.8	61.6	74.3
Western Africa	8.4	23.6	34.7	45.1	62.7

African Megacities

- A megacity is a very large city, typically with a population of more than 10 million people.
- A population density of 2,000 per square kilometer.



Rank	Population (2100)	City	Country
#1	88.3 million	Lagos	Nigeria
#2	83.5 million	Kinshasa	DRC
#3	73.7 million	Dar Es Salaam	Tanzania
#4	67.2 million	Mumbai	India
#5	57.3 million	Delhi	India
#6	56.6 million	Khartoum	Sudan
#7	56.1 million	Niamey	Niger
#8	54.3 million	Dhaka	Bangladesh
#9	52.4 million	Kolkata	India
#10	50.3 million	Kabul	Afghanistan
#11	49.1 million	Karachi	Pakistan
#12	46.7 million	Nairobi	Kenya
#13	41.4 million	Lilongwe	Malawi
#14	40.9 million	Blantyre City	Malawi
#15	40.5 million	Cairo	Egypt
#16	40.1 million	Kampala	Uganda

New Trend - Purpose-Built National Capitals?

- Overpopulation vs. Conflict
- Case of Nigeria (1991), Tanzania (1996), Ivory Coast (1983), and Burundi (2018)
- In progress: South Sudan (2011), Egypt (2015), Equatorial Guinea (2015)





Bujumbura vs. Gitega



Negative Effects of Urbanization in Africa

a) Economic Dimension

- Severe shortage of affordable housing in areas
- Household mortgage debt
- Increasing unemployment
- Economic losses in tourism areas due to degraded landscape scenery
- A higher dependence on imported food
- Higher infrastructure and public service costs, such as water supply, sanitation, electricity, public transport, waste management, policing and other services

b) Planning Laws and Policy Dimensions

- Lack of public transport, poorer connectivity, traffic congestion
- Unplanned growth and un-coordinated development
- Unequal distribution of public amenities
- Formation of dormitory towns (makes provision of services and infrastructure difficult and costly)

Negative Effects of Urbanization in Africa

c) Environmental Dimension

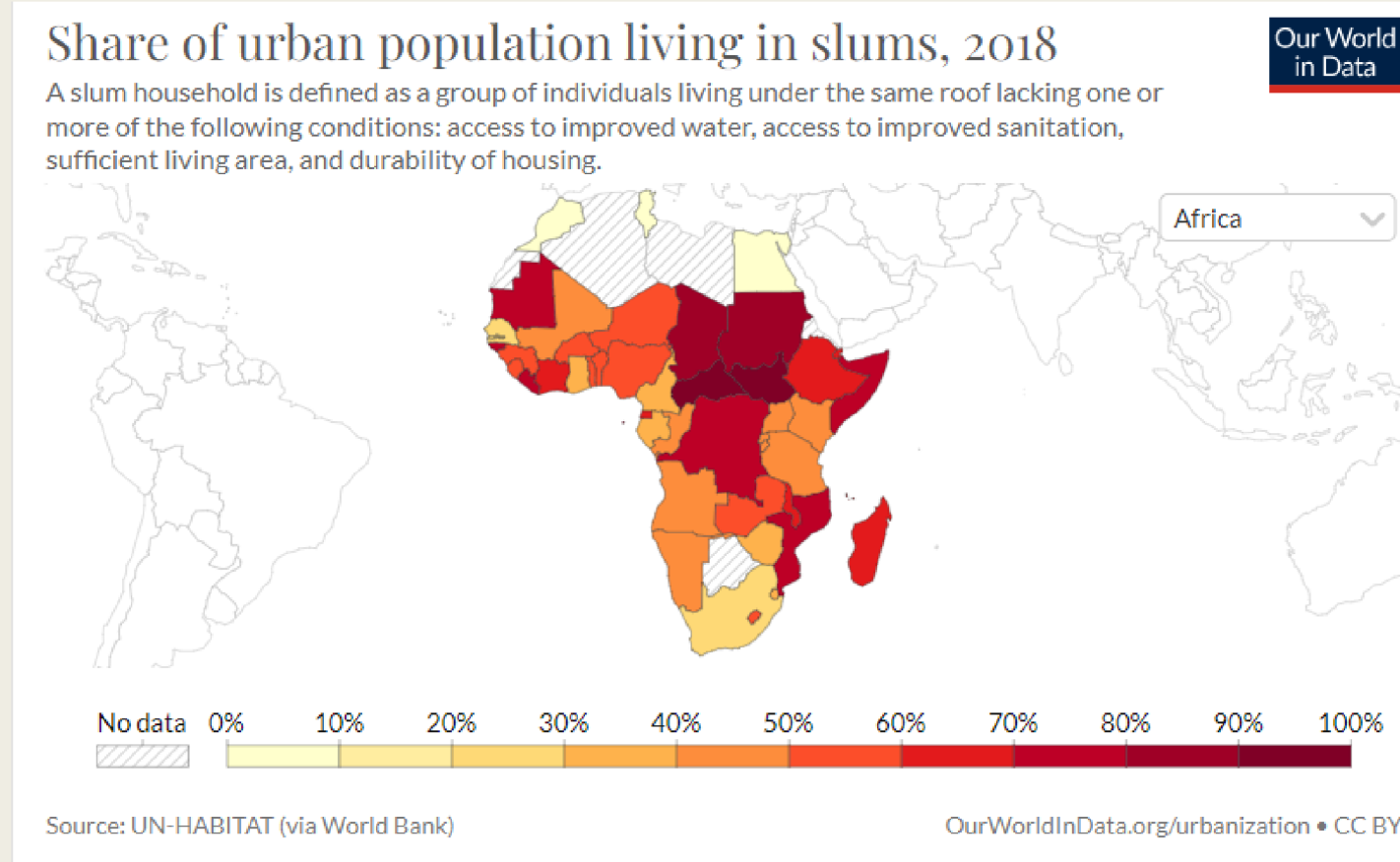
- Loss of vegetation (Habitat loss for fauna and flora or irreversible damage to local ecosystems) and biodiversity
- Increased (air, noise, light) pollution, water pollution and alteration of the hydrological properties of the water
- Loss of productive agricultural land leading to higher dependence on imported food
- Energy and climate change (due to higher energy consumption and higher greenhouse gas emissions per individual)
- Environmental impacts through transformation, degradation and fragmentation of urban areas and change in perception of the landscape

d) Social Dimension

- Social effects such poverty, lack of opportunities, psychological problems, alcoholism, drugs, crime, violence and other irregular behaviors, limiting the quality of life, reduced community ties, missing cultural identity, loss of rural heritage.
- Higher costs for transport
- Mobility issues such as traffic congestion
- Reduction in social interaction
- Car dependency
- Public health issues
- A reduction in food production and self-sufficiency

Slumization

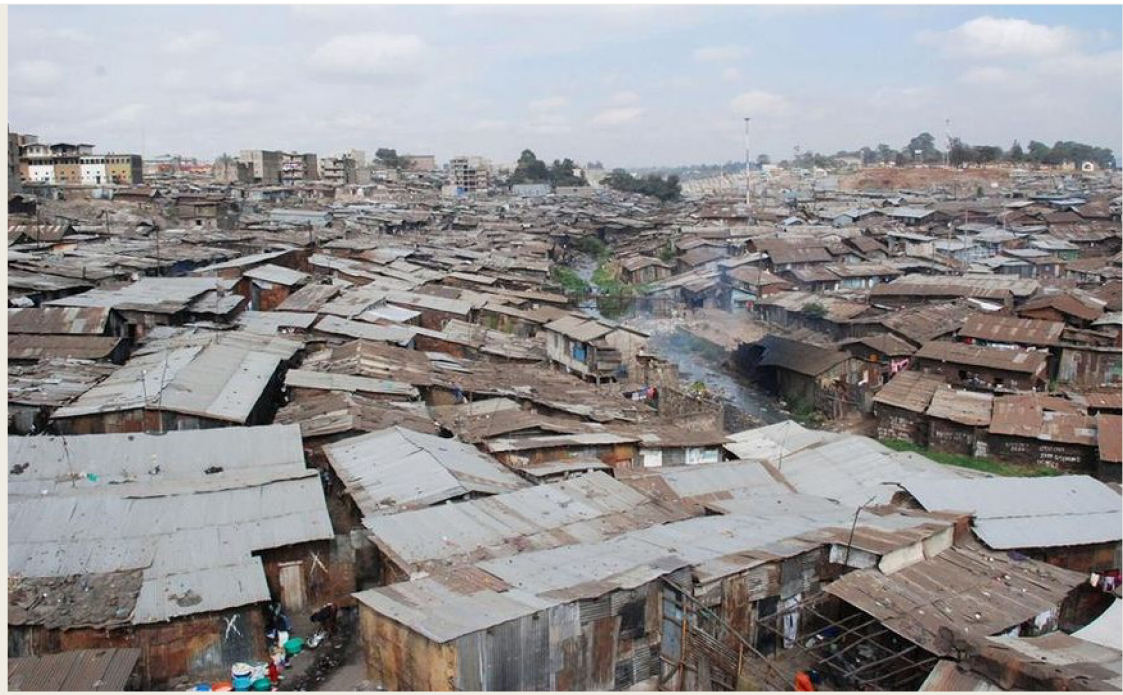
- „The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) defines a slum as an urban area with lack of basic services (sanitation, potable water, electricity), substandard housing, overcrowding, unhealthy and hazardous locations, insecure tenure, and social exclusion.“



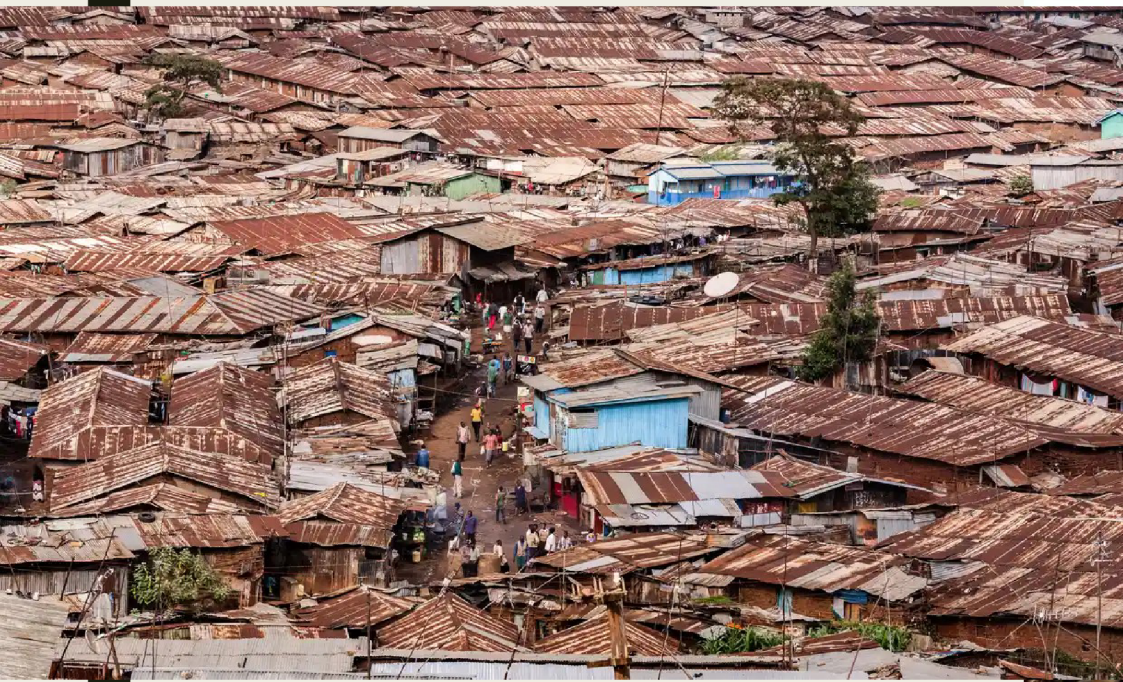


Slums in SA and Namibia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_slums_in_South_Africa



Slums in Angola and Zambia



Slums in Kenya and Nigeria

Land Issues Among Population

■ White vs. Black people

- *Land reforms in SA – 1996 (87% owned by White), 2012 (67% owned by White), 1997 White Paper on Land Reform, 2011 Green Paper on Land Reform, since 2017 attempts of Land Expropriation without Compensation (LEWC).*
- *The number of farmers of European descent had decreased by one third since 1997. 2001 - Committee of Inquiry into Farm Attacks.*
- *Creation of private armed patrols - „Farmwatch“*
- *Protests in Bloemfontein 2017, murder of Klapmuts farmer Joubert Conradie - #BlackMonday convoy, Violence in Senekal 2020.*
- *Land reforms in Namibia - "Willing buyer, willing seller" principle applies, Land Reform Act of 1995 – three pillars, 2004 land value tax.*
- *Land reforms in Zimbabwe – Lancaster House Agreement 1980, Zimbabwean Land Acquisition Act of 1992, 2005 – Constitutional amendment Fast Track - Zimbabwe National Liberation War Veterans Association (ZNLWVA).*

■ Farmer vs. Pastoral conflicts

- *Fulani in the Sahel*
- *Laikipia plateau, Turkana, etc.*
- *Agogo conflict*

Land Issues Among Population

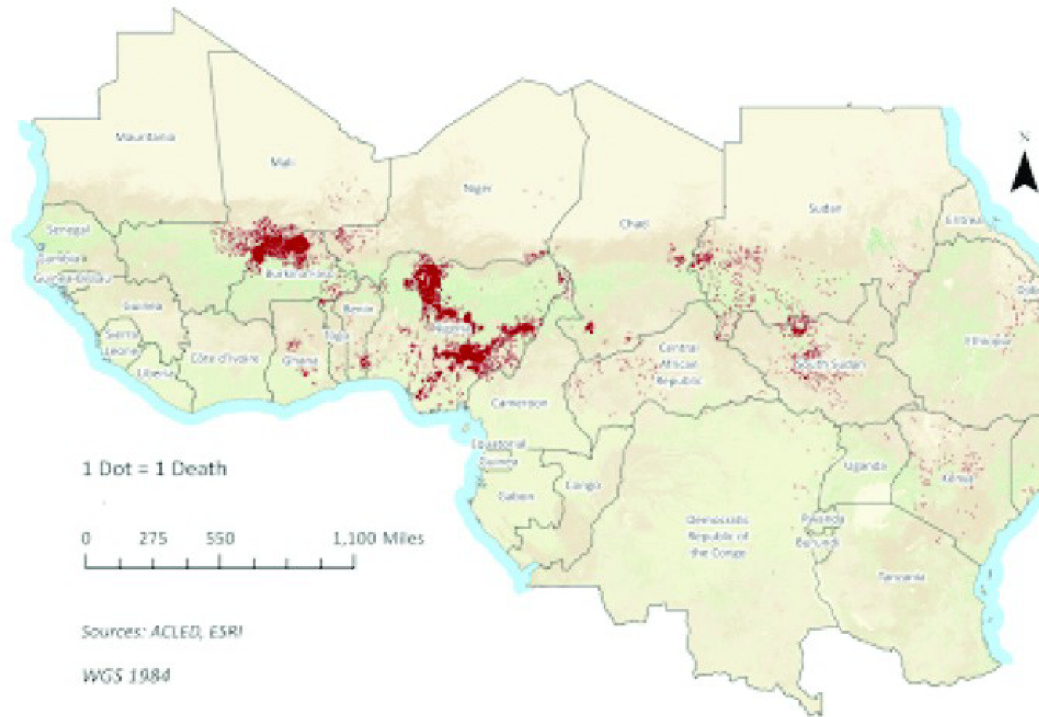
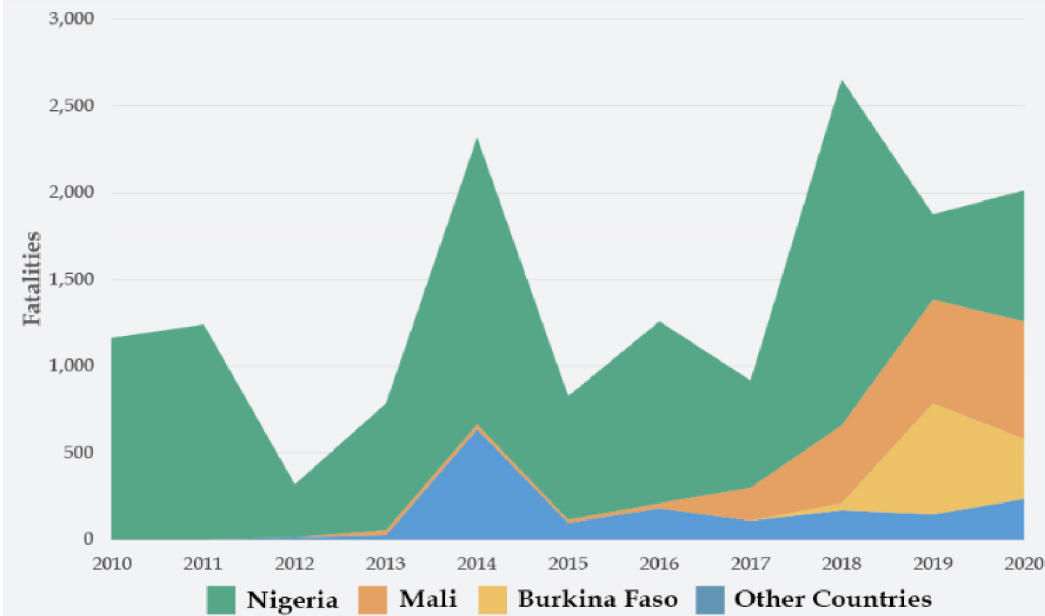


FIGURE 1. TRENDS IN FARMER-HERDER VIOLENCE IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA



Note: Figures exclude events attributed to violent extremist groups.

Data Source: Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project

Land Issues Among Population

FIGURE 2. FARMER-HERDER CLASHES IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

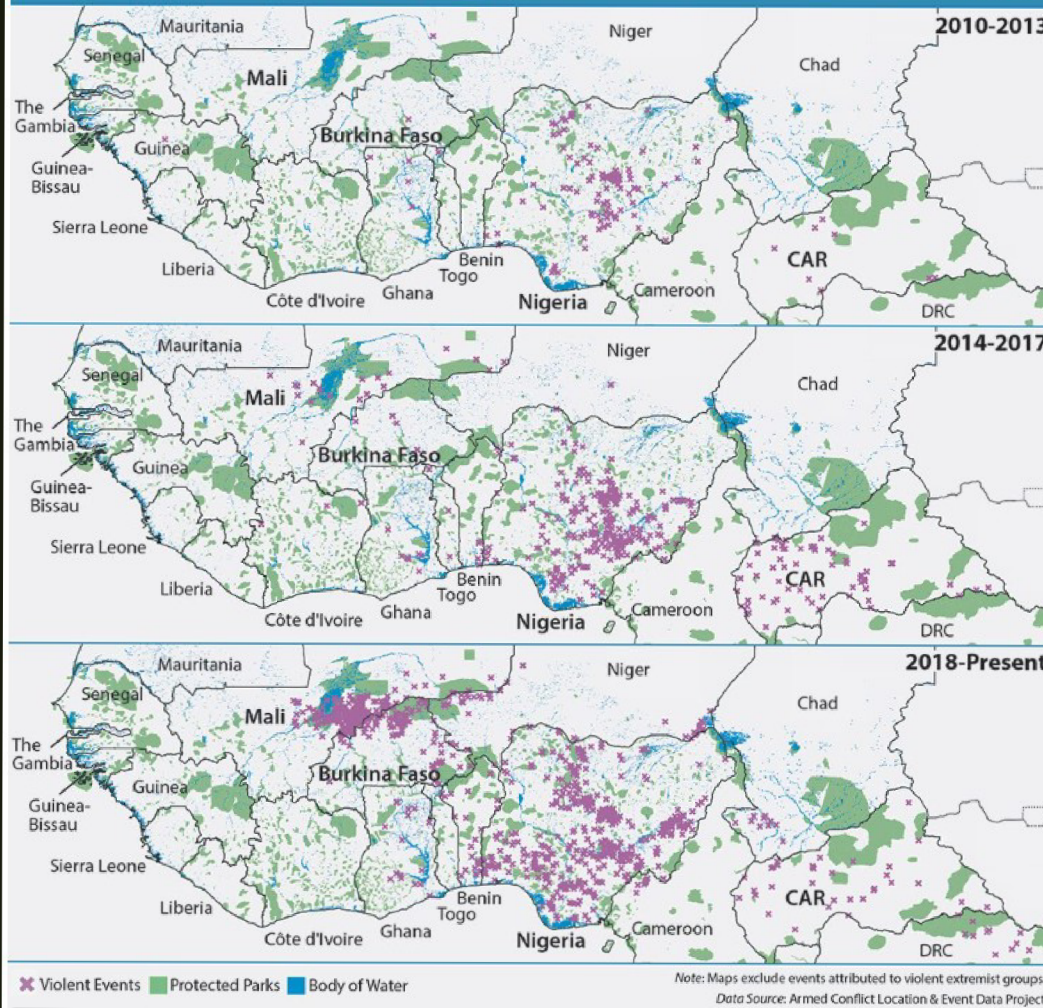
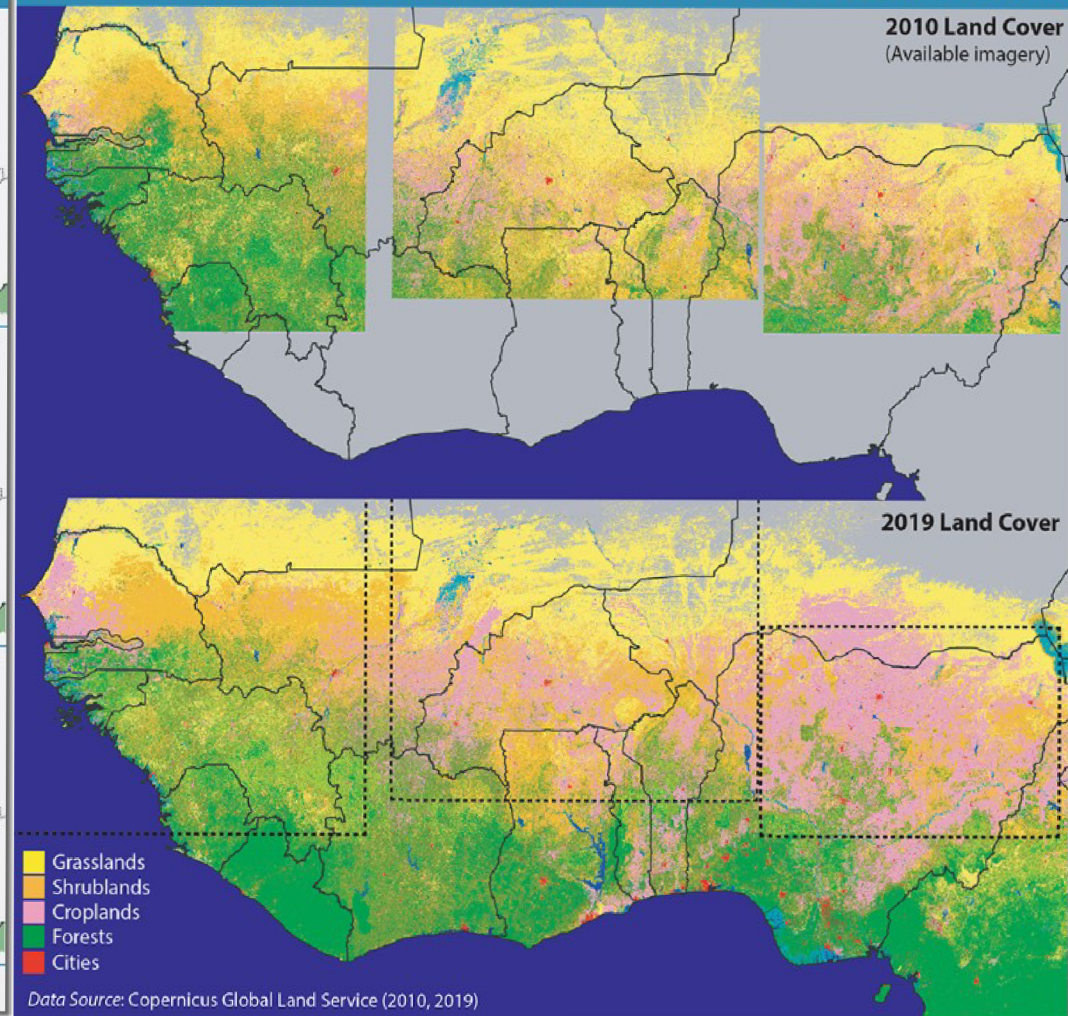
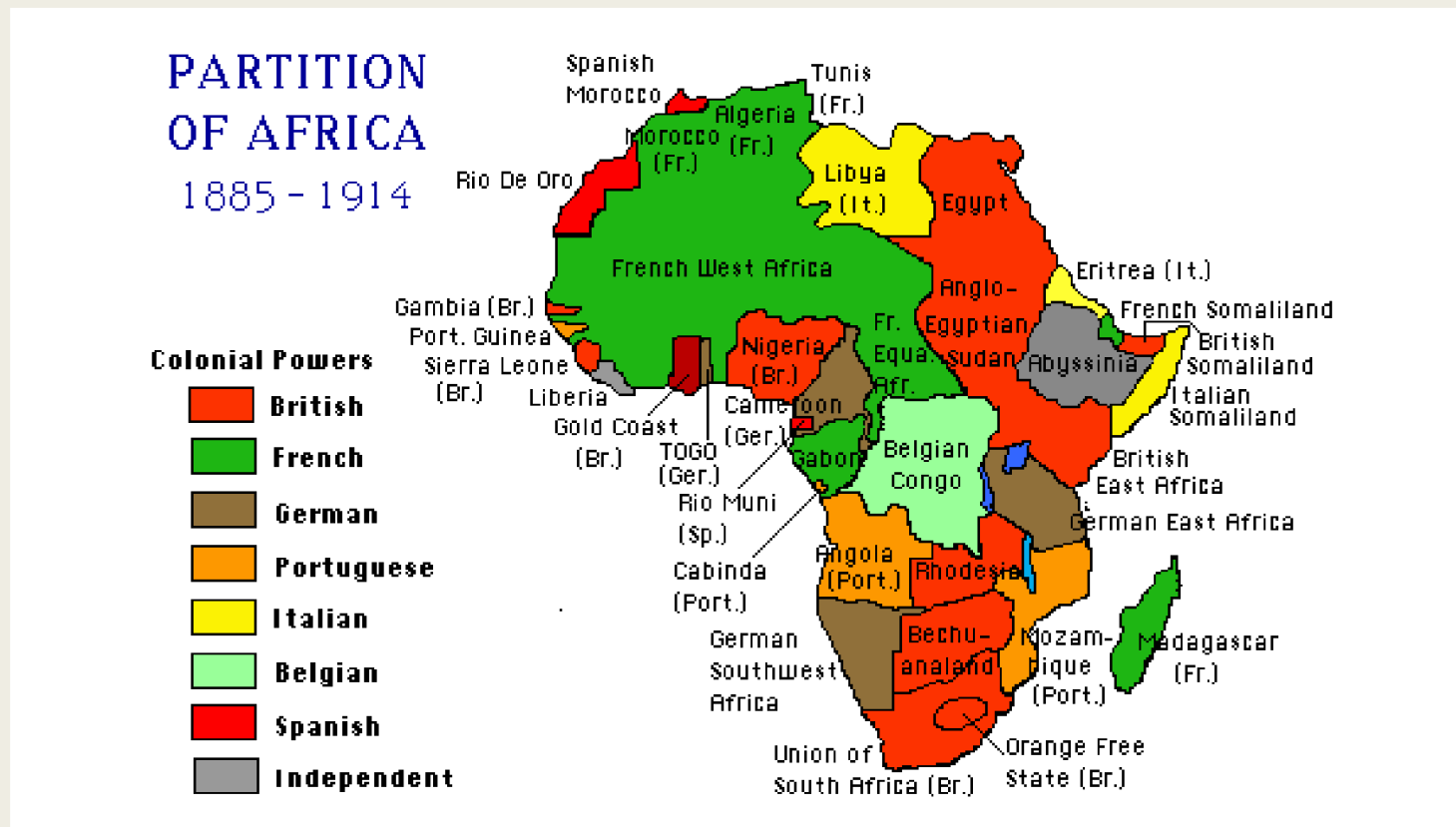


FIGURE 3. CHANGING LAND COVER IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA



Territorial Disputes among States



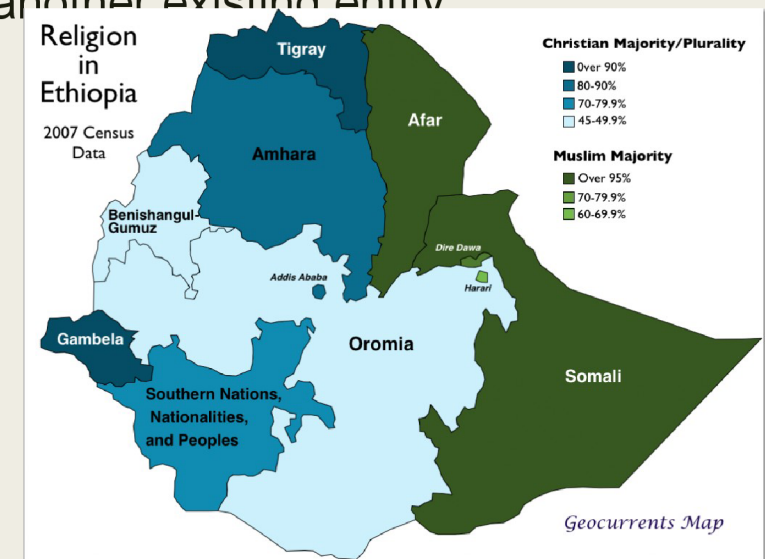
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0xxaX4xIWE4>



ERITREAN-ETHIOPIAN WAR

Separatism

- **Autonomism** - territorial autonomy within the state (certain degree of self-governance and independence within a larger political entity).
- **Secessionism** – obtaining an independent status for a certain part of the territory
- **Seperatism** – in general term for any independence/separation; specifically: secession of several territories and union in a newly created territory with a certain status
- **Irredentism** - incorporation of a part of a territory into another existing entity
- Case Study of Ogaden



Thank you for your
attention