

State of Play: Global and Africa Environment and Development Agenda

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SUMMARY

FOCUS: USING ENVIRONMENTAL DIPLOMACY TO ADVANCE AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT AGENDA IN A GLOBAL ARENA

**AFRICA'S PRIORITIES:
OPPORTUNITIES AND
CHALLENGES**

**HOW THE WORLD VIEWS
AFRICA**

**HOW AFRICA CAN
ENGAGE THE REST OF
THE WORLD**

AFRICA'S WEALTH



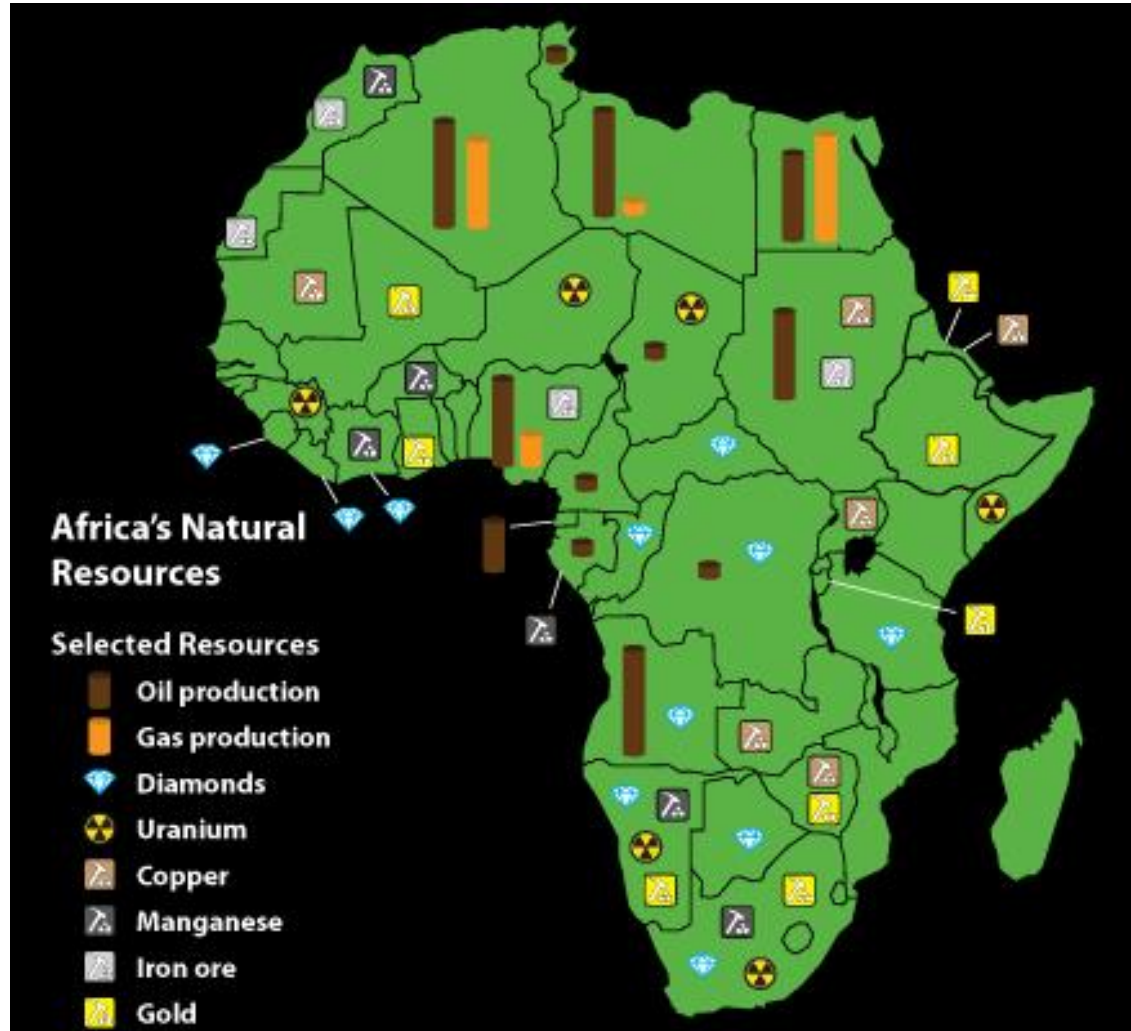
40% of worlds' gold and **80% & 90%** of Chromium and Platinum



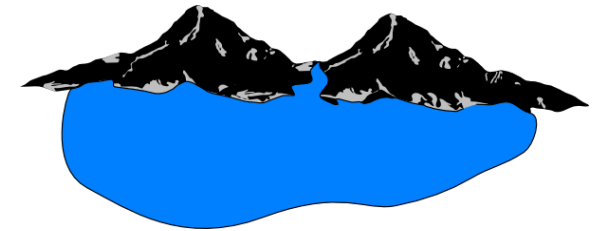
8% of worlds' natural gas



12% of worlds' oil reserves



65% of worlds' arable land



10% of worlds' internal fresh renewable water sources with fisheries estimated worth **USD 24 billion**

According to the African Development Bank , about **30%** of the world's mineral reserves are in Africa.

AFRICA'S WEALTH



In 2012, natural capital accounted for **77%** of total exports and **42%** of government revenues. **60%** uncultivated arable land



40% of world bio diversity

Renewable energy: 265 days of sunlight, Hydro, Geothermal, wind, biomass

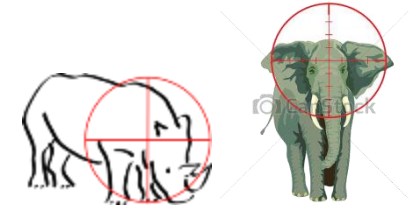
WHAT IS AFRICA LOSING?



Illegal logging costs Africa a high of **USD 17 billion** annually



Net import bill (excluding fish) hit **USD 35 billion** annually. Imports exceed exports by **30%** according to the 2014 Africa Progress Summary Report.



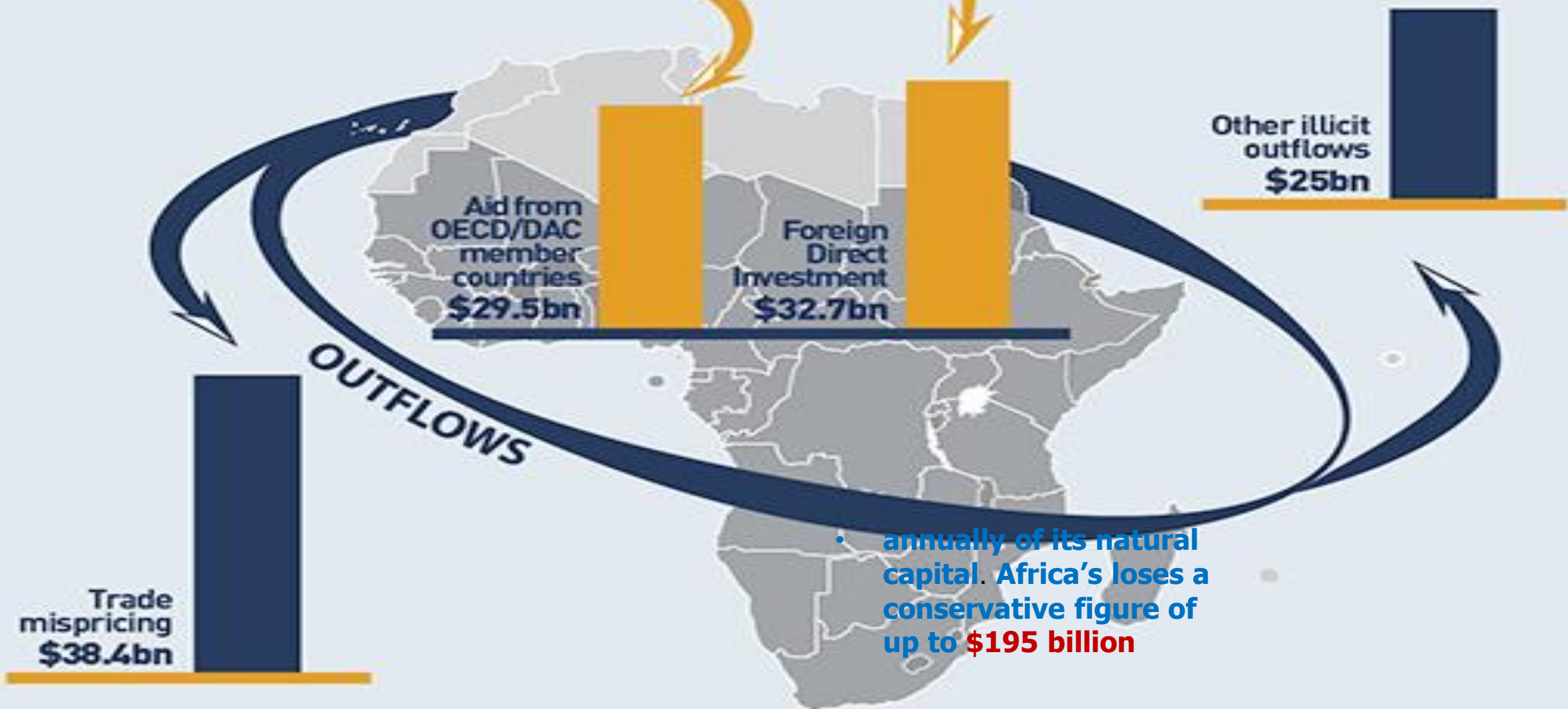
An absolute figure of about **US \$10.9 billion** losses in illegal poaching & trade in wildlife



180 million people are relying on depleted soil to grow their food. Land Degradation in sub-Saharan Africa is estimated at **USD 68 billion** per year

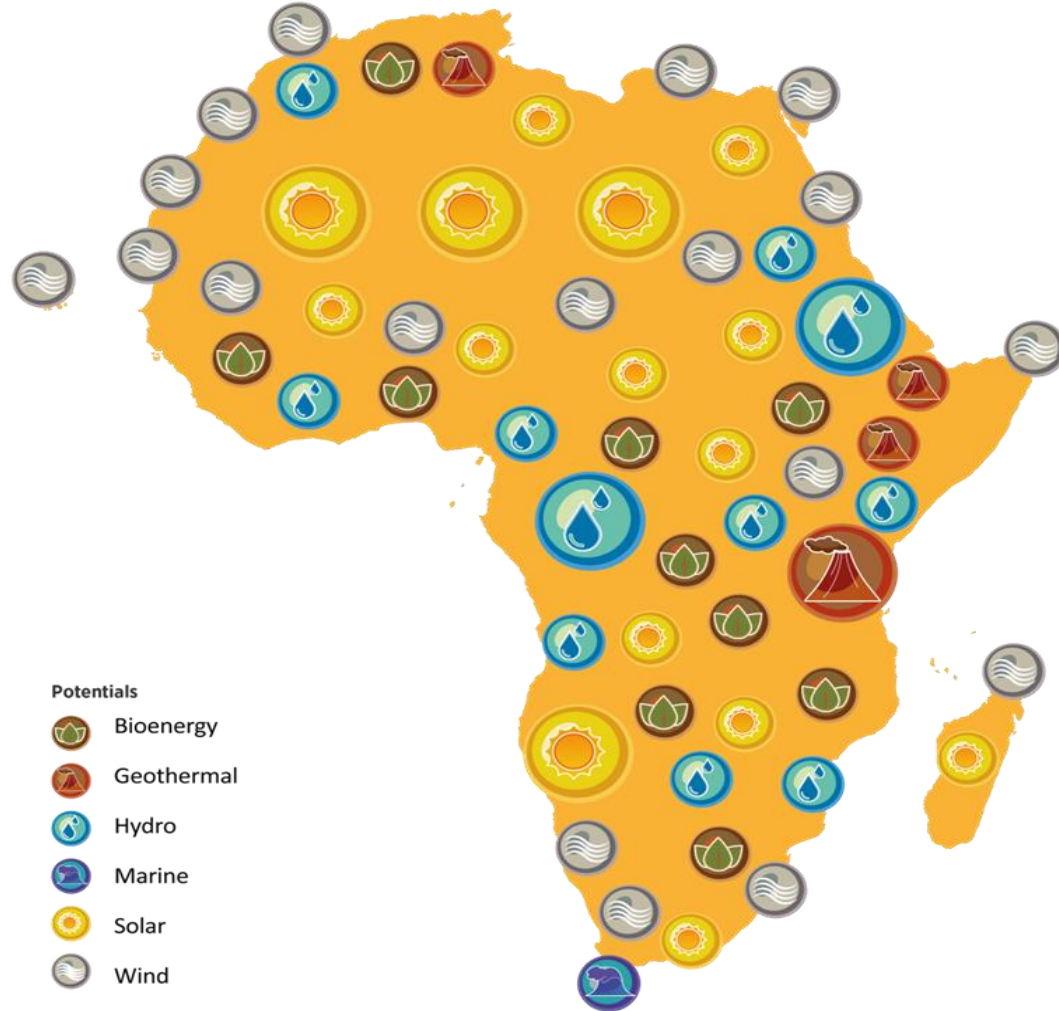
INFLOWS

Africa loses more through illicit outflows than it gets in aid and foreign direct investment



Distribution of identified renewable energy potential in Africa

Map 2: Distribution of Identified renewable energy potential in Africa



Source: IRENA analysis based on the Global Atlas

- renewable energy resources
 - 1850 TWh/yr hydropower,
 - **More than >120 TW/yr Geothermal**
 - **155,000-170,000 TWh/Yr solar**
 - **100,000-150,000 TWh/yr wind**
 - Biomass 3-13.6 EJ
- 600m lack access to electricity
- 53 % of population depends on biomass for cooking, space heating and drying
- has world's lowest per capita energy consumption: consumes 3.3 % of global primary energy

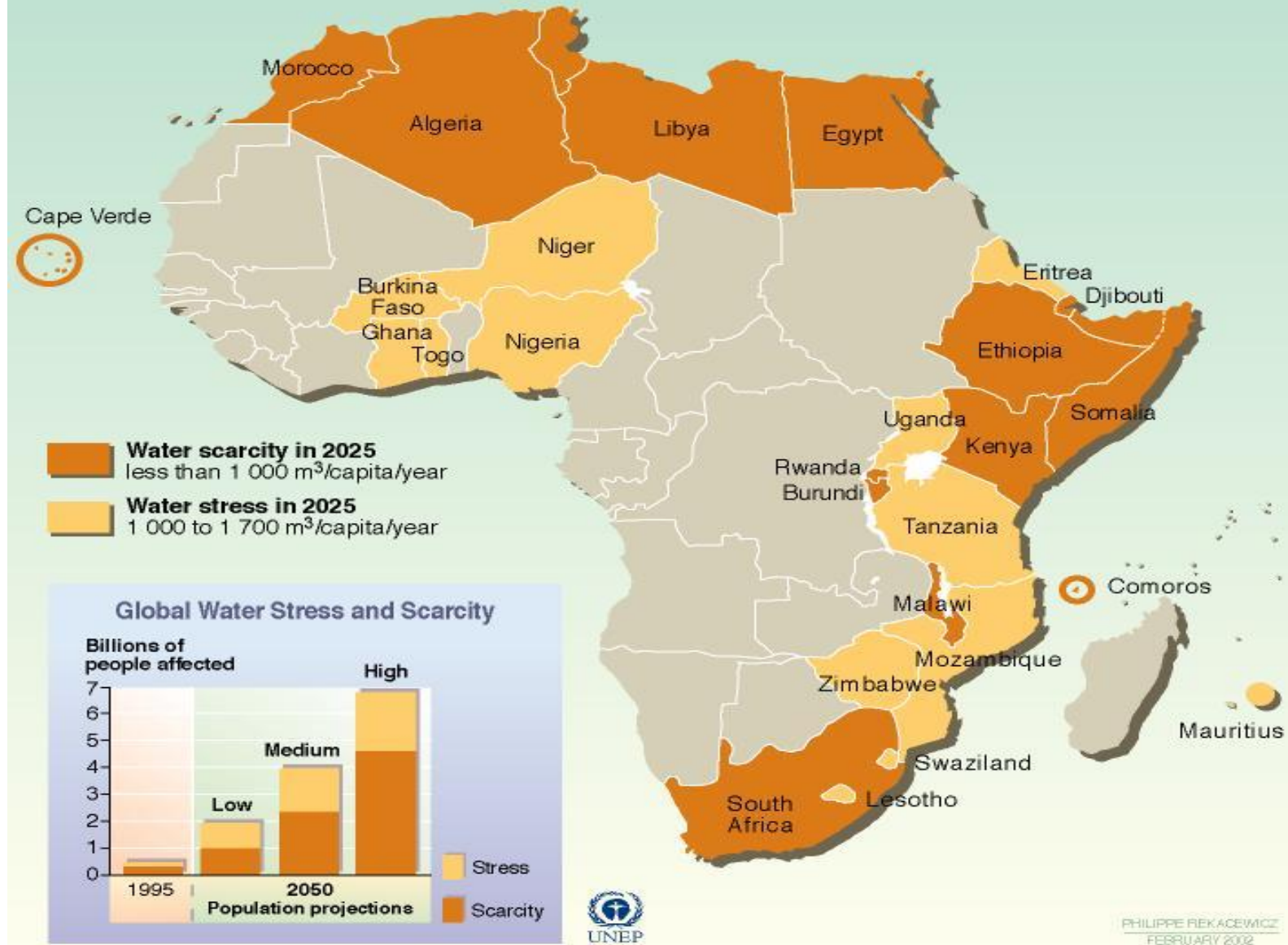
Climate Change Vulnerability in Africa



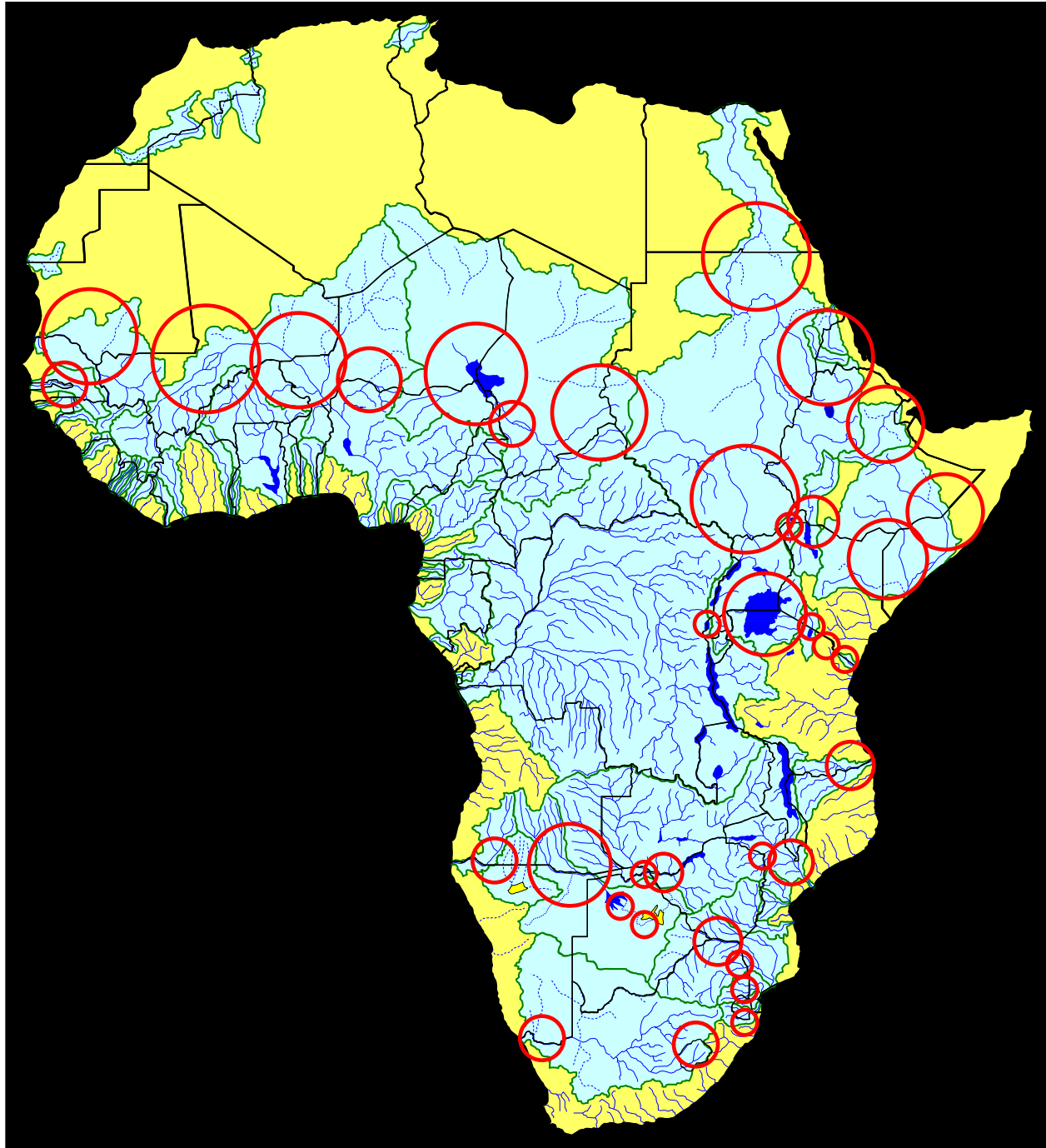
The vulnerabilities

- | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
|  | Desertification |  | Deforestation |  | Spread of malaria |
|  | Sea level rise |  | Loss of forest quality |  | Impacts on food security |
|  | Reduced freshwater availability |  | Degradation of woodlands | | |
|  | Cyclones |  | Coral bleaching | | |
|  | Coastal erosion | | | | |

Freshwater Stress and Scarcity in Africa by 2025



**Sites of
disputes
linked to
water**



Indoor pollution due to biomass fuel used by 80 per cent in Africa kills 600,000 annually. In education electricity access in primary schools is at 35 per cent and in some countries, 80 per cent primary schools have no electricity. This perpetuates the poverty cycle for this segment of society.



Pollution

Poor waste management + rapid urbanization has led to pollution of water sources. Growing at an annual average of **3.5 %**, Africa's pace of urbanization is the fastest in the world



Ground water contamination by heavy metals from industrial effluents is a major risk to many peri-urban communities who access the ground water for domestic use.

ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH ISSUES



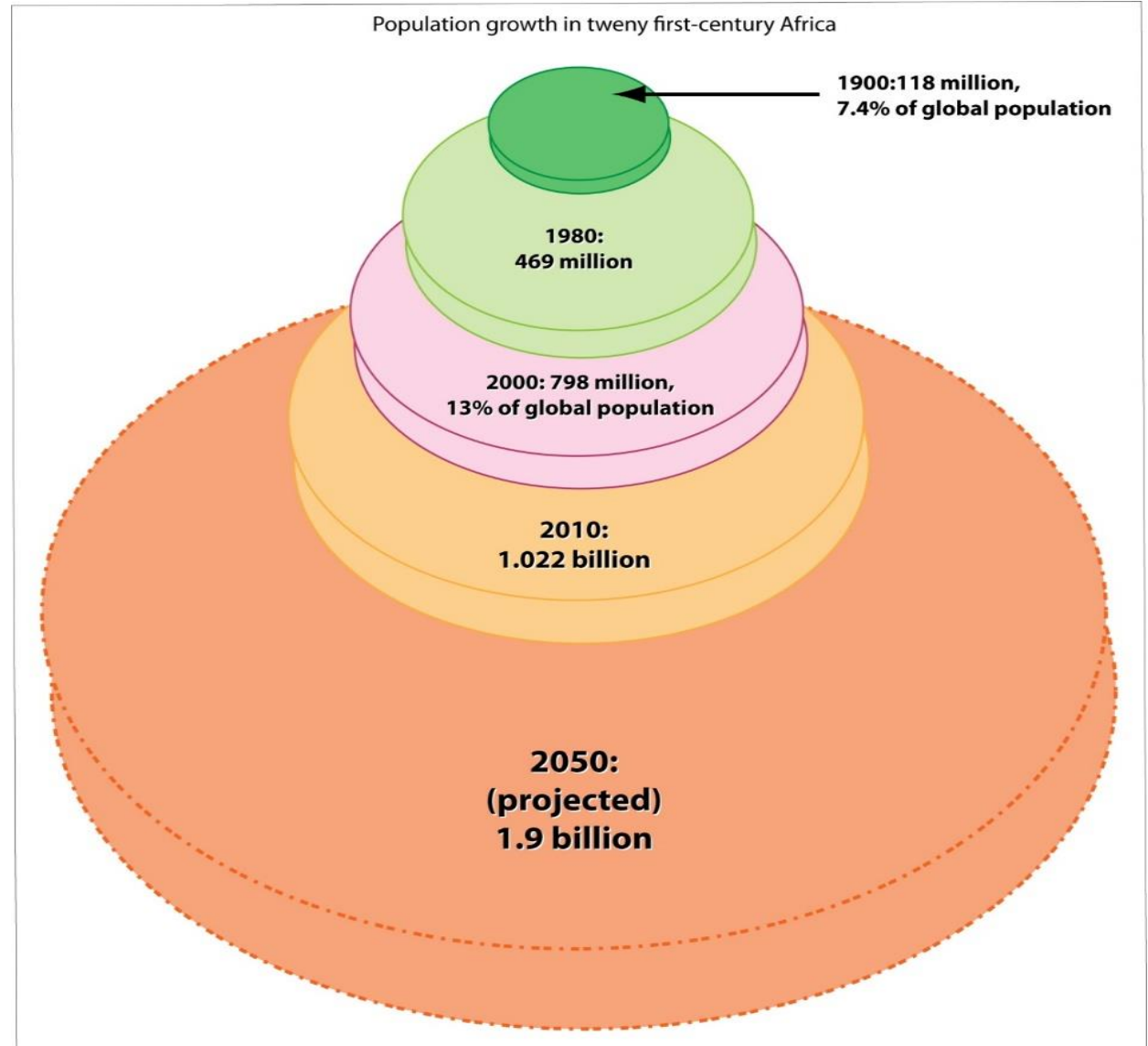
23% of all deaths in Africa linked to environment factors

- Traditional Emergencies
 - Unsafe water
 - Poor Sanitation and hygiene
 - Inadequate waste disposal
 - Environmental mismanagement and Natural Disasters
 - Indoor and ambient pollution
- Emerging Emergencies
 - Improper use and management of toxic chemicals
 - Hazardous waste including Electronic waste
 - Climate change triggering emerging and re-emerging diseases

POPULATION AND ENVIRONMENT RESOURCES

Population growth in Africa means the region will have to look more at its environmental resources to drive and sustain development

Demographic dividend can be an asset or a serious challenge to development



HOW THE REST OF WORLD PERCEIVES AFRICA

For too long, Africa has been characterized and perceived as the dark continent, land of poverty, diseases, backwardness, a place of conflicts and dictators dependent on foreign aid, and it certainly doesn't reflect the economic dynamism and social change taking place in Africa today. With seven of the top 10 fastest growing economies in the world, Africa's growth has been driven by young people who are brimming with talent and energy.

This characterization of Africa is not too different from what we heard about Brazil, India and even China not too long ago. Today these nations have become power houses and the narrative of these countries is changing. People describe them as BRICs countries, others say that they are emerging markets.

This is the narrative we want to hear for all African countries. This is the characterization UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres want to see for Africa. You may recall that addressing an open debate of the council in New York on 19 July 2017 he said, "The international Community needs to change the narrative about Africa to establish a higher platform of cooperation that recognizes its enormous potential and promise".

The economic transformation of Africa is possible through leveraging on the biggest resource that we have, this exiting demographic structure with Africa populated by people who are below the age of 40 years. Of course this huge demographic dividend needs to be well managed and well channeled to avoid a demographic disaster.

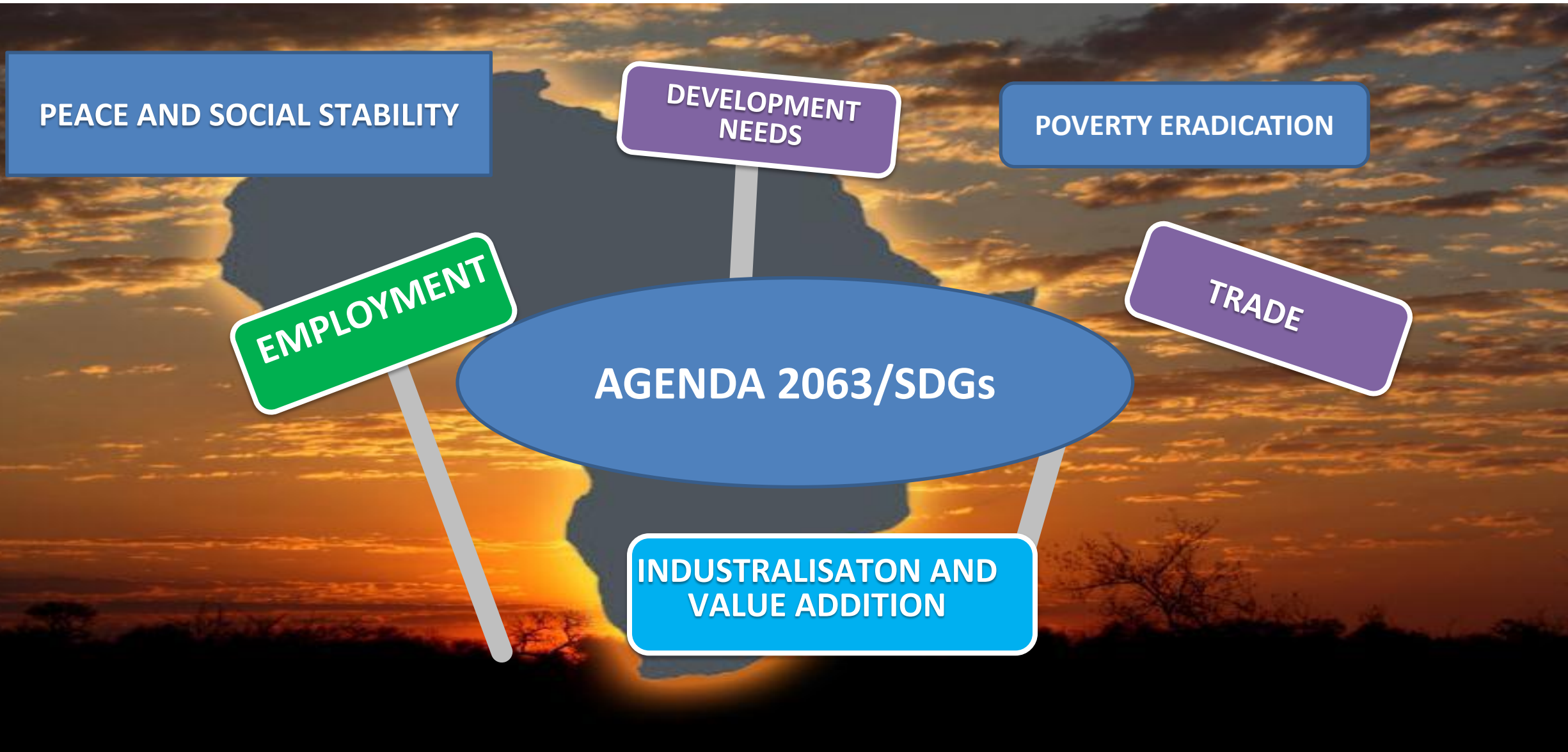
WHAT ARE AFRICA'S PRIORITIES?

Valuation of Africa's natural capital. This encompasses:

- Governance of natural resources
- Energy
- Industrialization: No country in the world has achieved its transition without industries
- Employment

Focusing on this major priorities will contribute to poverty eradication, peace and stability and the well being of African nations and both Agenda 2030 and 2063 provide good frameworks for that.

WHAT ARE AFRICA'S PRIORITIES?



WHAT ARE AFRICA'S ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT BARRIERS

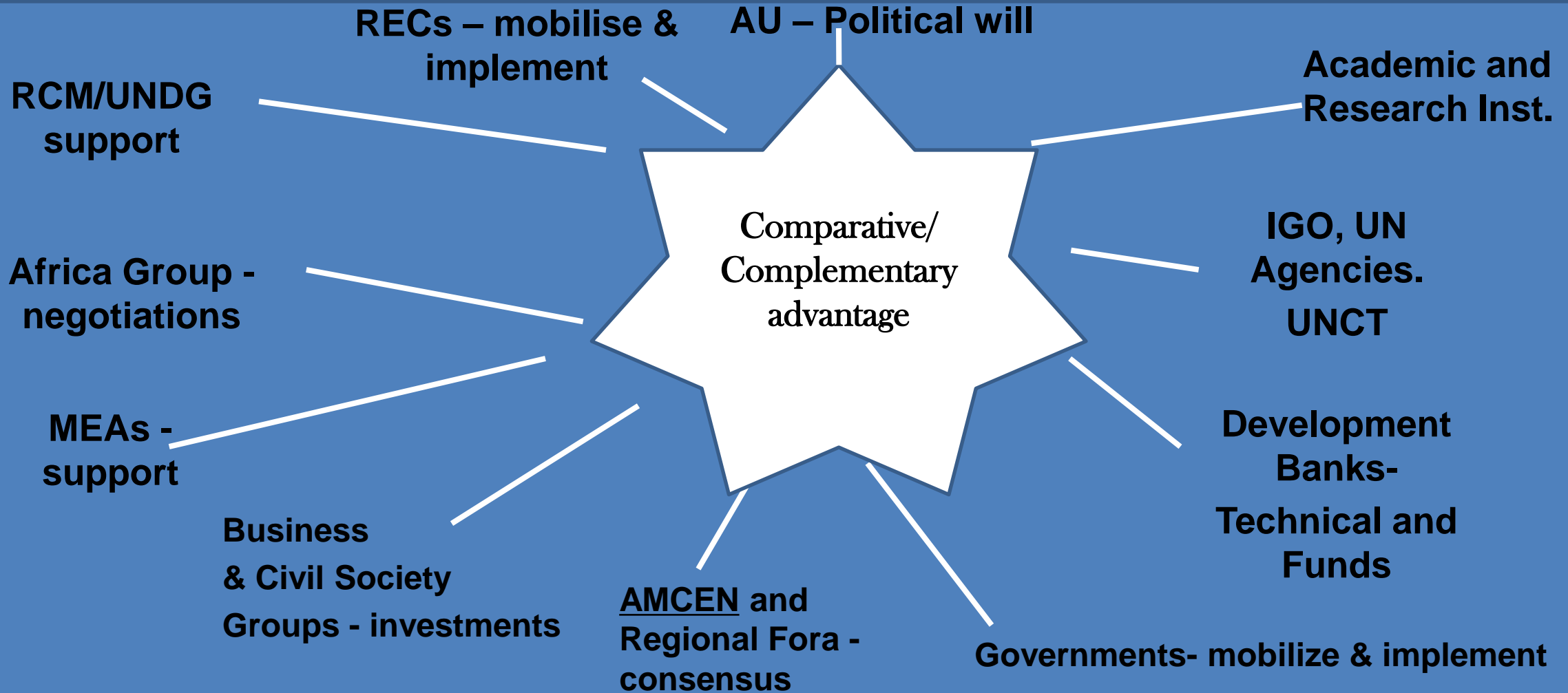
- Environment still a footnote in the development agenda
- Weak capacity to implement: ineffective governance, corruption, financing, information, planning, technical knowledge, enforcement, coordination and cooperation,
- Low environmental awareness - public and decision-makers on socio-economic changes and impacts of activities
- Threats posed by transboundary issues:, conflicts, migration, pollution, illegal trade, shared resources (water, mountains, minerals)

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE IN AFRICA

- Most of Africa solutions are through improving governance systems:
 - ❑ policies, laws, programmes, tools and strategies: there is good progress
 - ❑ Investing in innovation to catalyze internal growth: a lot of creatively is still needed
 - ❑ Regional bodies and programmes strengthened: from AU, to banks, REC, global and regional MEAs =



CAN AFRICA DELIVER ITS DEVELOPMENT AGENDA?



ROLE OF UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME IN AFRICA



- Supporting policy development and programme implementation
- Providing scientific evidence to back policy
- Secretariat to AMCEN – helping in consensus building
- Linking the global environment agenda including MEAs to regional priorities
- Integrating environment in the UN system and regional bodies, AU, RECs, development banks, private sector , civil society

HOW DO WE MOVE FORWARD?

- **INTERNAL TO AFRICA**

- Moving environment from a **footnote to headnote**: repositioning Africa to use environment as a tool of development and reversing environmental loss
- ✓ Investing in **innovations**, value addition chains to eliminate poverty, wealth creation, employment
- ✓ improving **internal ability to govern** our resources - internal ability to manage, stop illicit, corruption, technology, enforcement, information, research
- **Strengthening coordination** in national, regional and global discussions and using regional institutions such as AMCEN – a powerful tool for environment diplomacy and influencing the world



HOW DO WE MOVE FORWARD?

• WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD

- ✓ Influencing global policy to support Africa's development needs = MEAs and SDGs
- ✓ Ensuring unresolved old issues are maintained on the global agenda: financial and technology support
- ✓ Bridging commitments and effective implementation
- Focus on strategic entry points e.g. natural capital gateway to:
 - ✓ reduce and eliminate illicit loses
 - ✓ improve internal ability to contribute and influence the global agenda
 - ✓ Enhance our active engagement
 - ✓ Demand a level playing field
- Be benefit oriented – the world needs us more than we need them

