



# Old Problems, New Crises: Advancing Development in the Forest Areas of Large Tropical Countries

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International Regime, Avoid Deforestation and the  
Evolution of the Public and Private Forest Policies in the  
South

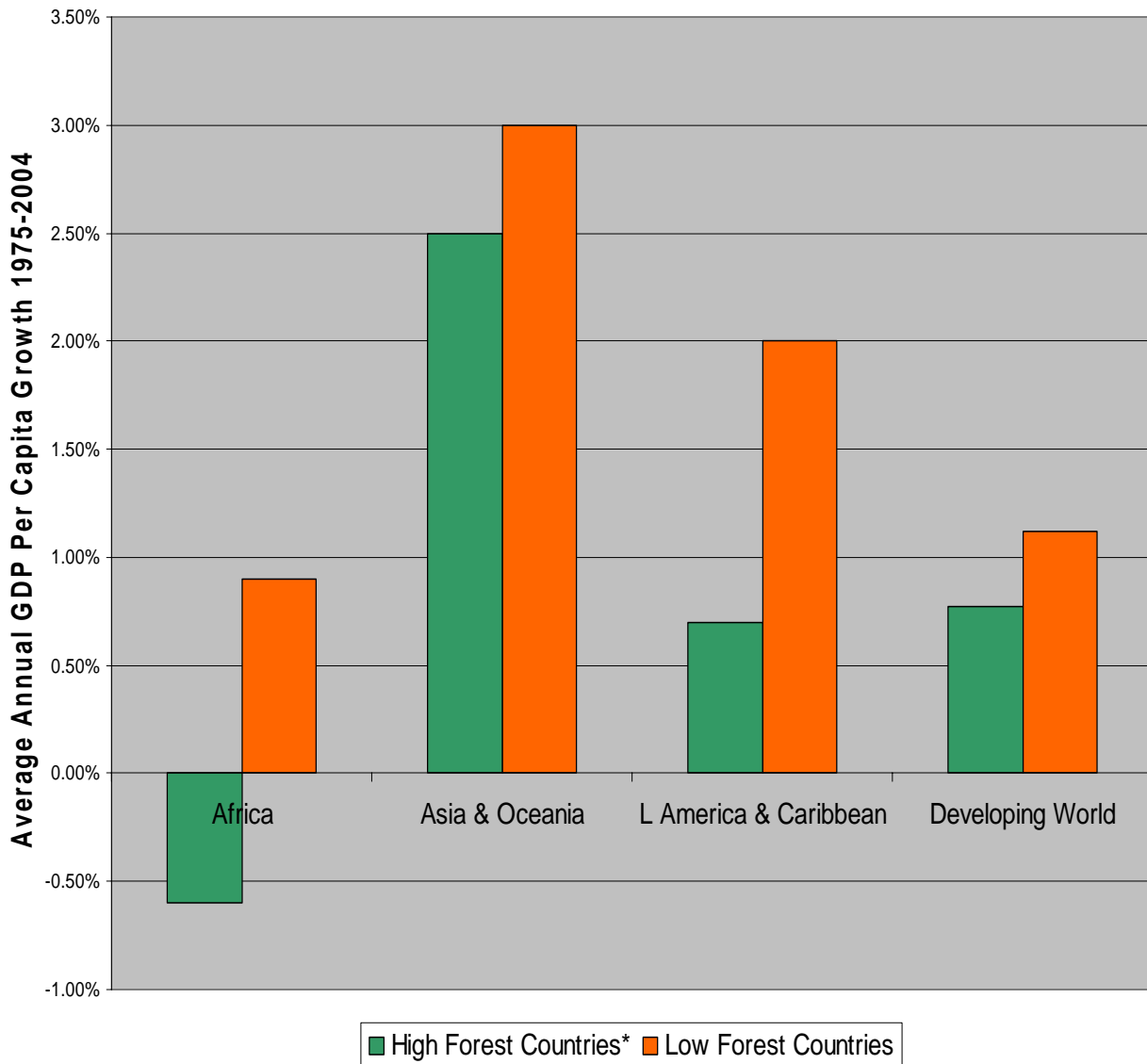
Paris, 21 November 2007





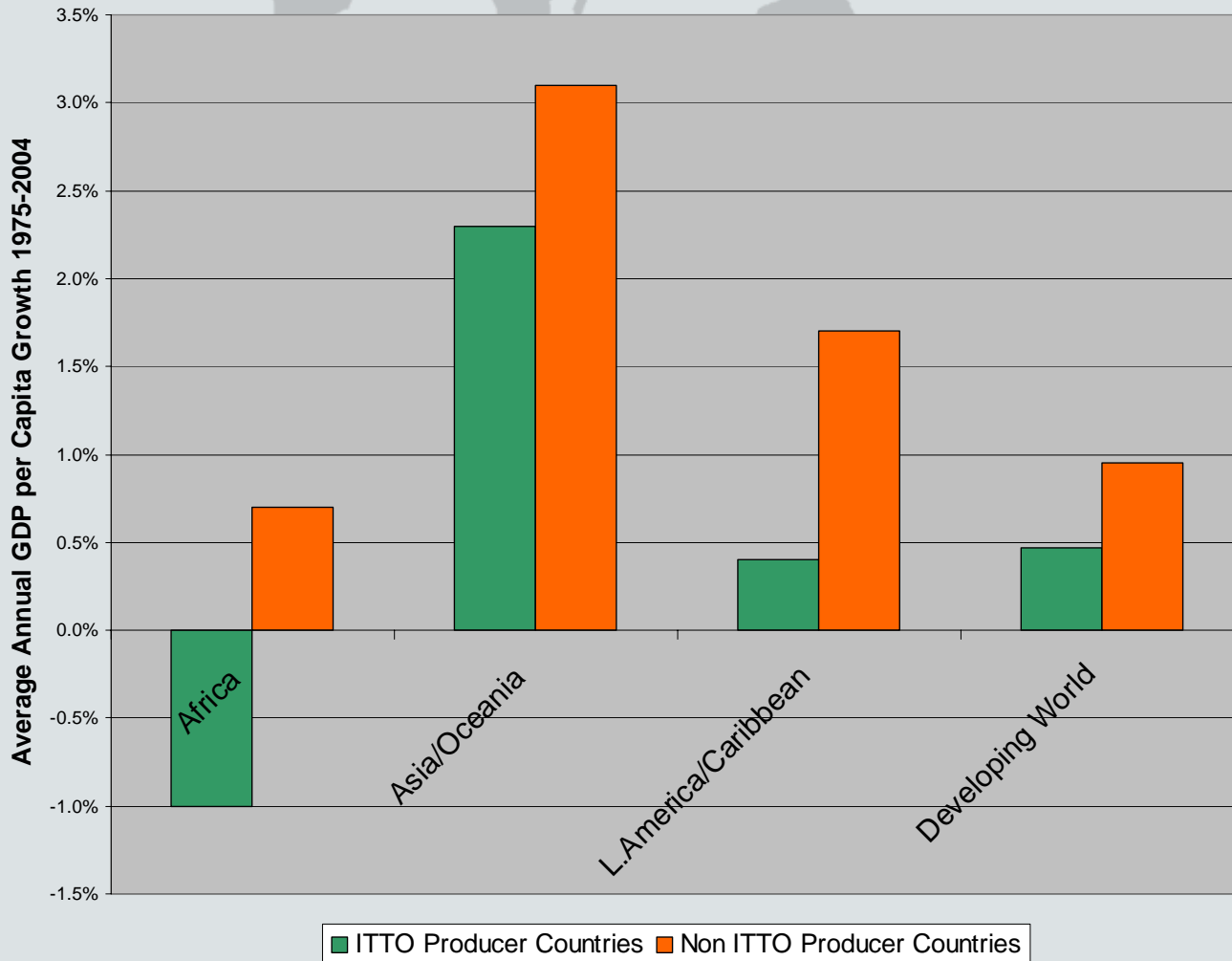
- 1. Old Problems**
  - Poverty, slow/no economic growth
  - Poor governance
  - Conflict
- 2. Transitions underway**
- 3. Forces shaping options to deal with new crises (climate and water)**
- 4. Some thoughts on implications and**

# “Bottom Billion” - Resource Curse?



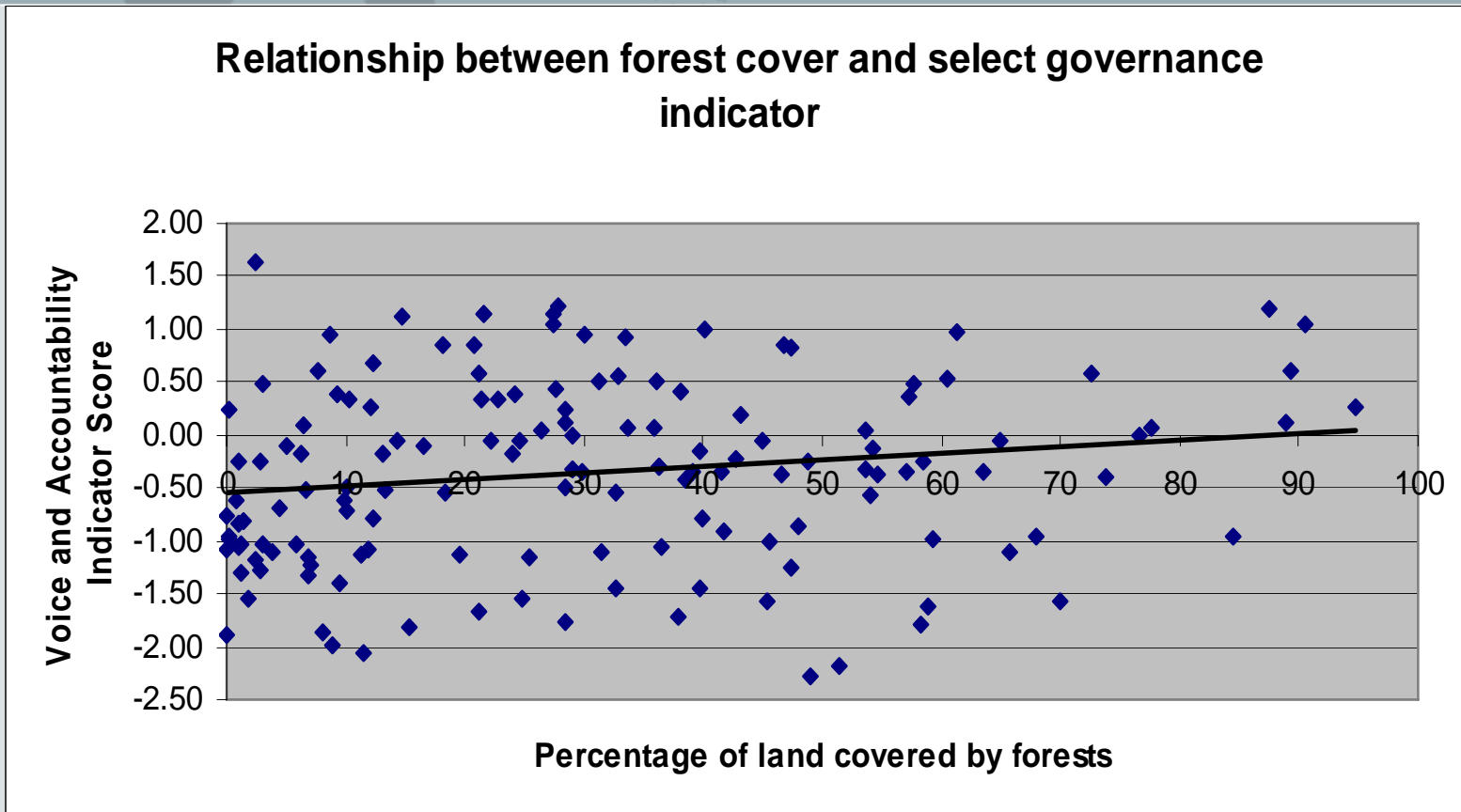
- extensive, chronic, poverty in forest areas
- “growth” located in urban, coastal areas
- “bottom billion” – 58 countries “falling apart and falling behind” (P. Collier '07)
- ½ “bottom billion” are forest rich

# Economic Growth: ITTO Producer Countries and Rest of Developing World



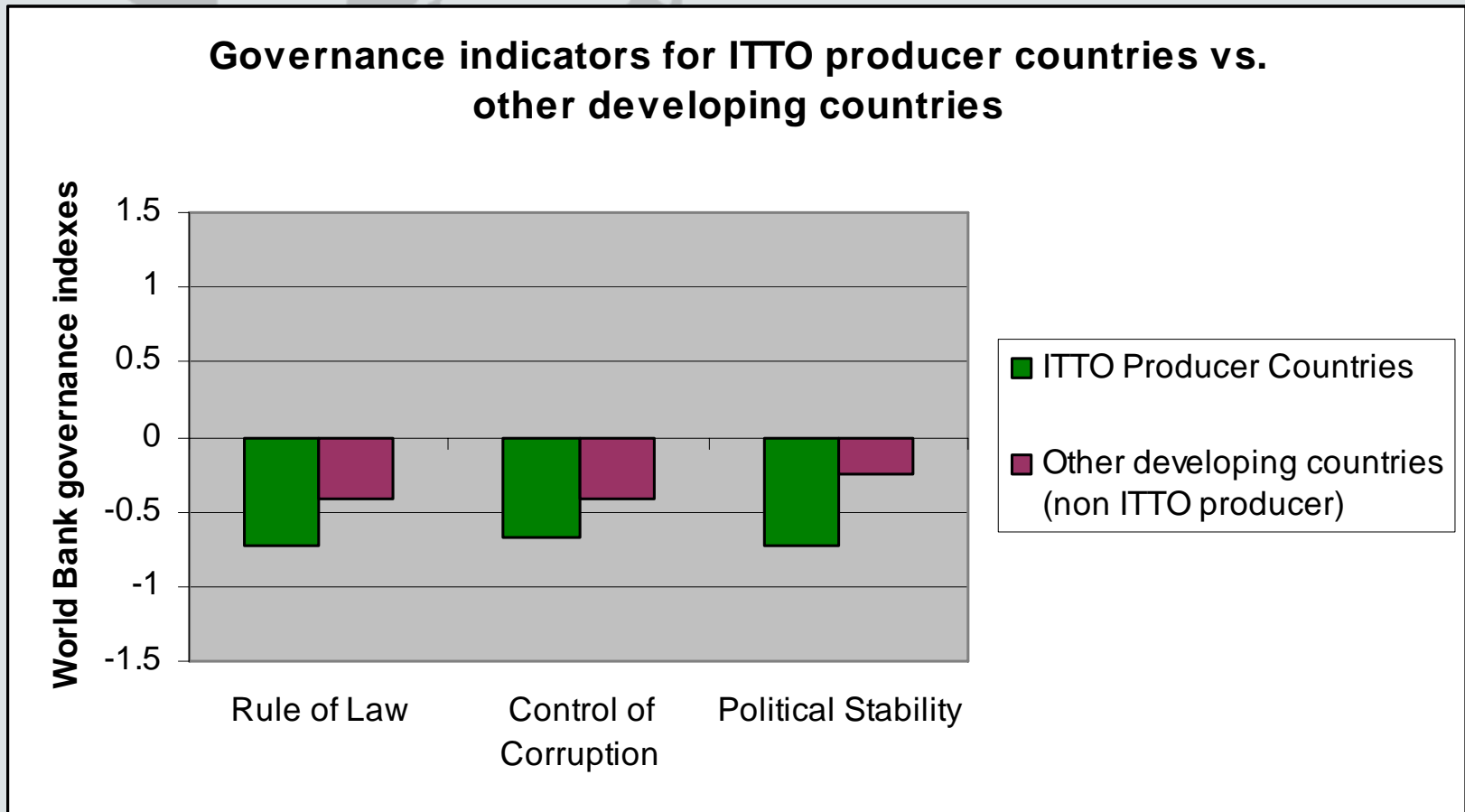
- ITTO producers fared significantly worse – why?
- Key message: many/most large tropical forest countries economically stuck

# Relationship Between Forest Cover and Governance



No conclusive correlation between the forest cover in a country and its score on a governance indicator. Source: World Bank “Governance Matters” 2007. This dataset includes indicators for 6 dimensions of governance: Voice and Accountability, Political Stability, Government Effectiveness, Regulatory Quality, Rule of Law, and Control of Corruption.

# Governance: ITTO Countries vs. Other Developing Countries



The ITTO producer countries score lower in all categories, and for the 3 represented above, this difference is statistically significant (.05 double tailed t-test). This tends to show that it is not merely the presence of forest, but of a large export-oriented forest industry that is correlated to poor governance performances.

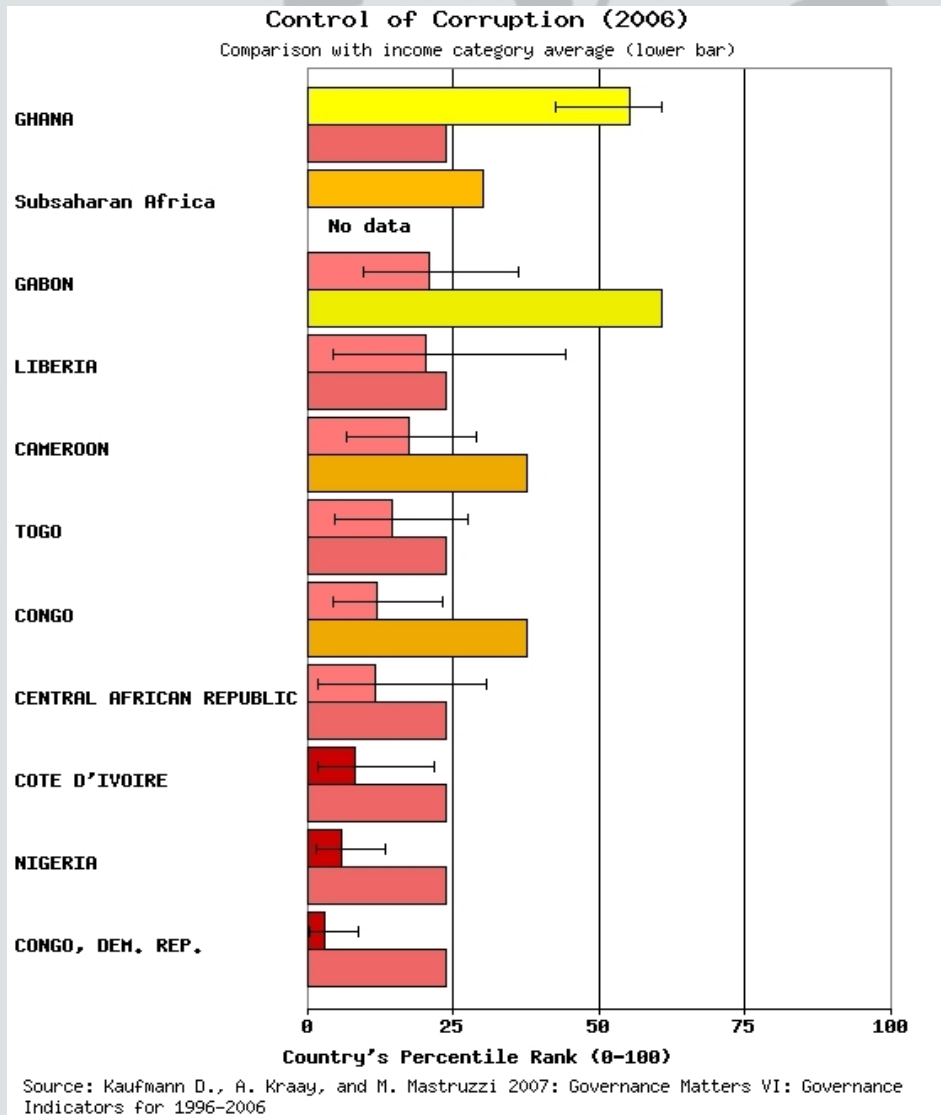
# What has trade wrought?

ITTO producer countries under-perform on governance indicators when compared to countries with similar income levels:

Among the 33 ITTO producer countries:

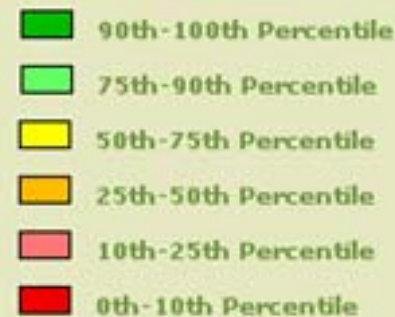
- 27 (81%) are more prone to political instability than countries with similar income levels.
- 72% of them have lower respect for the rule of law than countries in the same income category.
- 70% of them have a higher corruption rate than countries within the same GDP range.

# Control of Corruption: Africa



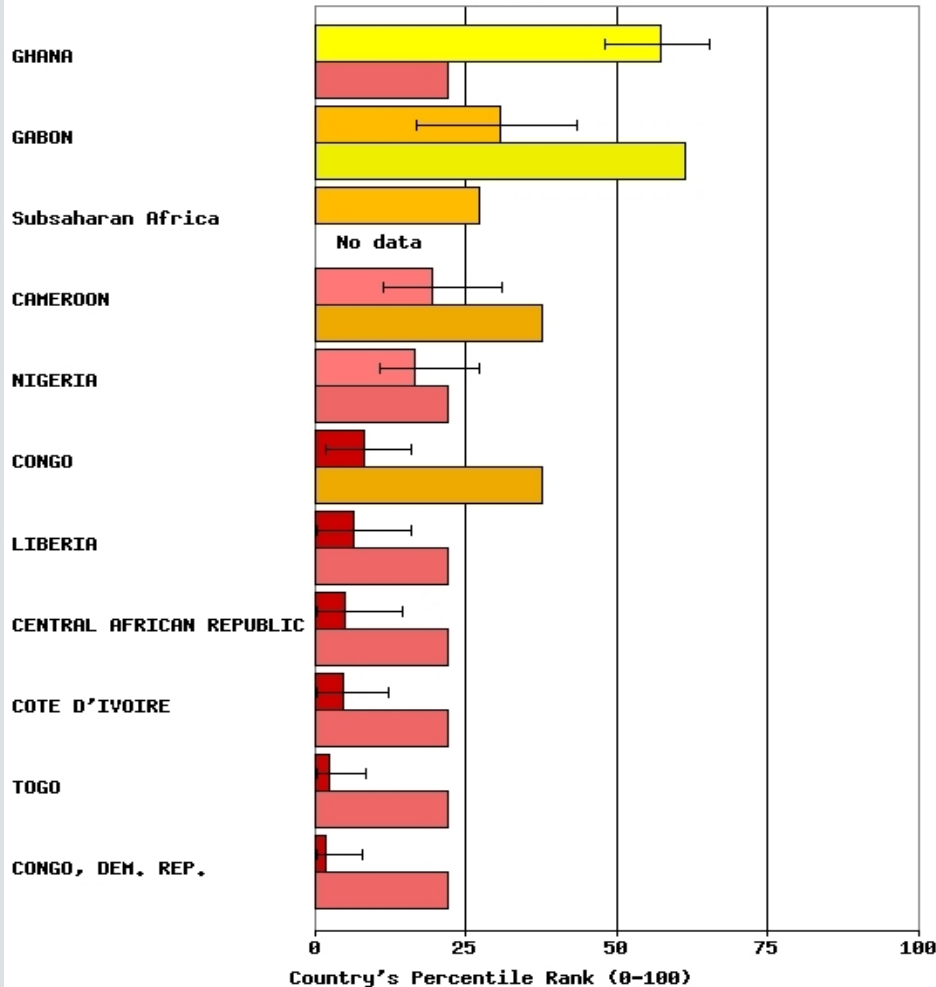
For ITTO producer countries in Africa, the **Control of Corruption** is lower than the regional average (Sub-Saharan Africa), except for Ghana.

Each country is also compared to the income category average, and once again, except for Ghana, they all score lower than countries with similar income.



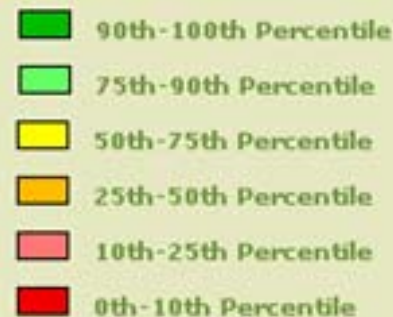
# Government Effectiveness: Africa

Government Effectiveness (2006)  
Comparison with income category average (Lower bar)

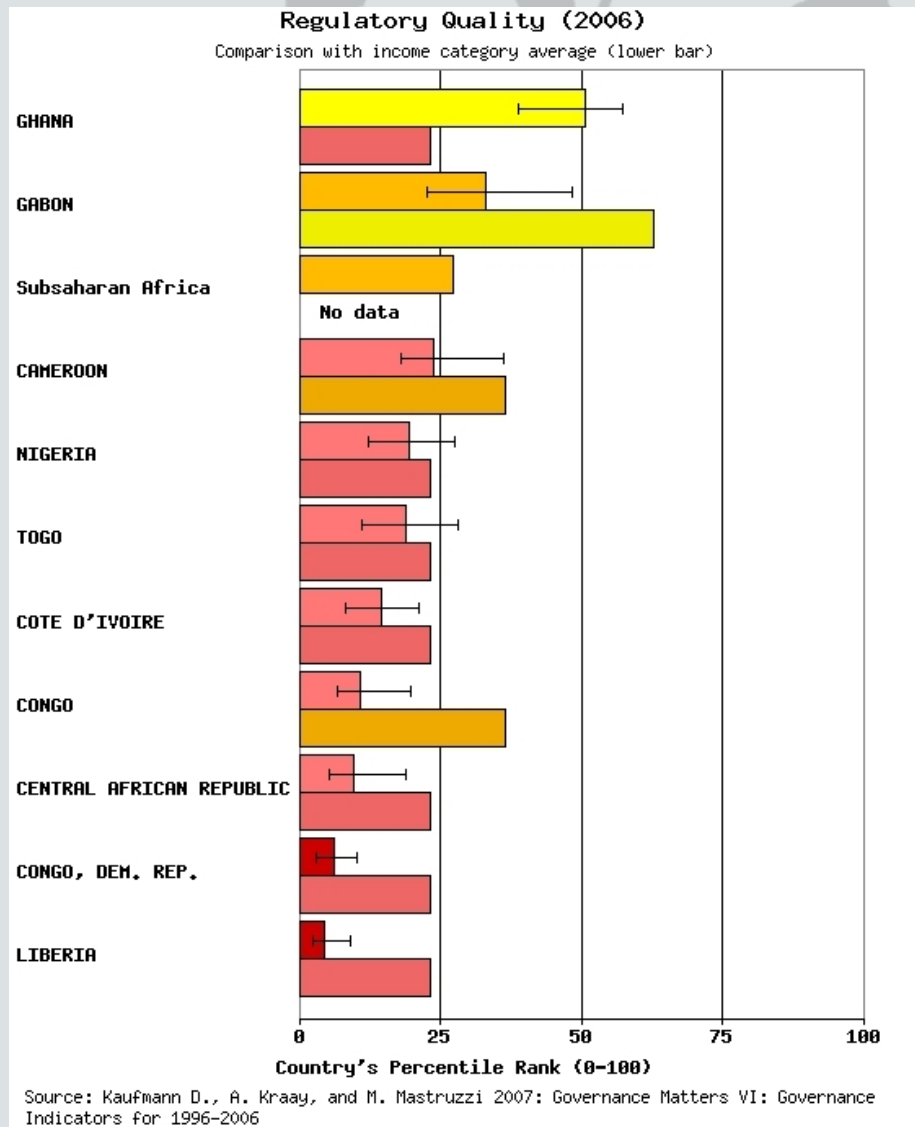


Source: Kaufmann D., A. Kraay, and M. Mastruzzi 2007: Governance Matters VI: Governance Indicators for 1996-2006

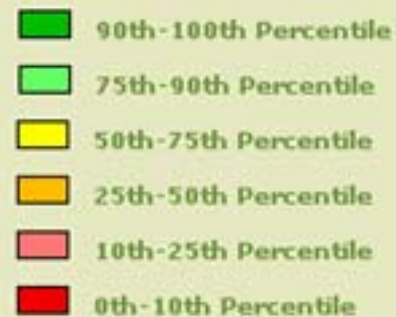
The same trend can be observed for **Government Effectiveness**. African ITTO producer countries governments are less effective than the average African countries, and less effective than countries with the same level of income worldwide, so income level is not an explanation for this lack of governance. Ghana is the only exception overall. Gabon is above the regional average, but well below what its level of income would suggest.



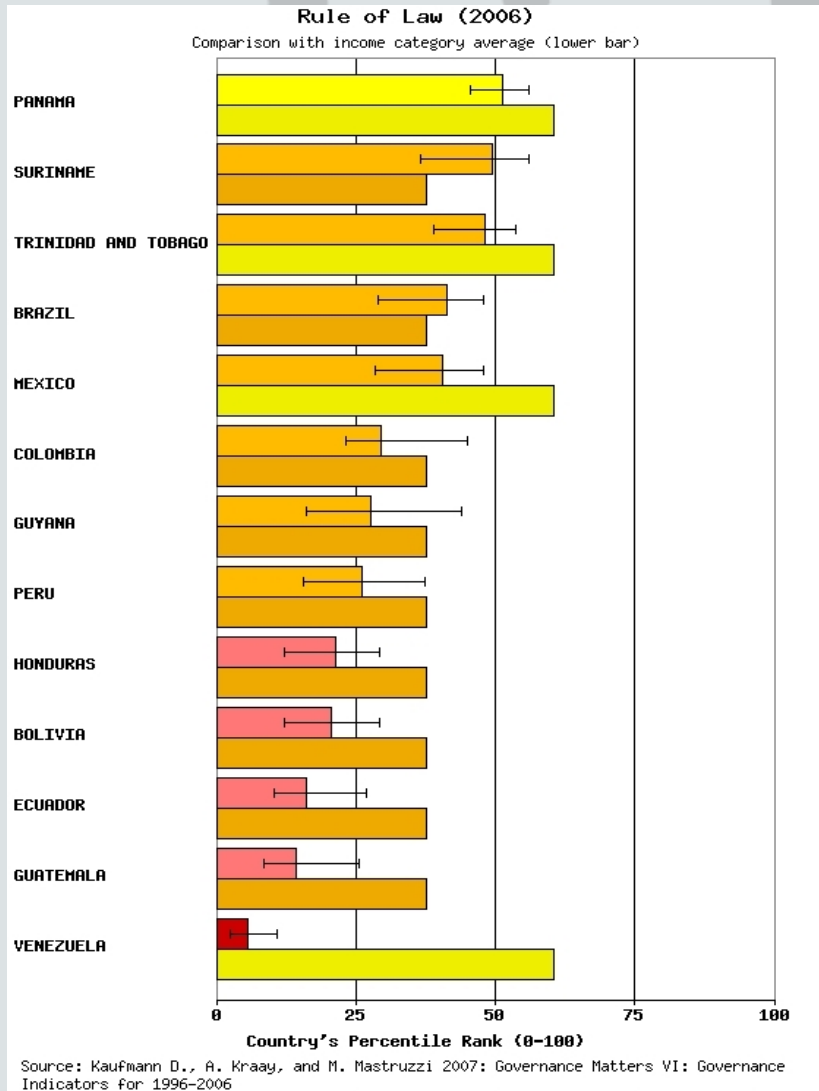
# Regulatory Quality: Africa



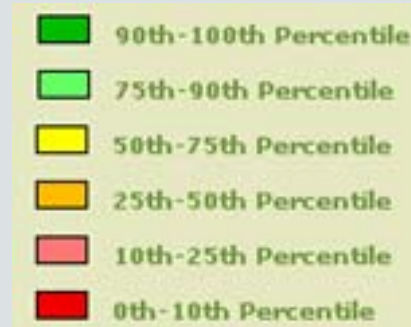
The exact same findings appear for Regulatory Quality



# Rule of Law: Latin America



**Rule of Law** indicator: Suriname and Brazil are the only ITTO producer countries with a better rule of law than other countries in their income category. All 10 other countries with export-oriented forest industry rank below other countries within the same income bracket.



# Forests in conflict zones since 1990

(Doris Capistrano, Ruben de Koning, Yurdi Yasmi (CIFOR))

Continent	Sq km of forest threatened (x 1000)	Population threatened (x 1.000.000)
Africa	1.300	52
Latin America	504	13
South/ Southeast Asia	521	63
Europe/ Central Asia/ N America	104	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.429</b>	<b>127</b>

- 9% of all forest, 20 % of forest in the tropics threatened, spread over 29 countries.

- Most threatened forest in Africa, most of 127 million forest dwellers potentially affected live in Asia.

- Good news: armed conflicts are declining.
- Bad news: human rights violations continue at the same rate.

## But where does the forest come in?

# Role of the forest and forest rights

- In 25 out of 29 countries with considerable overlap, the forest played a role.
- In 15 of 25 forest was used as cover (Sierra Leone, Myanmar).
- In 7 of 15 armed groups used forest for finance (Liberia, Cambodia).
- In 9 out of 25 countries disputed forest access/ownership added to grievances that motivated armed conflict, almost 40% (Philippines, Mexico).
- Equally, disputed tenure underlies about 40 % of localised low intensity forest related conflicts (118 Cases across the globe).
- Localised conflicts scale up (Indonesia/Kalimantan) and get tied up in war (Ivory Coast). Civil war leaves messy tenure situation and many local conflicts (Cambodia).

## So what to do about it?

# Transitions in Tenure Underway

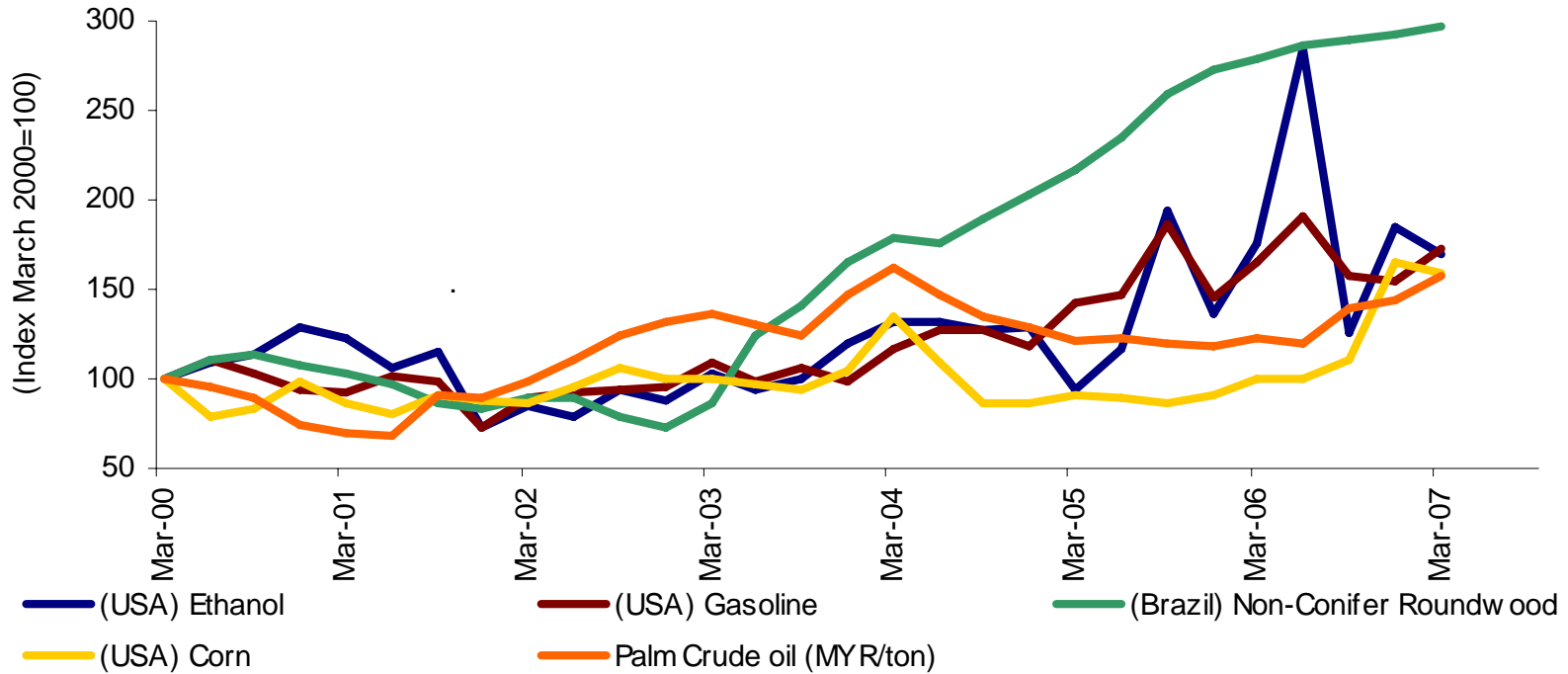
Examples of major tenure shifts underway (2006-2007):

- China – collective forest reform, starting to reform public forests - priority of new Minister (SFA)
- Brazil – new law, regulations and agency
- Indonesia – devolving 3-6 million hectares of degraded forests to communities
- India – Tribal forest rights Act enacted
- Russia – devolving 100 million hectares to concessions – private?
- Canada – increasing access by indigenous and other communities
- Struggles not unlike those in “developed” countries – rationalizing the public domain, clarifying household, community property rights

# Rights and Reforms In Tropical Forest Countries: Findings from RRI Global Scoping

- Hundreds of millions of people in forest areas, vast majority have weak tenure rights, human, civil rights, many not citizens, politically marginalized
- Continued cultural loss, abuse, lack of respect of international human rights law to respect rights for Indigenous Peoples to **'Own, control, use and peacefully enjoy their lands, territories and other resources'**
- Human, civil, gender rights closely linked to inability of many people to achieve tenure security.
- Where Indigenous reserves or territories established incomplete reform has created a new "open access"
- Environmental regulations govern access and use and many customary uses are still "illegal", development controlled by an environmental agency
- Cost of complying with regulation often beyond outside the reach of recognized owners--not eliminating poverty
- Conservation and ecosystem service models (and now REDD) are promoting arrangements at scale and focused on government or private sector: huge challenge of "connecting"

# Key Forces Shaping Future: (1) Increasing Pressure on Forest Lands



- Demand for all energy and all commodities booming – limited land for all (food, fuel, fibre) ~ 300 million hectares
- 90% of global food production shifting to developing countries (IIASA)

# Key Forces Shaping Future: (2) Social and Political Movements



Source: Economist; iAfrica

1. Declining relative authority of central governments – towards local, mega-cities, religious/ethnic movements
  2. Empowered civil society, increased access: information, transparency, cell phone more empowering than the plow
- Continued poverty: more pain, more peril; poverty will persist, particularly in remote areas
  - Continued threat and changing nature of violent conflict, risk that fear of “terrorism” will reduce (or reverse) spread of civil and property rights

# In Sum: Four Emerging Findings



1. We're not equipped to deal with past problems, much less current crises
2. It's urgent. Future quickly getting more challenging
3. Centrality of recognition of rights, establishment of democratic processes and laying basic conditions for development; and
4. Rethink what "development" is doing:
  1. Focus on development in forest areas not on forests;
  2. Reconsider the industrial-export oriented model – not delivering growth, equity, governance or rights
  3. Establish rights and democratic processes – conservation, REDD etc. along with and part of that process
  4. Get beyond "the forest sector" – engage ministries that will shape the future (land energy trade military)

# Build on, strengthen, what's working



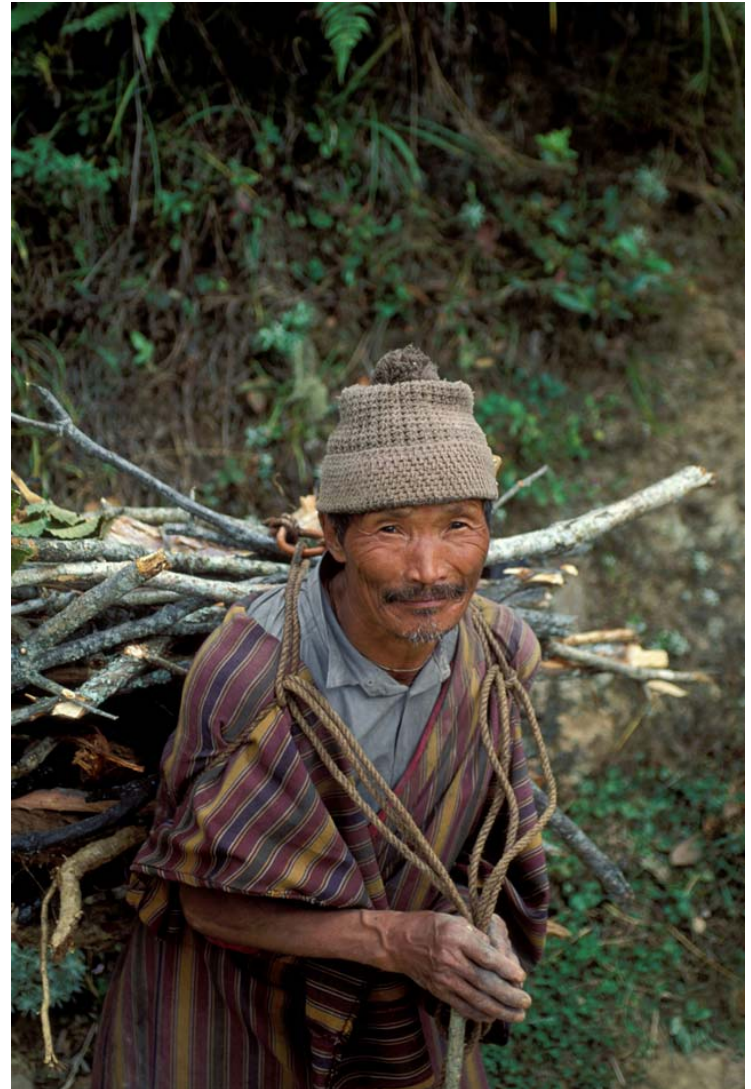
1. Civil society is growing in strength and capacity
2. (Some) governments are increasingly open to reforms
3. Increasing market opportunity for small-scale enterprises – leading to Growth
4. (Some) conservation organizations are considering human rights and rethinking
5. New development approaches emerging

- *Rights and democratic governance – not only **moral imperative** but **social and economic, and ecological imperative***

- *Situation never so daunting, opportunity for a dramatic difference*

# What to do? (Urgently)

- **Set in motion new thinking and institutional reforms by:**
  - Exchanges
  - Capacity building
  - Dialogues
  - Studies
    - Institutions
    - Markets
- **Assist implementation by establishing mechanisms for**
  - Transparency (e.g. EITI)
  - Mapping/Arbitration
  - Market knowledge, business models
- **Review/revise international trade and aid**





# Thank You

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