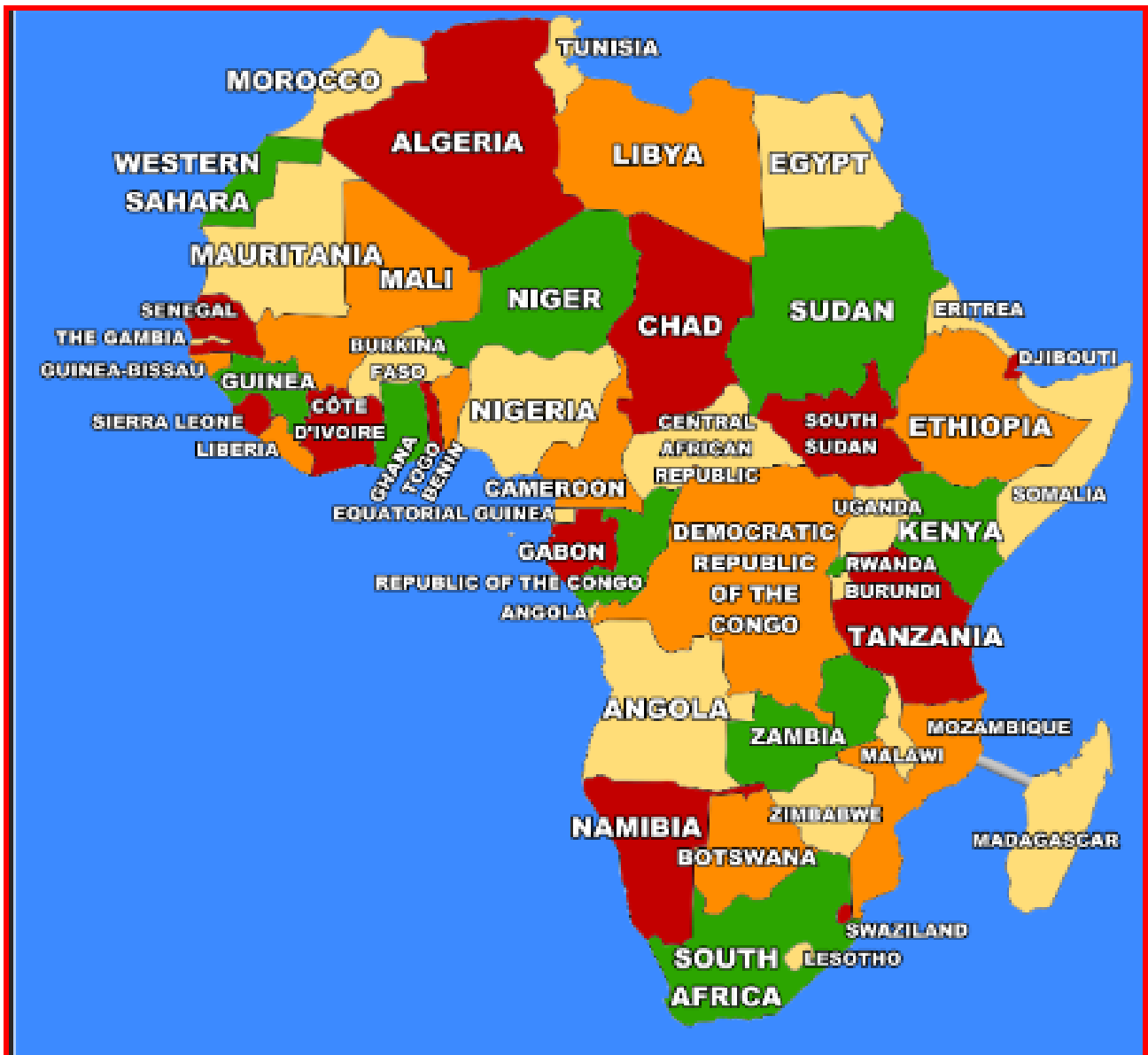


Africa through Maps

March 31, 2024



Notes: 1. **Seychelles** is an island country and archipelagic state consisting of 115 islands in the **Indian Ocean**. Its capital and largest city, **Victoria**, is 1,500 Km (800 nautical miles) east of mainland Africa. Nearby island countries and territories include: to the south: the **Comoros**, **Madagascar**, **Mauritius**, and the **French overseas departments of Mayotte and Réunion**; and to the east: **Maldives** and the **Chagos Archipelago (administered by the United Kingdom as the British Indian Ocean Territory)**. Seychelles is the smallest country in Africa as well as the

least populated sovereign African country, with an estimated population of 100,600 in 2022.

2. *The Portuguese-speaking island nation of **São Tomé and Príncipe** is not seen in the map. It is located between Bioko and Annobón.*

3. The **Union of Comoros** is an island country off the East coast of Africa.

4. **Mauritius** is an island country in the **Indian Ocean**, about 2,000 Km (1,100 nautical miles) off the SouthEastern coast of East Africa, East of **Madagascar**. It includes the **main island** (also called **Mauritius**), as well as **Rodrigues, Agaléga,** and **St. Brandon** (Cargados Carajos shoals). The island of **Mauritius** along with nearby **Réunion (a French overseas department)**, are part of the *Mascarene Islands*. The main island of **Mauritius**, where the population is concentrated, hosts the *capital and largest city*, **Port Louis**. The country spans 2,040 Km² and has an exclusive economic zone covering 2,300,000 Km².

5. **Cabo Verde** - is not seen in the above map. It is a cluster of ten islands (nine inhabited) and eight islets. The largest island, both in size and population, is **Santiago**, which hosts the **nation's capital, Praia**, the principal urban agglomeration in the archipelago. It is about 570 Km off the coast of Senegal.

6. **The Gambia** is shown as a small yellow sliver of land, surrounded on three sides by Senegal (red color).

7. **Eswatini** (formerly called *Swaziland*) is a land-locked country in Southern Africa, shown in red color, with **Mozambique** (in the East and shown in saffron color) and surrounded on all the remaining sides by **South Africa** (shown in green color).

8. **Djibouti** is a country on the **Gulf of Aden** in East Africa, shown in red color, with **Somalia** in the East (shown in yellow), **Ethiopia** (shown in saffron color) and **Eritrea** (shown in yellow color).

9. **Rwanda** is a land-locked country in East Africa, shown in green color, with boundaries with **Tanzania** (shown in red color), **Burundi** (shown in yellow color), **Democratic Republic of the Congo** (shown in saffron color), Uganda (shown in yellow color), and **Kenya** (shown in green color).

10. **Burundi** is a land-locked country in East Africa, shown in yellow color, with boundaries with **Tanzania** (shown in red color), **Democratic Republic of the Congo** (shown in saffron color) and **Rwanda** (shown in green color).

11. **Equatorial Guinea** consists of two parts, an insular and a mainland region. The insular region, consisting of Bioko (in the NorthWest of the mainland part, off the coast of Africa, in the Atlantic) and *Annobón* (in the SouthWest of the mainland part, off the coast of Africa, in the Atlantic) is not seen in the map.

12. **Lesotho** is a land-locked country in Southern Africa, shown in yellow color, surrounded on all sides by **South Africa** (shown in green color).

13. **Guinea -Bissau** is a country in West Africa, shown in saffron color, below **Senegal** (shown in red color) and **Guinea** (shown in green color).

(Reference: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_African_countries_by_area)

----1. Maps of Seychelles ----

The Republic of Seychelles is an island country and archipelagic state consisting of 115 islands in the Indian Ocean. Its capital and largest city, **Victoria**, is 1,500 Km east of mainland Africa. Nearby island countries and territories include the **Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius**, and the **French overseas departments of Mayotte and Réunion to the south**; and **Maldives** and the **Chagos Archipelago (administered by the United Kingdom as the British Indian Ocean Territory) to the east**.

Seychelles is the **smallest country in Africa** as well as **the least populated sovereign African country**, with an estimated population of 100,600 in 2022.

Seychelles is a member of the United Nations, the African Union, the Indian Ocean Commission, La Francophonie, the **Southern African Development Community (SADC)** and the Commonwealth of Nations.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS: Seychelles is divided into 26 administrative regions comprising all of the inner islands. Eight of the districts make up the capital of Seychelles and are referred to as **Greater Victoria**. Another 14 districts are considered the rural part of the main island of Mahé with two districts on Praslin and one on La Digue which also includes respective satellite islands. The rest of the Outer Islands (Îles Eloignées) constitute the last district.



The Southern African Development Community (SADC) <https://www.sadc.int/>

SADC is a Regional Economic Community comprising 16 Member States: **Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.**

*Note: **Eswatini**: In April 2018, the official name of the Kingdom of **Swaziland** was changed to Kingdom of Eswatini, mirroring the name commonly used in **Swazi** language.*

PRIMARY POLITICAL PARTIES: **United Seychelles (US)** (ruled for long as **Socialist People's Party (PP)**, or as the **Seychelles People's Progressive Front (SPPF)**), and, the socially liberal **Seychelles National Party (SNP)**.

The election of the National Assembly was held on 22–24 October 2020. SNP, the **Seychelles Party for Social Justice and Democracy** and the **Seychelles United Party** formed a coalition, **Linyon Demokratik Seselwa (LDS)**. LDS won 25 seats and US got 10 seats of the 35 seats of the National Assembly.

MILITARY of SEYCHELLES: Seychelles People's Defence Force consists of a number of distinct branches: an Infantry Unit and Coast Guard, Air Force and a Presidential Protection Unit.

India continues to play a key role in developing the military of Seychelles:

- India handed over two SDB Mk5 patrol vessels built by GRSE, the INS Tarasa and INS Tarmugli, to the Seychelles Coast Guard. These were subsequently renamed **PS Constant** and **PS Topaz**.
- India also gifted a Dornier 228 aircraft built by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.
- India signed a pact to develop **Assumption Island**, one of the 115 islands that make up the country. Spread over 11 Km², it is strategically located in the Indian Ocean, north of Madagascar. The island is being leased for the development of strategic assets by India.

In 2018, Seychelles signed the UN treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.



A U.S. Air Force **Rescue, Survival, Evasion, Resistance, Escape** (RSERE) specialist instructs members of the Seychelles Air Force and Seychelles Coast Guard on the care and use of survival items contained in an emergency life raft kit

Operation Observant Compass

The Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) under Joseph Kony was a destabilizing force in Central Africa for many years. U.S. military efforts in the region were part of a comprehensive U.S. government strategy to protect civilians, provide humanitarian assistance, and encourage LRA defections. U.S. Special Forces deployed from 2011 to 2017 to advise and assist the African Union Regional Task Force (AU-RTF) to defeat the LRA.



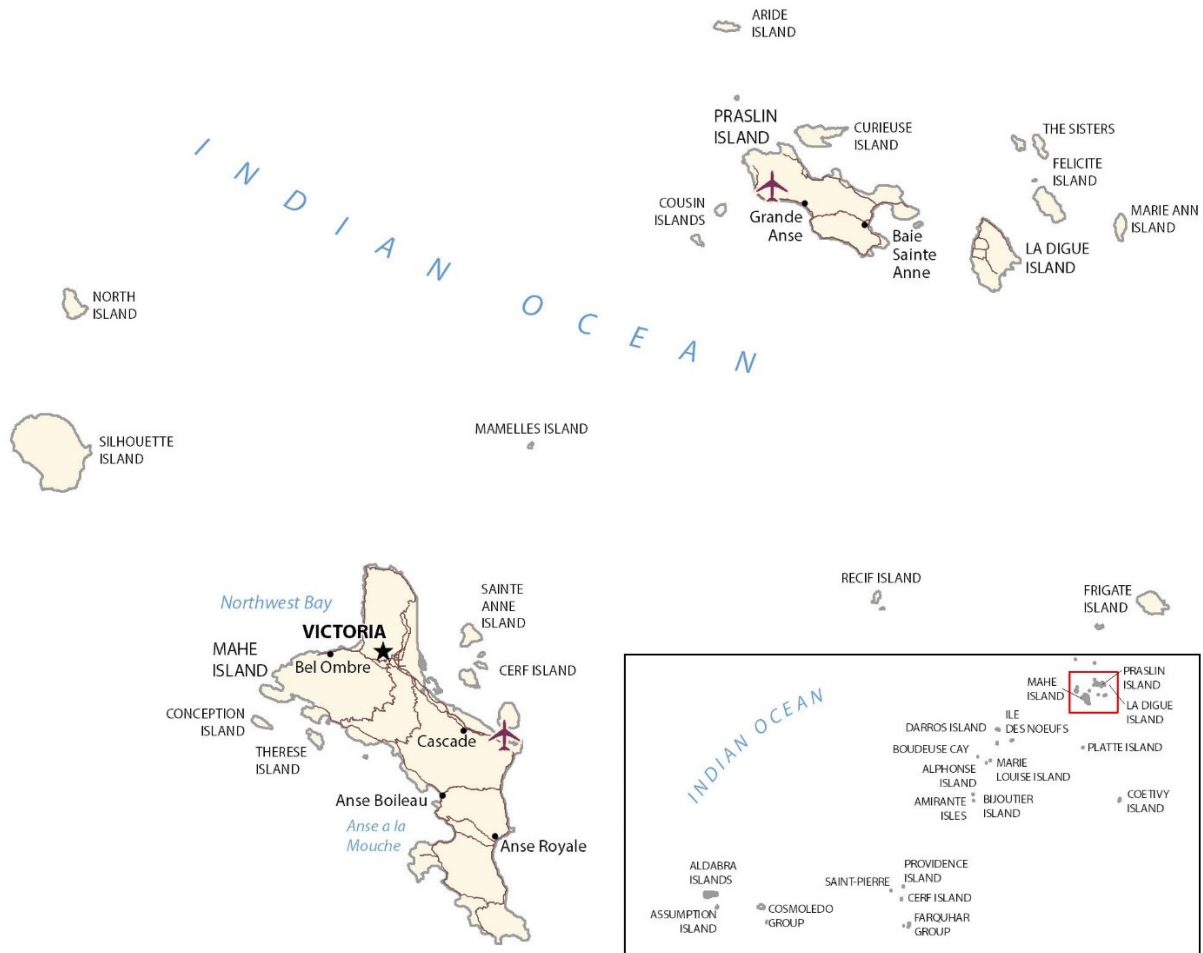
The capacity of AU-RTF forces from Uganda, South Sudan, Central African Republic and Democratic Republic of the Congo increased with the cooperation of U.S. military units (above and left)



An Anglican priest **Wavel Ramkalawan: 5th President of Seychelles**

Born: 15 March 1959; President from 26 October 2020 (2020: the 1st time the opposition won a presidential election)

Political party: Linyon Demokratik Seselwa



The Republic of Seychelles: Independence from UK: **29 June 1976**

Area: 457 Km² (181st); Population (2022 Estimate): 100,060 (200th); Density: 262.3/Km² (67th);

GDP (2023 Estimate): \$2.085 billion (186th); GDP/capita: \$20,889 (50th)

Capital and largest city: **Victoria**; Population of **Victoria**: 26,450 (2010 Estimate)

WEATHER: The climate is very humid, as the islands are small, and, is classified by the Köppen-Geiger system as a tropical rain forest. The temperature varies little throughout the year. Temperatures on Mahé vary from 24 to 30 °C, and rainfall ranges from 2,900 mm (114 in) annually at Victoria to 3,600 mm (142 in) on the mountain slopes. Precipitation levels are somewhat less on the other islands.

During the coolest months, July and August, the average low is about 24 °C. The southeast trade winds blow regularly from **May to November**, and this is the **most pleasant time of the year**. The hot months are from December to April, with higher humidity (80%), March and April being the hottest months (up to about 31 °C). **Most of the islands lie outside the cyclone belt, so high winds are rare.**

----2. Maps of 'SÃO TOMÉ and PRÍNCIPE'----

The Portuguese-speaking island nation of 'São Tomé and Príncipe' is located between the islands of

Bioko and Annobón, both belonging to Equatorial Guinea.

The country's closest neighbours are **Gabon** and **Equatorial Guinea** on the Atlantic coast of **central Africa**.

São Tomé, which is oval in shape, is larger than **Príncipe**. Only 5% of the population of the country lives in **Príncipe**. **The Equator** passes **below** the **São Tomé island**.

The capital of the country, **São Tomé city**, is situated in the NorthEastern part of **São Tomé island**. **São Tomé Príncipe** lies **about 145 Km NorthEast** of its sister island, **Príncipe**.

In the **south** and **west** of both islands, **high volcanic mountains fall precipitously to the sea**, although neither island has witnessed any volcanic activity in recent centuries. **The mountains descend gradually to small plains in the northeast**. São Tomé Peak, the highest point on the main island, rises to 6,640 feet (2,024 m) above sea level, and Príncipe Peak on the smaller island reaches 3,110 feet (948 m).

Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe

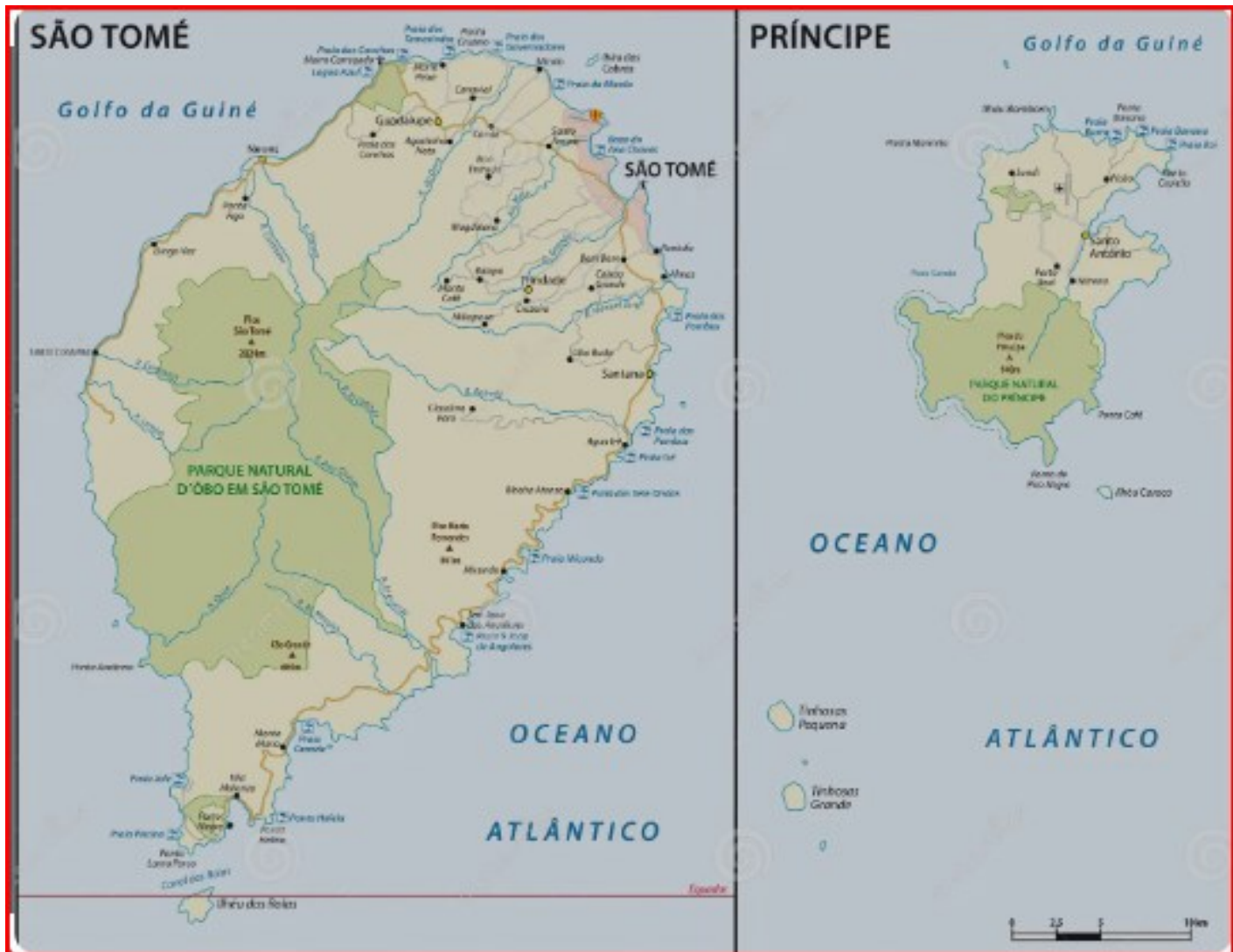


Population (2023 Estimate):0.22 Mn (175th), **Density**: 200/Km² (69th)

GDP (2023 Estimate): \$674 Mn, **GDP/capita**: \$2,904

Capital and largest city: **São Tomé** (Estd, 1493),

Population of São Tomé (2015 Estimate):72,000, **Density**: 4,200/Km²



Please see the next page for Maps of COMOROS.

----3. Maps of COMOROS----



Union of the Comoros, Independence Day: 6 July 1975

Population: 0.85 Mn, Area: 1,659 Km² (3rd smallest African country by area)

GDP (2023 Estimate): \$1.364 Bn, GDP/capita: \$1,377

Largest city, federal capital, and seat of the government of the Union of the Comoros: **Moroni** (means "at the river" in Shingazidja). Population of **Moroni** in 2003: 41,557 residents.

Union of the Comoros, an archipelagic country made up of **three major islands**, and numerous smaller islands, in SouthEastern Africa, located at the northern end of the **Mozambique Channel** in the Indian Ocean. The island of **Mayotte** is administered by France as an overseas department.

Its capital and largest city is Moroni.

The Aldabra Group is located about 360 Km north of **Madagascar**, and **belongs** to the so-called **Outer Islands of the Seychelles**.

The **Glorioso islands belong to France**.

A member state of the **African Union**, the **Organisation internationale de la Francophonie** and the **Organisation of Islamic Co-operation**. The country has three official languages: **Shikomori, French and Arabic**.

After independence, **Comoros** has experienced more than 20 coups or attempted coups, with various heads of state assassinated.

Between 2009 and 2014, about **19% of the population lived below the international poverty line** of US\$1.90 a day by purchasing power parity.



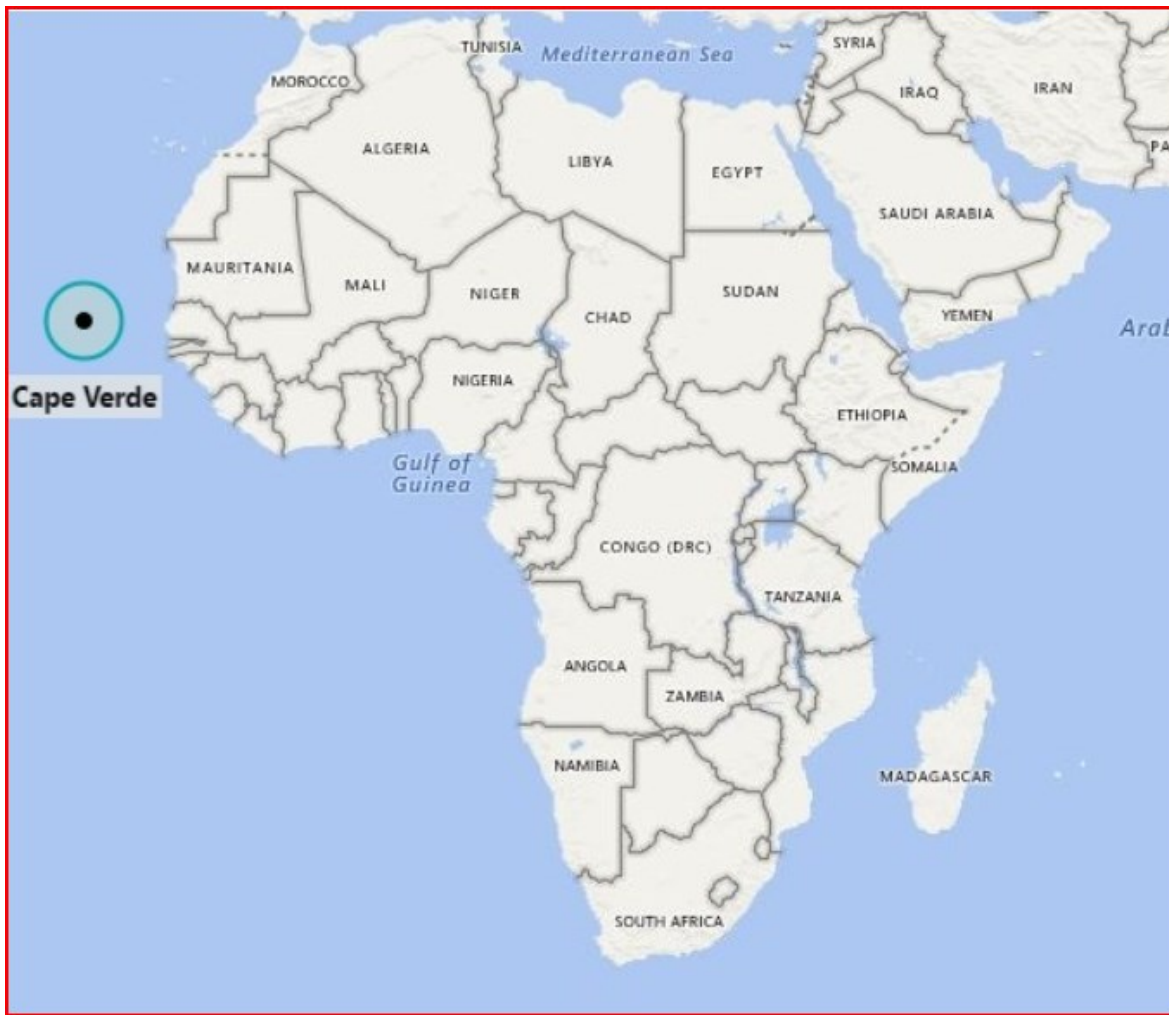
The island (White in SouthEast of the map) belongs to France.

---- 5. BACKGROUNDER on **Cabo Verde** (also called Cape Verde) ----

The **Cape Verde archipelago** is in the Atlantic Ocean, approximately 570 Km off the western coast of the African continent, **near Senegal, The Gambia, and Mauritania**. It is a **part of the Macaronesia ecoregion**.

ECONOMY: **Cape Verde** has no natural resource and the country's economy is largely depending upon **tourism**, due to its mild warm climate throughout the year

and beautiful landscapes. It is an important commercial center and a useful stopover point along major shipping routes.



Cape Verde: GDP (2023 estimate): \$2.6 Bn (181st); GDP/capita: \$4,502 (117th)
Population (2021 census): 0.562 Mn (172nd); Area: 4,033 Km² (166th); Density: 123.7/Km² (89th); Capital and largest city: **Praia on Santiago, Population: 0.159 Mn**

POLITICS: Cape Verde is a semi-presidential representative democratic republic. According to its constitution, the **President is the head of state** and is elected by popular vote for a five-year term. The **Prime Minister is the head of government** and proposes other ministers and secretaries of state. The Prime Minister is nominated by the National Assembly and appointed by the President. Members of the National Assembly are elected by popular vote for five-year terms. The two main political parties are **African Party for the Independence of Cape Verde (PAICV)** and **Movement for Democracy (MpD)**.

The foreign remittances from Cape Verde's **large diaspora** (of more than 700,000 live abroad, predominantly in Europe and USA), often referred to as the **archipelago's "eleventh island"**, make up **12 %** of the country's GDP.



GEOGRAPHY: The country is a horseshoe-shaped cluster of **ten islands (nine inhabited)** and **eight islets**. The islands are spatially divided into two groups:

- **The Barlavento Islands (windward islands):** Santo Antão, São Vicente, Santa Luzia, São Nicolau, Sal, Boa Vista; and
- **The Sotavento Islands (leeward):** Maio, **Santiago**, Fogo, Brava.

The largest island, both in size and population, is **Santiago**, which hosts the **nation's capital, Praia**, the principal urban agglomeration in the archipelago.

Three of the Cape Verde islands, **Sal, Boa Vista, and Maio**, are fairly **flat, sandy, and dry**; the others are generally rockier with more vegetation.

---- 6. BACKGROUNDER on *The Republic of Gambia* ----



The Republic of Gambia, GDP: \$2.4 Bn, (185th); GDP/capita: \$903 (180th)
Population: 2.5 Mn (144th)- (2013 census), Density: 176.1 Km² (74th); Area: 11,300 Km² (159th)
Capital: Banjul, on St Mary's Island, where the Gambia River enters the Atlantic Ocean; The island is connected to mainland through bridges and ferries
Population of Banjul: city only: 31,300; metro (city & Kanifing Municipal Council): 0.4 Mn
Other cities: Brikama (Population: city only 0.1 Mn, LGA: 0.73 Mn); Serekunda (Population: 0.34 Mn)

The Republic of Gambia is the **smallest country in continental Africa**. It is **surrounded by Senegal**, except for its western coast on the Atlantic Ocean. It is situated on both sides of the lower reaches of the Gambia River, which flows through the centre of the country and empties into the Atlantic Ocean. The national namesake river demarcates the elongated shape of the country.

----9. Republic of Rwanda----

Rwanda, a country located in Central/Eastern Africa, is comparable in size to Haiti or the state of Massachusetts in the United States. The entire country is **at a high altitude**: the lowest point is the **Rusizi River** at 950 m above sea level. The highest point is **Mount Karisimbi** at 4507 m. It lies a few degrees south of the Equator and Is Landlocked.

The population consists of largely three groups: The largest group is the Hutu (84%), consisting mostly of farmers. The second largest group is the Tutsi (15%), mostly pastoralists, warriors and aristocrats. The smallest group is the Twa (1%), which is a group of pygmy that hunt game to trade for agricultural products from the farmers. The Tutsis are the wealthiest and well-educated group.

CAUSE of ETHNIC CONFLICT: Throughout the Belgian Rule, the minority Tutsi were favored over the Hutus. In 1959, the Hutus rebelled against the Belgian colonial power and the Tutsi elite, forcing some 150,000 Tutsis to flee to Burundi and Uganda.

Tutsis formed the **Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) in 1990** in Uganda. A civil war between RPF and Rwandan forces ensued with an Accord signed in 1993 at **Arusha, Tanzania. United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR)** was sent to observe the implementation of the Arusha Accords. On 5th April, UNSC decided to extend the mission of UNAMIR for 3 months. But the Chief of UNAMIR, a Bangkadeshi Officer was to leave and his farewell party was scheduled on 6th April, 1994.

The GENOCIDE: **On 6th April 1994**, the aircraft carrying **Rwandan President Juvénal Habyarimana** and **Burundian President Cyprien Ntaryamira**, *both Hutu*, was shot down with surface-to-air missiles as their jet prepared to land in Kigali, Rwanda. Major-General **Déogratias Nsabimana**, the Army Chief of Staff, was also on the plane.

Within 100 days, Rwanda suffered a genocide, in which **0.5 Mn to 1 Mn of Tutsis, politically moderate Hutus and many Twa were killed.**

The TUTSI TAKEOVER: The Tutsi RPF restarted their offensive, and took control of the country methodically, gaining control of the whole country by mid-July. When the RPF took over, approximately **2 Mn Hutus fled to neighboring countries**, in particular Zaïre (now DRC), fearing reprisals.



Republic of Rwanda, Independence Day: July 1, 1962

Population: 12.63 Mn, **Area:** 26,338 Km², **Density:** 200/Km² (69th)

GDP: \$10.12 Bn, **GDP/capita:** \$802, **Currency:** **Rwandan francs (RWF)**

Capital and largest city: **Kigali** (Estd, 1493),

Population of Kigali 1.25 Mn, **Density:** 4,200/Km²

5 provinces: **Kigali, Northern, Eastern, Southern, and Western;** 30 Districts.

Since July 1994, Rwanda has been ruled by RPF through virtually a single-party rule, though the constitution talks of a multi-party democracy.

Under the RPF government Rwanda has sought closer ties with neighbouring countries in the East African Community and with the English-speaking world. Diplomatic relations with **France** and **Belgium** (for supporting the **International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR)**, the **Democratic Republic of the Congo** (for failing to suppress Hutu rebels in North and South Kivu provinces) and with **Uganda**

(as Rwanda and Uganda backed opposing rebel groups in the Second Congo War) remained tense for many years. Slowly, President **Paul Kagame** is improving relations with the two neighbors, France and Belgium.



Rwandan President **Paul Kagame** (from 1994)

Rwanda is a member of the **United Nations, African Union, Francophonie, East African Community,** and the **Commonwealth of Nations.**

----11. Maps of EQUATORIAL GUINEA----

Equatorial Guinea, (formerly *Spanish Guinea*), located on the west coast of Africa, achieved its **independence** on **October 12, 1968**. It consists of:

- **Río Muni** (also known as *Continental Equatorial Guinea*), on the continent; It is bounded by **Cameroon** to the north and a to the east and south.
- five islands (known collectively as *insular Equatorial Guinea*):
- An island **Bioko** (formerly *Fernando Po*); **Malabo**, the capital is on the island.
- Three small islands of **Corisco, Great Elobey** (*Elobey Grande*), and **Little Elobey** (*Elobey Chico*); These are near the coast of **Río Muni**.

- An island **Annobón** (*Pagalu*); It is a **volcanic island**, lies **south of the Equator** and about 640 Km to the SouthWest of the island of **Bioko**.

Bata is the administrative capital of the mainland.

