

AFRICA REVIEW

AN UP-TO-DATE GEOGRAPHICAL, HISTORICAL, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SUMMARY OF THE AFRICAN COUNTRIES

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BOTSWANA

1. Official name: Republic of Botswana.

2. Geography:

2.1. Situation: Botswana is situated in southern Africa between 18°S and 27°S, 25°E and 29°E. It is landlocked between Namibia in the north and west, South Africa in the south and Zimbabwe in the north-east.

2.2. Total area: 582 000 km.

2.3. Natural regions: the landscape is gently sloping, varying in height between 900 and 1200 m. It is covered with grasses and bushes (park savanna). In the SW lies a dry sandy savanna, called the Kalahari semi-desert. The three main drainage areas are the Limpopo in the east, the Okavango delta in the north and the Molopo in the south.

2.4. Climate: the tropic of Capricorn divides the country into two parts: climate ranges from tropical in the north to temperate in the south. The conditions are generally hot and dry with summer rainfall. Night frost occurs in the south.

3. Population:

3.1. Total population: 1.2 mln (1988), urban population: 20%.

3.2. Population density: 2.1 per km². (mid 1988).

3.3. Population growth rate: 3.5% (1980-1985).

3.4. Capital: GABORONE, 110.973 (mid 1988).

3.5. Languages: English (official, commercial), Setswana.

3.6. Religion: traditional religions, Christian (30%).

4. History:

Migrations of the Bantu tribes succeeded each other until the Zulu invasions in the early 19th century. The territory became partly a British protectorate, a British colony and a German colony. In 1920 the Native Advisory Council was established after reunification of the three territorial entities. In 1961 the Constitution gave a restricted legislative power to the Advisory Council and in 1965 proposals for internal self government led to independence in September 1966.

5. Nature of political system:

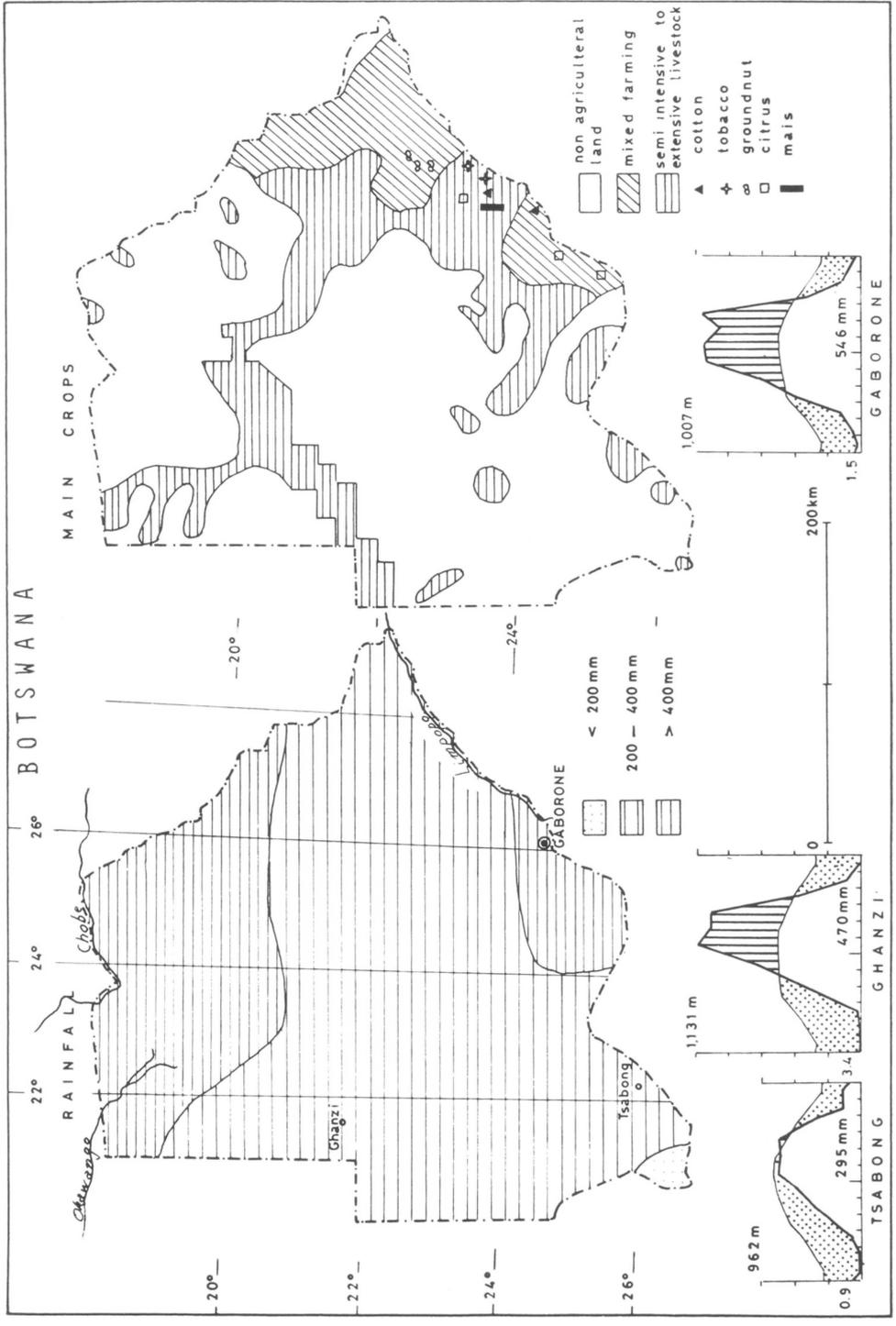
The legislature is the 38-member National Assembly, 32 of which are elected for five years by universal adult suffrage. The Assembly elects a President who has executive power. He appoints a Cabinet responsible to the assembly. The President is an ex-officio member of the Assembly. The approval of a House of Chiefs is needed for some measures but they cannot veto legislation. The house of Chiefs comprises the chiefs of the eight principal tribes of Botswana.

Voting qualifications: universal adult suffrage over 21.

6. Economy:

GDP: agriculture: 6%, industry: 49%, services: 46% (1985).

Employment: agriculture: 70%, industry: 13%, services: 17% (1980).



6.1. Mining:

The diamond industry with an annual production of 12.0 mln carats (1984) makes Botswana the third world producer. Copper and nickel (together 40 000 t in 1981), and manganese are also exploited. Important deposits of coal await exploitation. Salt mines and gypsum deposits can lead to the development of a chemical industry.

6.2. Agriculture:

2% of the total area is arable land or cultivated with permanent crops (1984). Traditional tribes with subsistence agriculture produce mostly sorghum and maize with very low yields. Small vegetable production for local markets. Large quantities of food have to be imported every year.

6.3. Livestock:

73% of the total area is permanent pasture (1984). Livestock is very important and is the keystone of the economy. There are approximately 2.7 mln heads of cattle (1984), 600000 goats, 130-150 000 sheep, 120 000 donkeys and an uncertain number of pigs and chickens (1 mln). The livestock development program aims at increasing productivity through breeding methods, animal health service centers, the digging of wells and game ranching.

6.4. Forestry and woodland:

1.6% of the total area (1984). Forest reserves are planned and tree cutting has been regulated by granting licences. Useful species are **Baikiaea plurifuga** (Zimbabwean teak), **Pterocarpus angolensis** and **Burkea africana** (Mukarati).

6.5. Fishery:

A variety of edible fish are found in rivers of the Okavango Delta.

6.6. Industry:

Is poorly developed. Textile and food industries are growing. The Botswana Meat Corporation is by far the largest industrial plant. Tourism industry is gradually developing.

6.7. Weights, measures and currency:

1 Pula (P) = 100 Thebe

1 US \$ = 2.05 P (March 1989)

7. Trade:

Exports amount to 87 mln US \$ (1976), subdivided as follows: mineral products (45%), meat and canned meat (40%). The main client is South Africa.

Imports amount to 140 mln US \$ (1975). The main suppliers are South Africa and the United Kingdom.

8. Miscellaneous:

Literacy: 25% in English, 35% in Setswana (1980 estimates).

World Bank classification: Botswana belongs to the lower middle-income economies with a GDP per capita of 840 US \$ (1985).

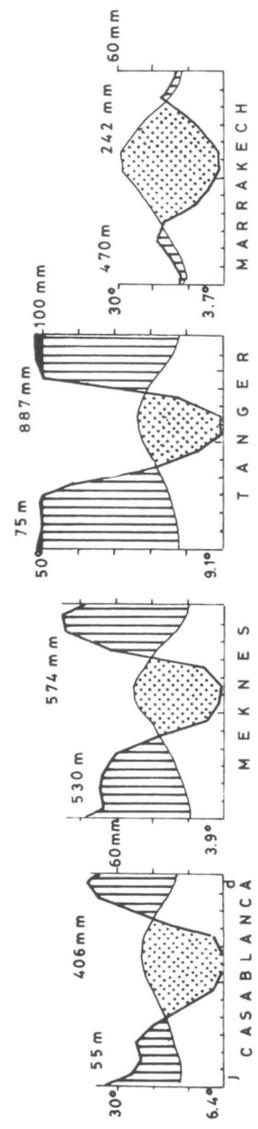
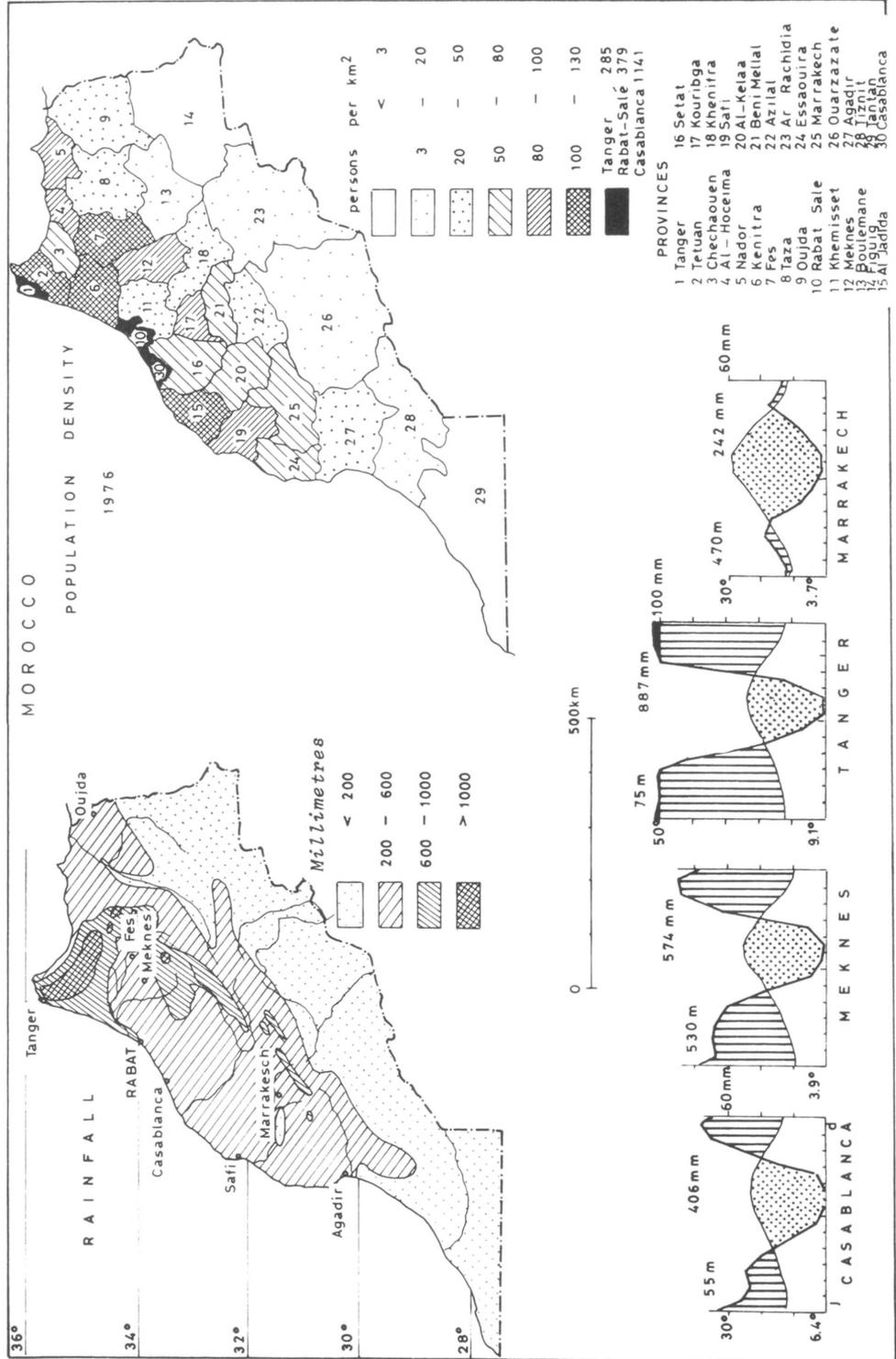
Membership of international organisations:

GATT, ILO, IMF, OAU, UN, WHO, African Development Bank, Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (recipient), Commonwealth, Economic Commission for Africa, Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference, World Bank.

Botswana is a signatory to the Lomé Convention (EEC-ACP).

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MOROCCO

1. *Official name: Kingdom of Morocco*
Al-Mamlaka al-Maghribiya

2. Geography:

2.1. Situation: In the northwest of Africa, on the border of the Mediterranean Sea between 28°N and 36°N, 1°W and 13°W.

2.2. Total area: 446 550 km.

2.3. Natural regions: Morocco is a country of vigorous and contrasted relief. Mountains cover 34% of the total area. In the northeast the Rif ranges are found, while the Atlas ranges form a dorsal, running as a barrier diagonally across the country. Highest point: 4165 m. Plateaux, including the Moroccan Sahara, occupy 44% of the total area. Plains cover 19% of the total area.

2.4. Climate: in the northwest and in the mountains mediterranean conditions are predominant. In the southeast the climate is semi-desert in type.

3. Population:

3.1. Total population: 23.4 mln (mid 1987), urban population: 44%.

3.2. Population density: 33 per km². (mid 1987).

3.3. Population growth rate: 2.5% (1980-1985).

3.4. Capital: RABAT, 1.3 mln inh. (mid 1987).

3.5. Languages: Arabic (official), Berber, French and Spanish.

3.6. Religion: Islam (90%); Roman Catholics (40.000).

4. History:

In ancient times Morocco belonged subsequently to the Carthagian and Roman Imperium. Later it was invaded by Vandals and Berbers. Their particularism led to a great rebellion and the fragmentation into small Muslim principalities. In medieval times, different Muslim dynasties ruled the country, with religion as their driving force. In the sixteenth century, resistance arose against the Spanish and Portuguese invaders (Christianity). In 1912 south and mid Morocco became a French protectorate and north Morocco a Spanish protectorate. In 1956 the territory was united in the Kingdom of Morocco.

5. Nature of political system:

Morocco is a constitutional monarchy. Executive power rests with the King who appoints and dismisses the Prime Minister and the Cabinet. Legislation is passed through a single assembly, the Chamber of Representatives (elected for six years, by a combination of adult suffrage and electoral college). Legislation has effect by promulgation by the King.

6. Economy:

GDP: agriculture: 18%, industry: 32%, services: 50% (1985).

Employment: agriculture: 46%, industry: 25%, services: 29% (1980).

6.1. Mining:

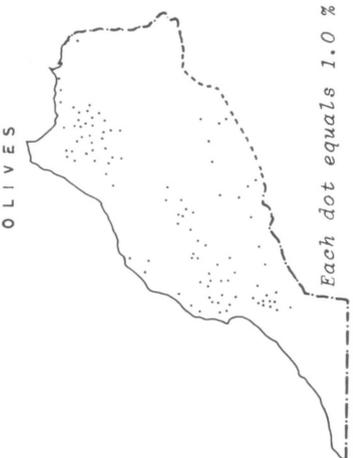
The country is very rich in mineral ore deposits and has over 50% of the world reserves of phosphate. In order of importance: phosphate, manganese, lead, coals, iron, oil and natural gas, zinc, cobalt, antimony, molybdenum, copper, nickel and uranium.

6.2. Agriculture:

17% of the total area is arable land or cultivated with permanent crops (1986). Arable land is located on plains, lower plateaux and hills and in the mountain valleys. Over 30% of the crop or tree-planted land is cultivated by traditional methods. Cereals and vegetables are the leading products of Moroccan crop farming. Barley is the most important cereal, occupying half of the total cereals area. Hard wheat is cultivated

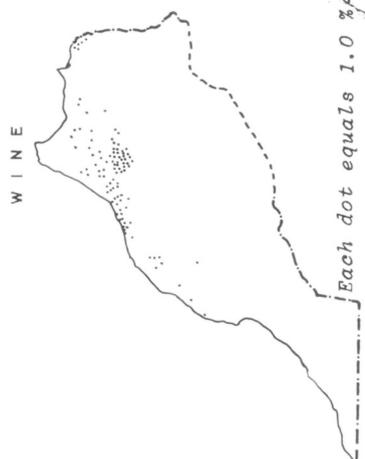
MOROCCO

OLIVES



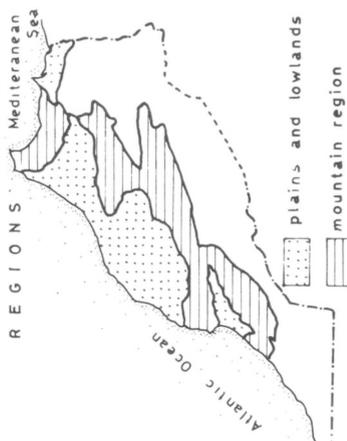
Each dot equals 1.0 %

WINE



Each dot equals 1.0 %

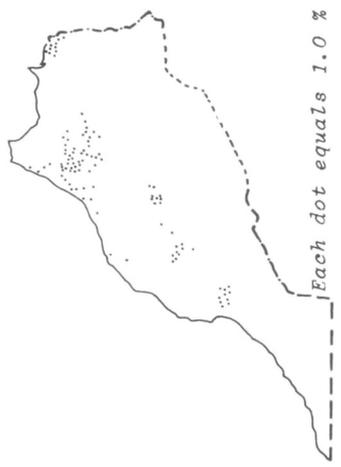
MAJOR NATURAL REGIONS



plains and lowlands
mountain region
arid region

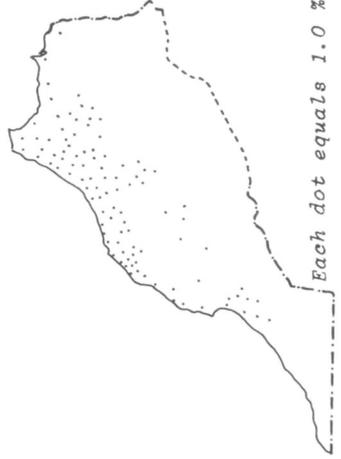
0 400km

CITRUS



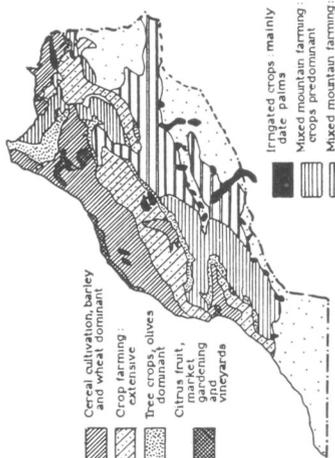
Each dot equals 1.0 %

CATTLE



Each dot equals 1.0 %

TYPES OF FARMING



Cereal cultivation, barley and wheat dominant
Crop farming: extensive
Tree crops, olives dominant
Citrus fruit, gardening and vineyards

Irrigated crops mainly date, palms
Mixed mountain farming: crops predominant
Mixed mountain farming: livestock predominant
High plateau pastoralism chiefly sheep, goats and camels

Each dot equals 1.0 %

by traditional farmers, soft wheat mostly by modern farmers. Maize, sorghum, oats and rice are cultivated too. Two-thirds of the cereals are destined for domestic use. Permanent crops (citrus, vine, olive) occupy only 10% of the arable land, but are the most important for the agricultural exports. The principal legumes occupying 5% of the arable land are broad beans, peas, lentils, chick peas, haricot beans. Other crops: cotton, tomato, sugarbeet and sunflower. Export crops are citrus, early vegetables and tobacco.

6.3. Livestock:

28% of the total area is permanent pasture (1984). Livestock is kept almost exclusively in the traditional sector. Sheep (12.5 mln) and goats (5 mln) are widespread, cattle (2.4 mln) is localized mainly in the northwest.

6.4. Forestry and woodland:

12% of the total area (1984). Evergreen oak 33%, cork oak 10%, thuya 22% and argan 22%. Other species are **Cedrus**, **Pinus** (aleppo pine), Juniperus, reforestation with **Eucalyptus** and wattle. Over 80% of the total removed volume is classified as fuel wood.

6.5. Fishery:

Is most important on the Atlantic side, less on the Mediterranean side. Morocco is the second world exporter of sardines. Further mackerel, tuna and crustaceans. Total catch amount to 439 000 t of which 70% sardines (1983).

6.6. Industry:

Food industry: canned fruits, vegetables and fish, sugar refinery, beer brewery. Other industries: textile, cement, glass, cellulose, chemicals (sulphuric acid, superphosphate).

6.7. Weights, measures and currency:

kg, meter

1 Dirham (DH) = 100 centimes

1 US \$ = 8.8 DH (May 1989)

7. Trade:

Total exports amount to 2156 mln US \$ (1985) of which fuels, minerals and metals represent 32% and primary commodities 28%. Main clients are the EEC, Poland, the USSR and Yugoslavia.

Total imports amount to 3885 mln US \$ (1985) of which food 17%, fuels 28% and machinery and transport equipment 18%. Main suppliers are the EEC, the USA, Irak, the USSR and Cuba.

8. Miscellaneous:

Literacy: 27-30% (1978).

World Bank classification: Morocco belongs to the lower middle-income economies with a GDP per capita of 560 US \$ (1985).

Membership of international organisations:

ILO, IMF, UN, WHO, African Development Bank, Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (subscriber), Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, Arab League, Islamic Conference, Islamic Development Bank, World Bank.

Arab Maghreb Union (with Algeria, Libya, Mauretania and Tunisia).

Morocco has a development association with the EEC (Maghreb Convention).

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