

# Pulses: solutions to human health and cropping systems sustainability

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# 2016

## INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PULSES

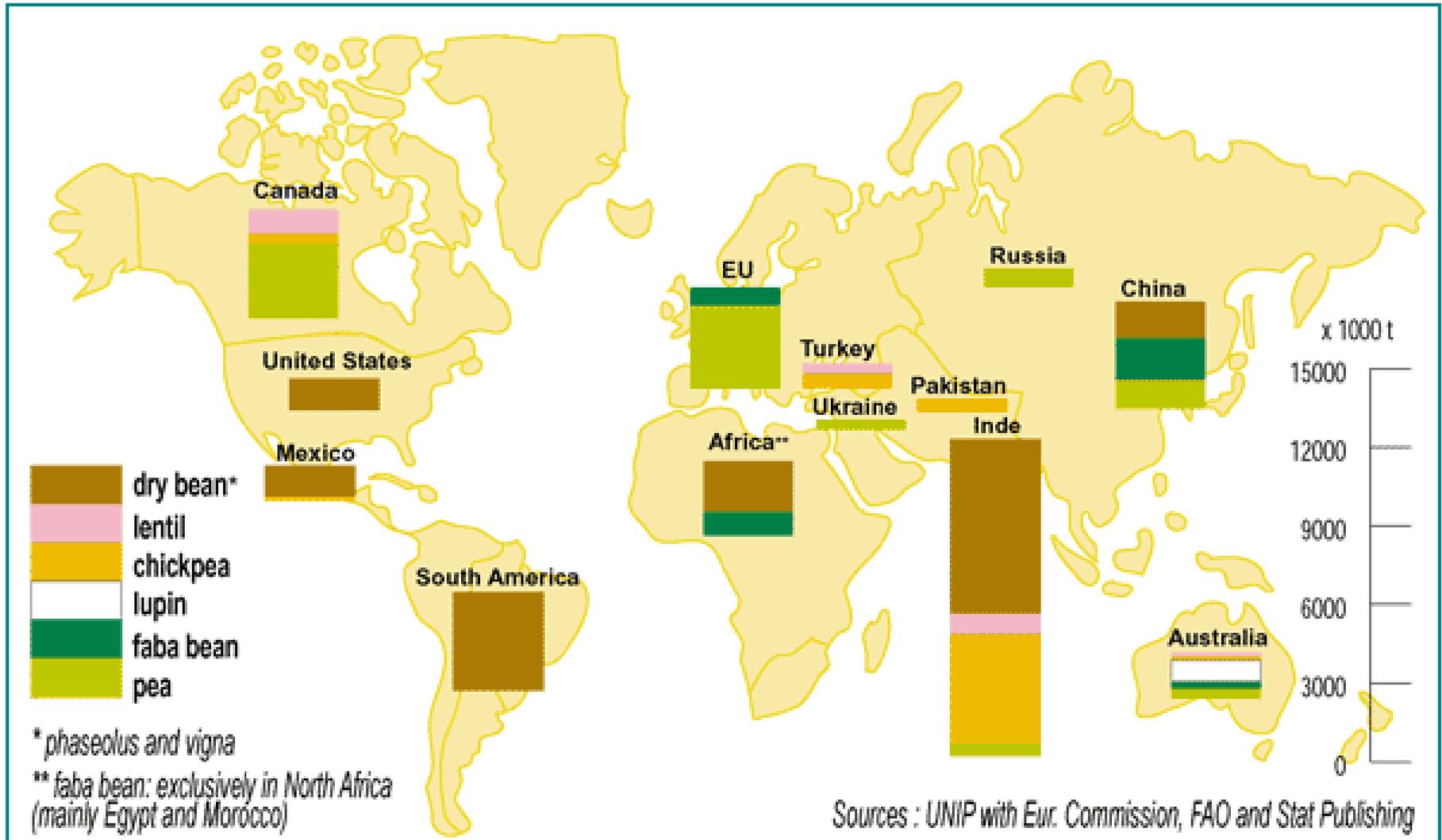
*nutritious seeds for a sustainable future*



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

[fao.org/pulses-2016](http://fao.org/pulses-2016) | [pulses-2016@fao.org](mailto:pulses-2016@fao.org) | [#IYP2016](https://twitter.com/IYP2016)

# Pulses are grown in climate ranging from tropics to temperate



# Why Pulses?

Improved food security



A Bangladeshi mother is feeding rice and lentil dal to her children



Improved nutrition & health

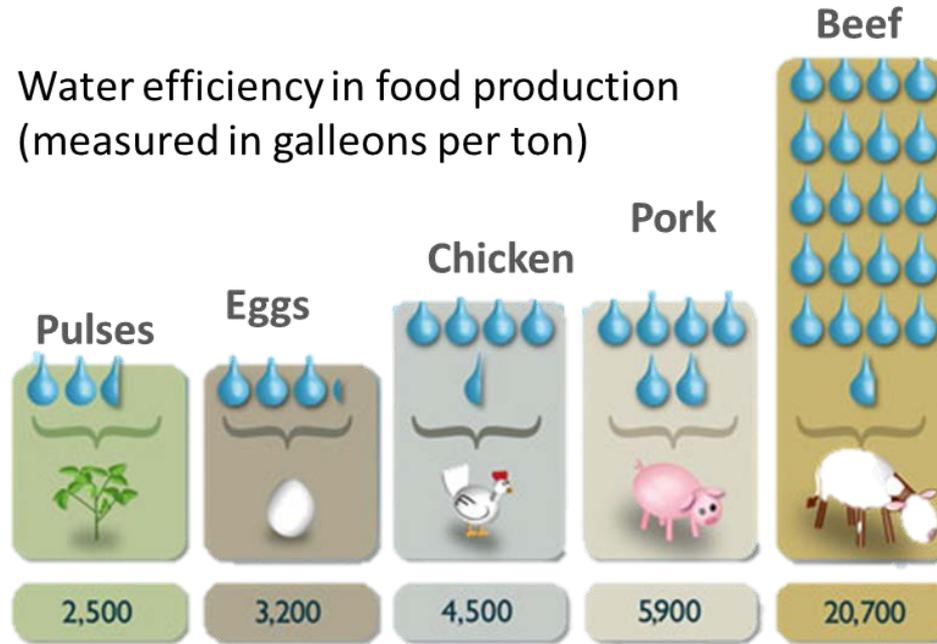
Improved livelihood



Sustain natural resources

# Pulses are climate smart crops with less water requirements

Water efficiency in food production  
(measured in galleons per ton)



**Daal (1kg)**  
**1250 liters**



**Chicken (1kg)**  
**4325 liters**

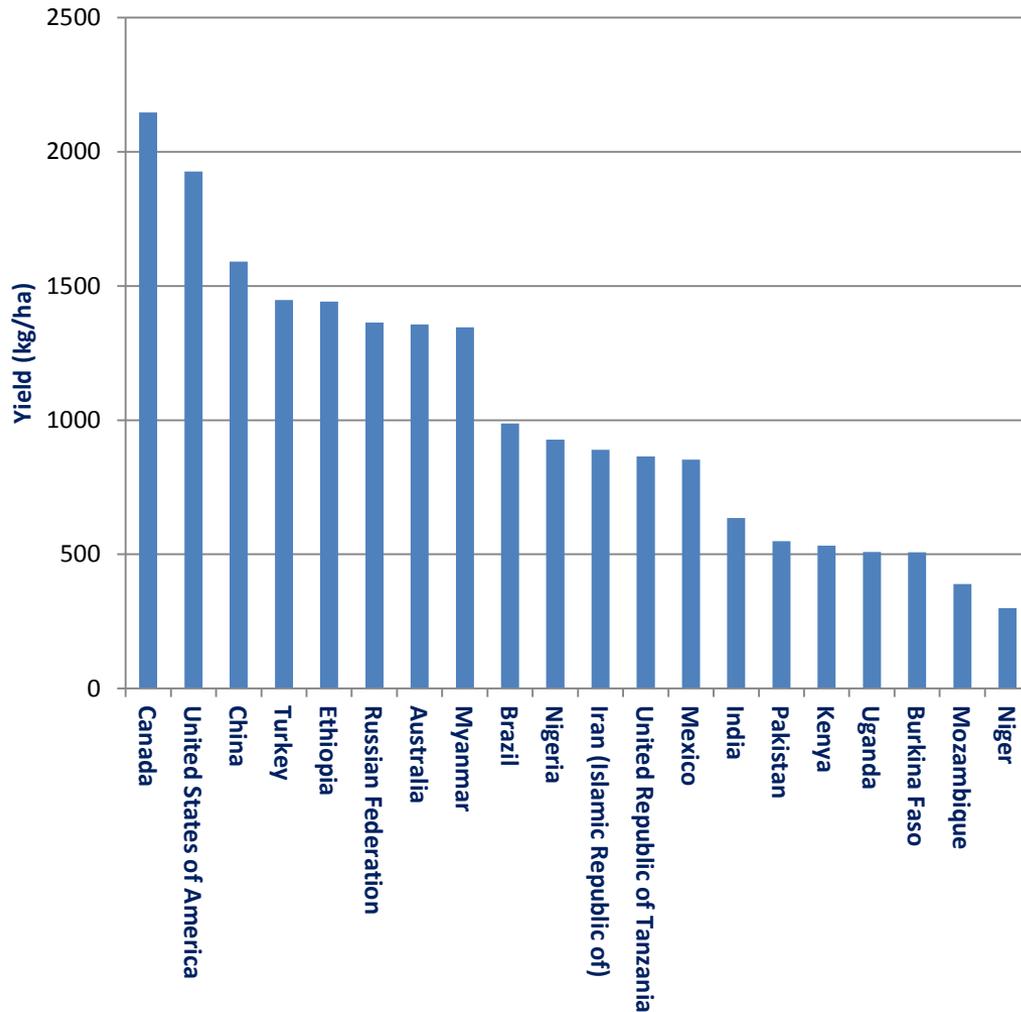


**Mutton (1kg)**  
**5520 liters**



**Beef (1kg)**  
**13000 liters**

# Yield of all pulses in different countries, 2011-13



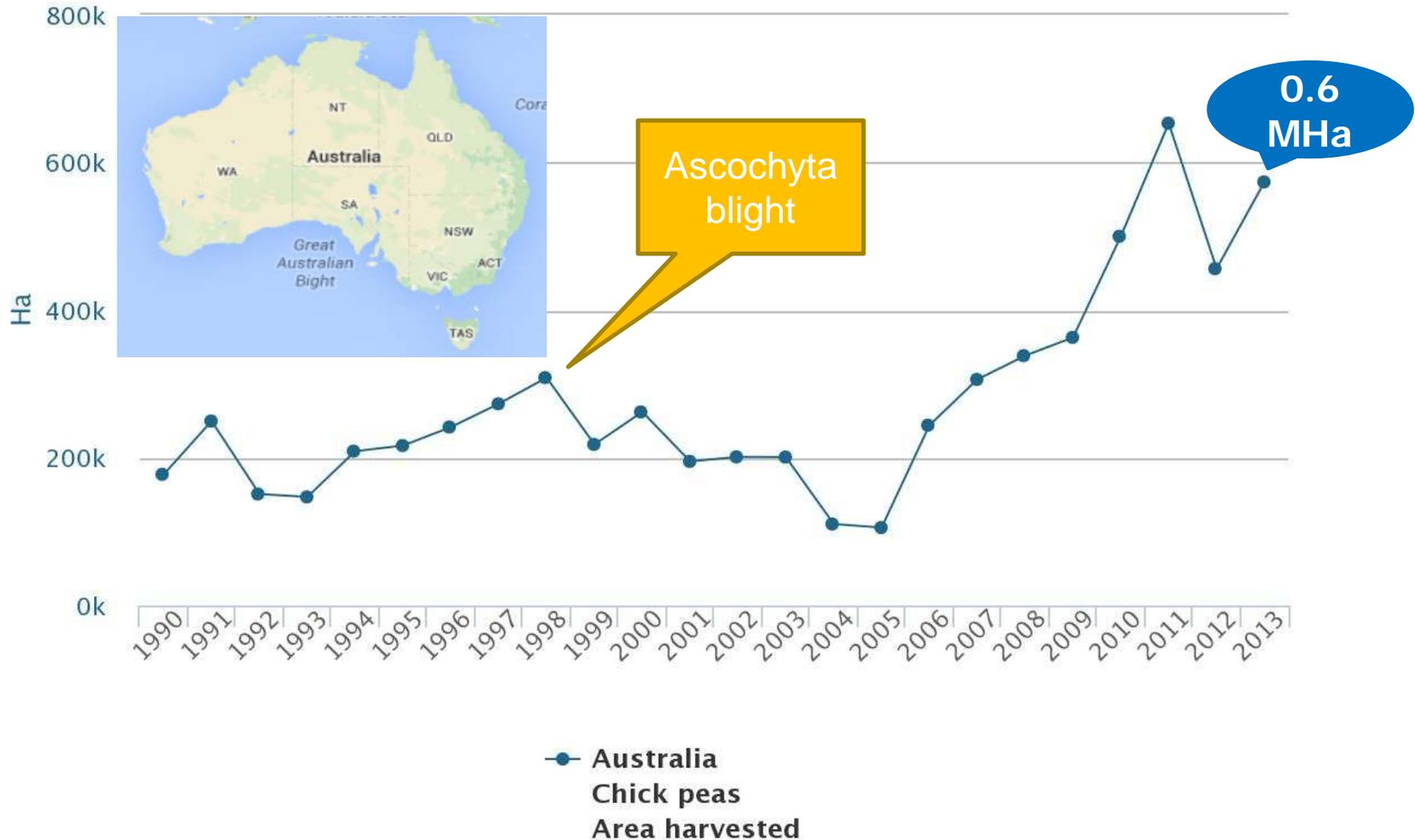
- There is large inter-regional and inter-country yield variation
- Average yields of developed countries was > 1.2 t/ha
  - **Canada > 2 t/ha; US near 2 t/ha**
- Developing countries average yield was <1 t/ha
  - **Myanmar and Ethiopia are exception**
  - **Most of the African and S Asian countries yields are < 500 kg/ha**

# Climatic regions suitable for pulses in Australia



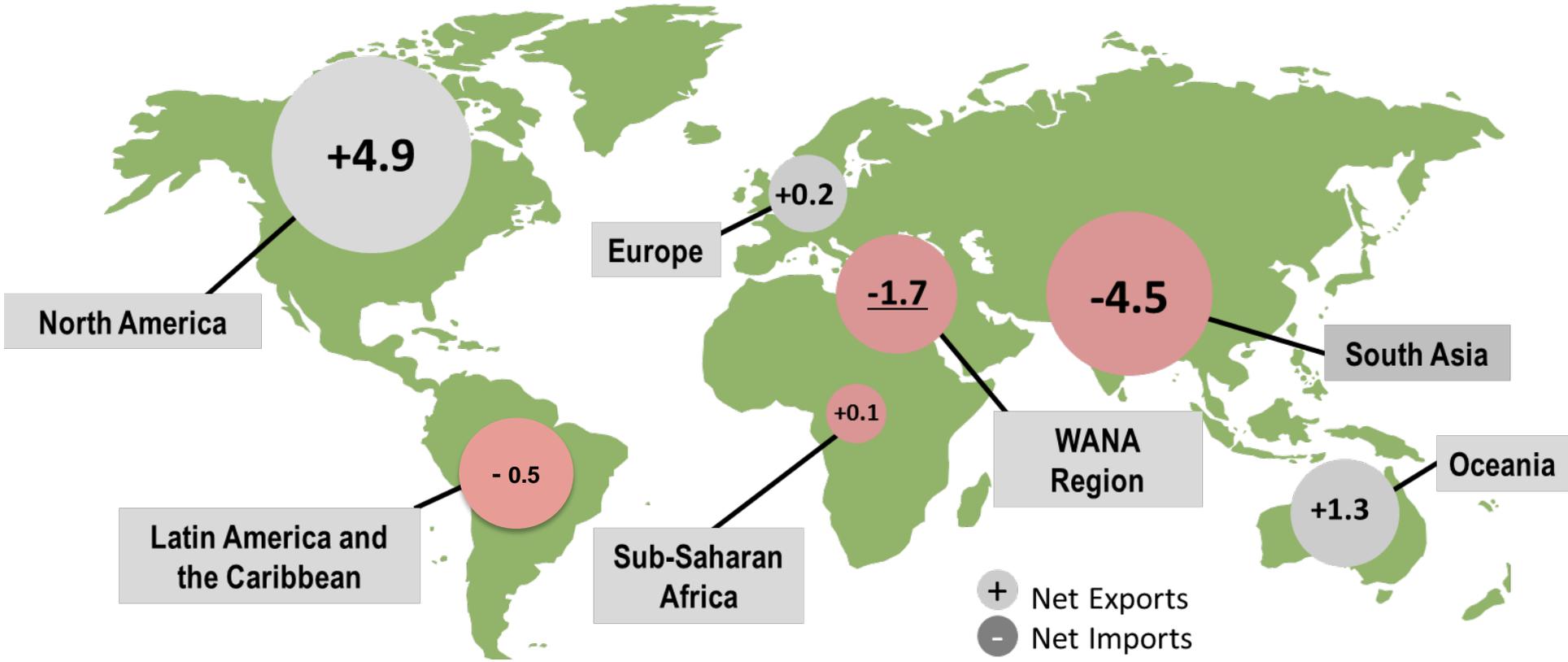
Knights and Siddique, 2003

# Chickpea– the No. 1 Pulse in Australia



M = Million, K = Thousand

# Global pulse trade : about 12 million tons

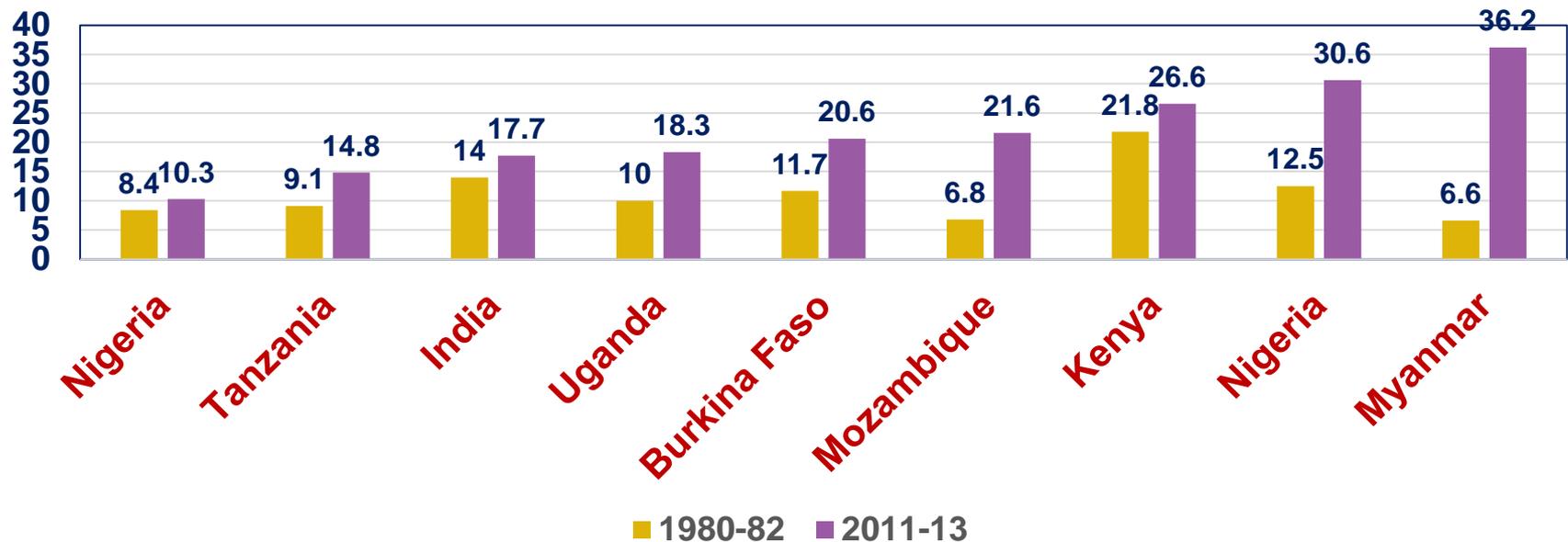


Sources: FAOSTAT (2011)

in million MT by region (2011)

# Growing importance of pulses in many countries - especially more vulnerable population

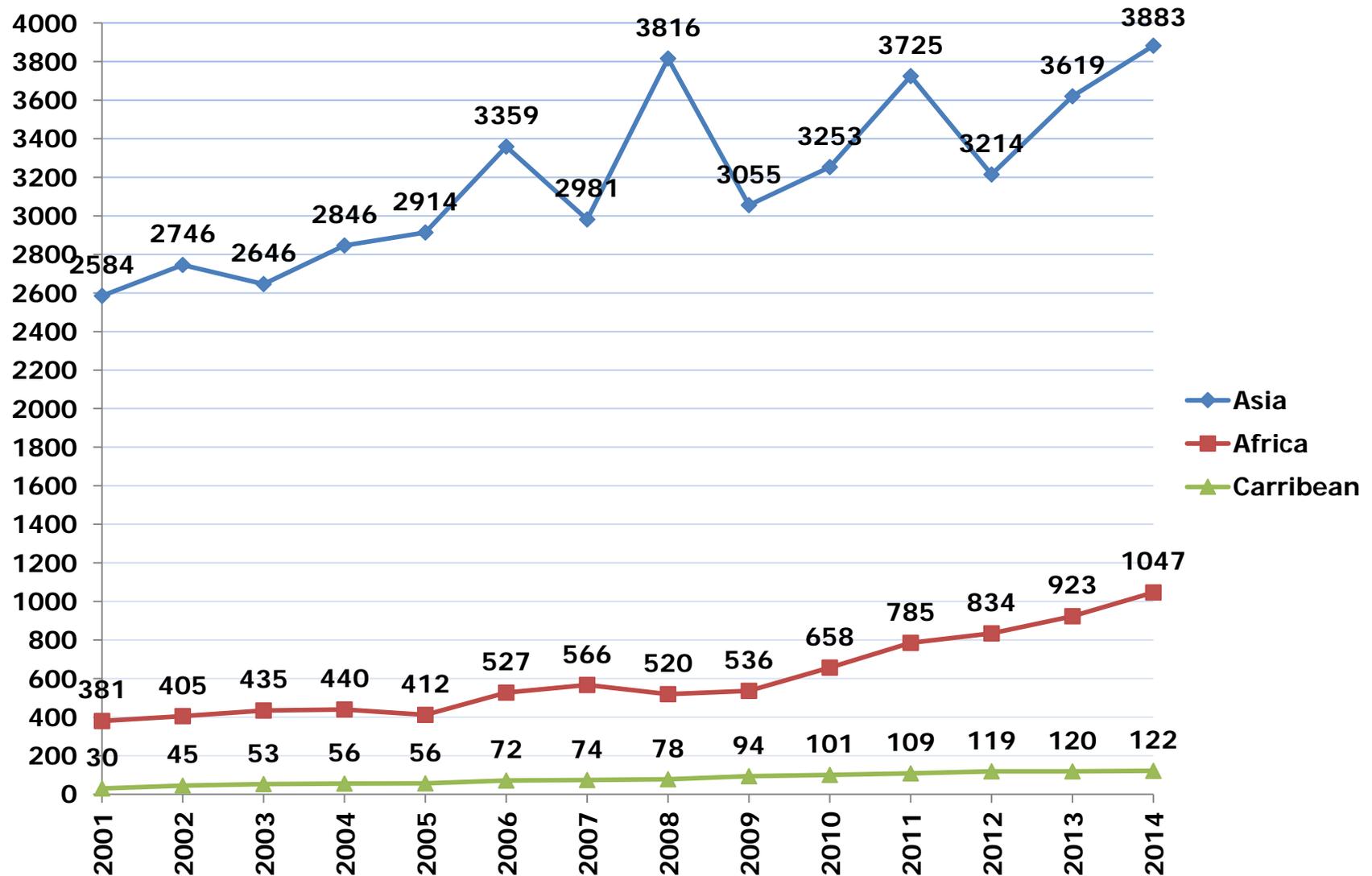
## Share of pulse area in arable land (%)



# Pigeon pea success story in Eastern and Southern Africa



# Pigeon pea Production ('000 t) trends



# Pigeon pea growth trends in Africa

Country	In '000 t		% increase		
	2001	2014	Production	Area	Yield
Tanzania	87.1	249.3	186	106	39
Mozambique	31.6	120.9	282	261	6
Malawi	105.8	301.0	184	69	68
Kenya	73.46	274.5	274	68	122
Uganda	80.0	93.6	17	28	-8
<b>Africa</b>	<b>380.6</b>	<b>1047.3</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>40</b>

# Pigeon pea Exports from Africa (000' t)



India imports about 570, 000 t annually

50% from Myanmar and 50% from Africa

Country	5 year range	2016 (expected)
Tanzania	75-90	70
Mozambique	55-75	75
Malawi	60-90	70
Kenya	15-20	18
Uganda	8-14	12
Sudan	40-50	45
Africa	253-339	290

Source: Jayesh Patel 2016, ETG

# Pigeon pea Drivers of Success

- High yielding, wilt resistant MD varieties
- SI through ICM with women participation
- Regional and international export and participation of large traders
- Innovative seed systems in partnership with local farmers, NGOs and Government
- Value addition and then export to regional and international markets
- Very strong participation of partners, donors ( BMGF, USAID, Irish Aid etc., ) Governments initiatives -Kilimo Kwanza, Input subsidy



***Mrs. E.Mollel of Kikatiti, Tanzania***  
***In front of her old house of  
1988***



***In front of her new  
improved house***

**Global investment in pulse R,D&E is too low compared with cereal crops: (US \$ 175 million per annum in 13 pulse crops)**



nature  
plants

PERSPECTIVE

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# Neglecting legumes has compromised human health and sustainable food production

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# Conclusions and way forward

- Demand for pulses is growing but supply constraints will lead to rise in prices and increase trade
- Pulses production and trade scenario in changing
  - New countries producing pulses and exporting to deficit countries
- **Global level**
  - Increase funding for pulse R,D&E
  - Incentives for improved technologies to public as well as private sector
  - Effective trade
- **National level**
  - Bridge yield gaps to increase domestic production
  - Improve pulse value chains to benefit producers and consumers
  - Attract private sector in pulses production, processing and marketing
  - Promote innovative institutions for scale

