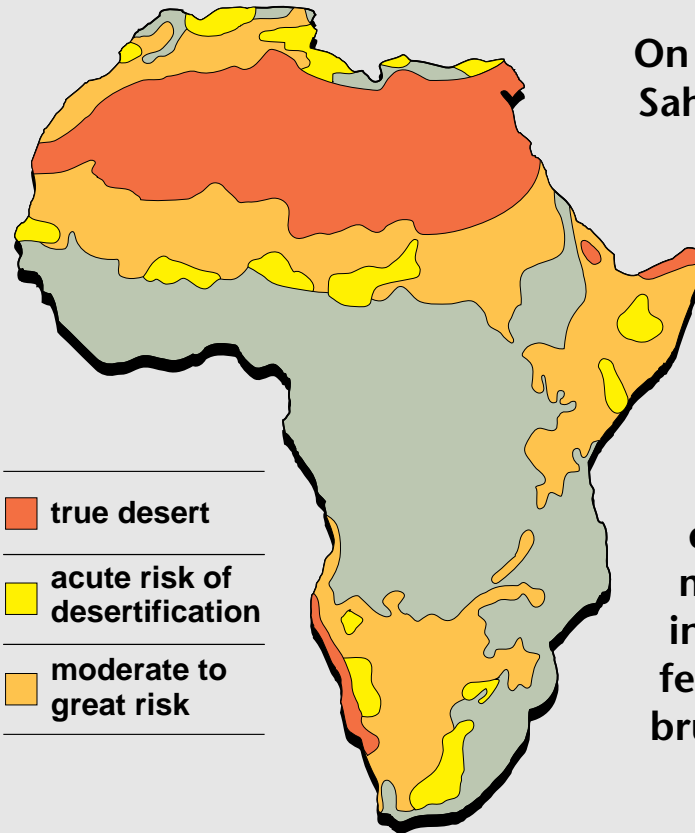


SPREADING DESERTS THREATEN AFRICA



On the southern edge of the Sahara, an area the size of Somalia has become desert over the past 50 years. The same fate now threatens more than one-third of the African continent. The main cause of desertification is not drought but mismanagement of land, including overgrazing and felling of trees and brushwood for fuel.

Source: The Conservation and Rehabilitation of African Lands (FAO 1990)