

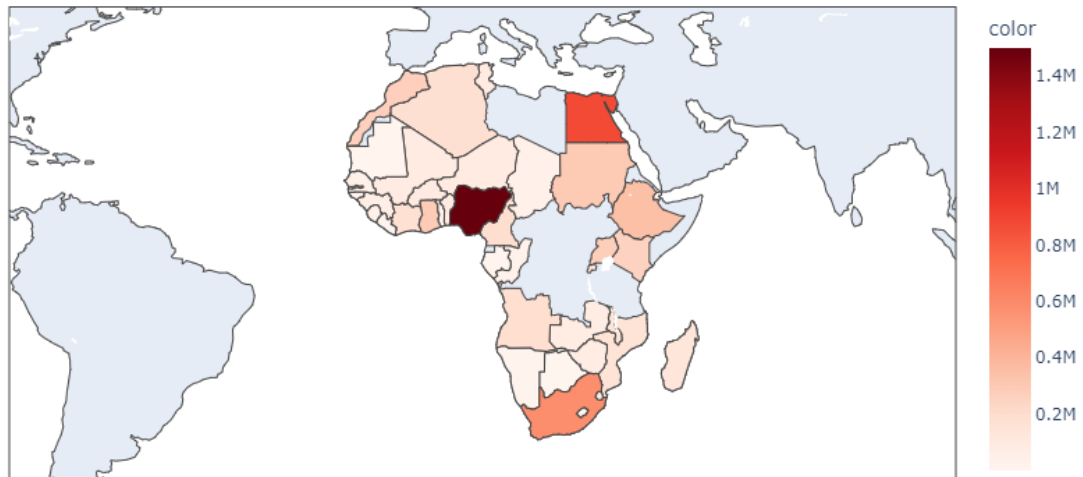
AFRICA's food supply and demand analysis

Agriculture of Africa

- Agriculture is by far the single most important economic activity in Africa. It provides employment for about two-thirds of the continent's working population and for each country contributes an average of 30 to 60 percent of gross domestic product and about 30 percent of the value of exports. Nonetheless, arable land and land under permanent crops occupy only about 6 percent of Africa's total land area.
- Except for countries with sizable populations of European descent—such as South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Kenya—agriculture has been largely confined to subsistence farming and has been considerably dependent on the inefficient system of shifting cultivation, in which land is temporarily cultivated with simple implements until its fertility decreases and then abandoned for a time to allow the soil to regenerate.
- In addition, over most of Africa arable land generally has been allocated through a complex system of communal tenure and ownership rather than through individually acquired title, and peasant farmers have had rights to use relatively small and scattered holdings. This system of land ownership has tended to keep the intensity of agricultural production low and has inhibited the rate at which capital has been mobilized for modernizing production.
- A number of countries have made efforts to raise productive levels by selecting better varieties of seeds and planting materials, using tractors and other mechanized equipment, or increasing the use of mineral fertilizers and insecticides. Such measures, however, have been relatively limited, and they have raised concerns about their part in accelerating soil erosion and desertification. In areas of cash crop production, land has become private rather than community property, and cultivation is intensive.

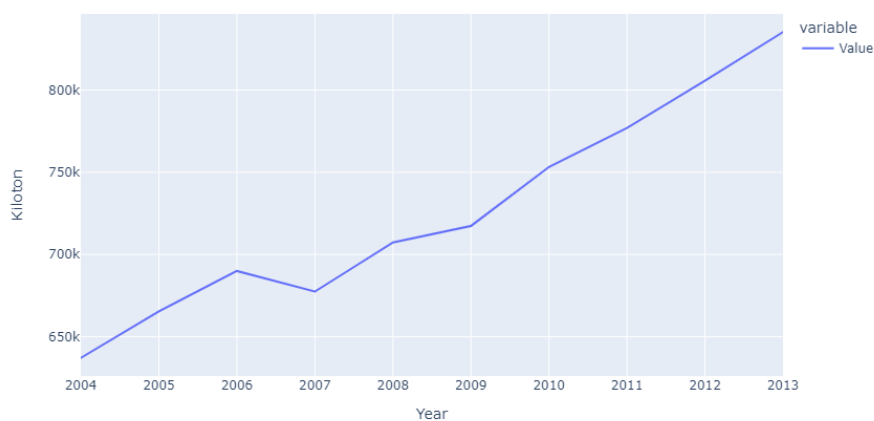
Production

Food production across Africa over the years



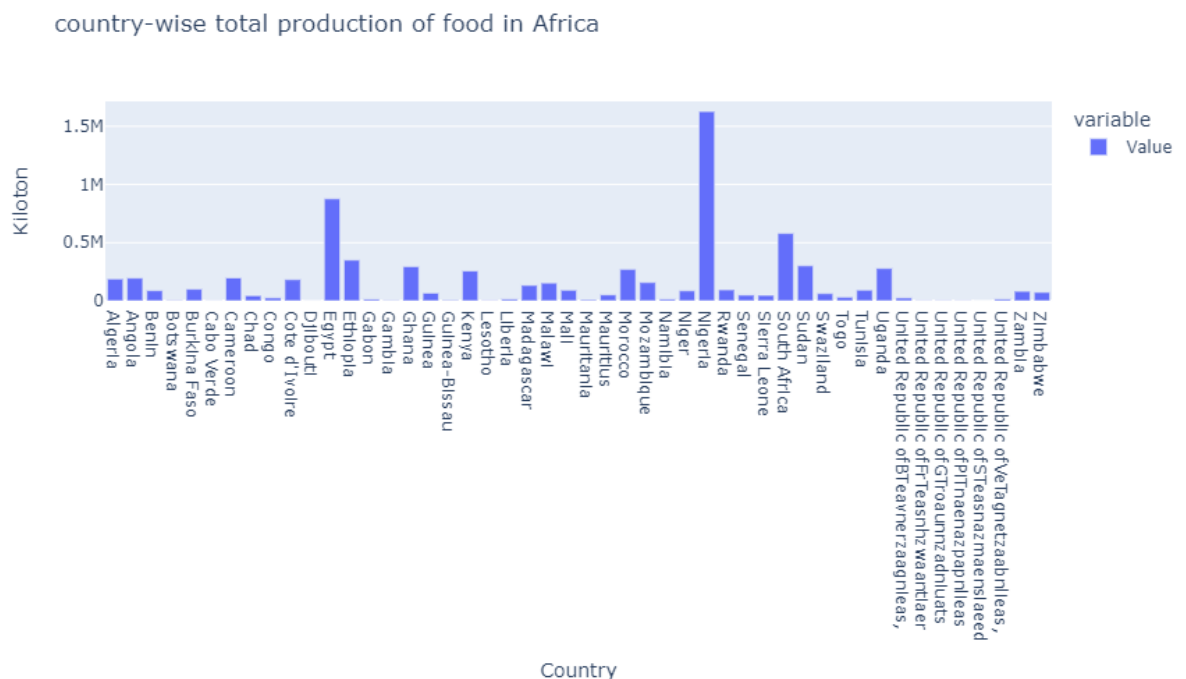
- In the above image we can see which countries are dominant in the agriculture of the African continent.
- The top three countries in the terms of crops production are :
 1. Nigeria
 2. Egypt
 3. South Africa

Total production of food in Africa over the years



The figure above shows the trend of crop production in the African countries over the years .

- We can see that for maximum times in the given period the crop production has been increasing .
- The graph shows that continent-wise the Africa is doing well to fulfill its food requirements .
- But that's far from true as although Africa as a whole seems to be able to do fairly well for its nourishment , there are countries that have to depend highly on other countries for their nourishment due to lack of efficient agriculture system and technology.

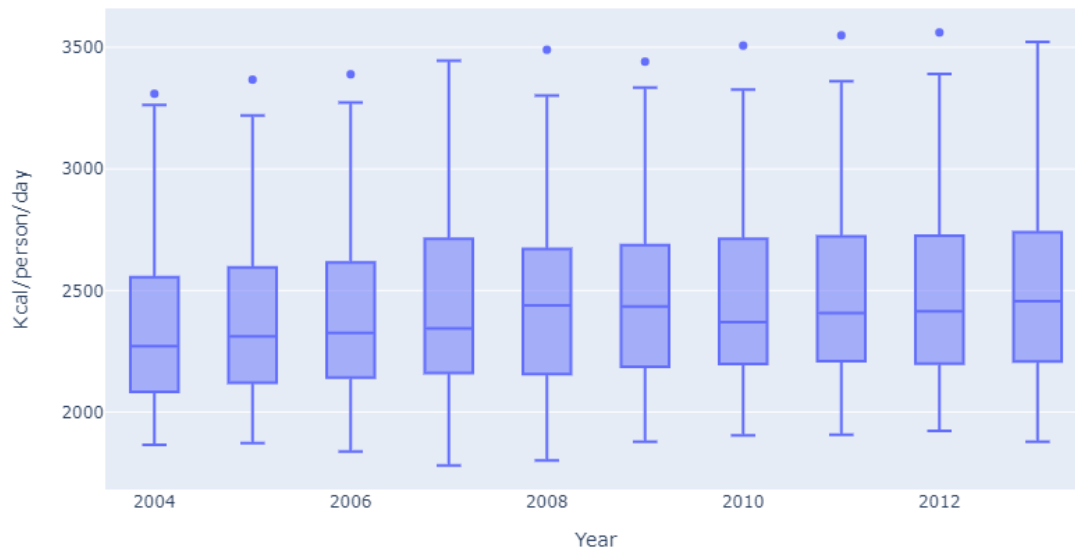


- The figure above depicts the problem of African countries in term of nourishment of their population .
- There is so much disparity in terms of food production in the African countries .

That was the production part of the African agriculture , now we will focus on the supply of the produced crops across the continent.

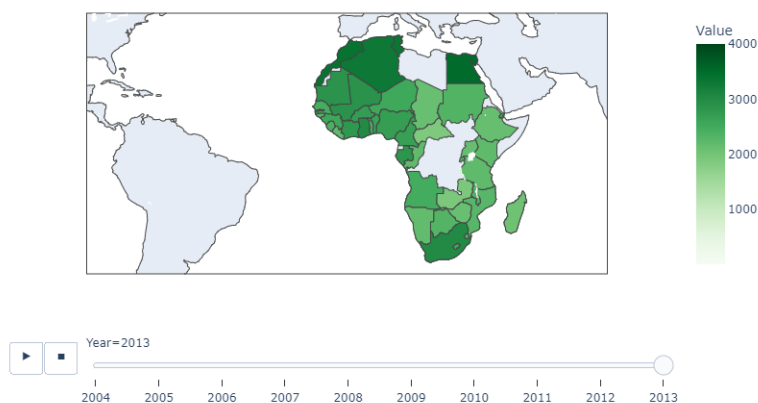
Supply

total supply of food in Africa over the years



- The box chart above displays the distribution of food supply in Africa over the years.
- We can see that countries have managed to supply their population with fair amount food for most of the period but still higher level of consistency is desirable.

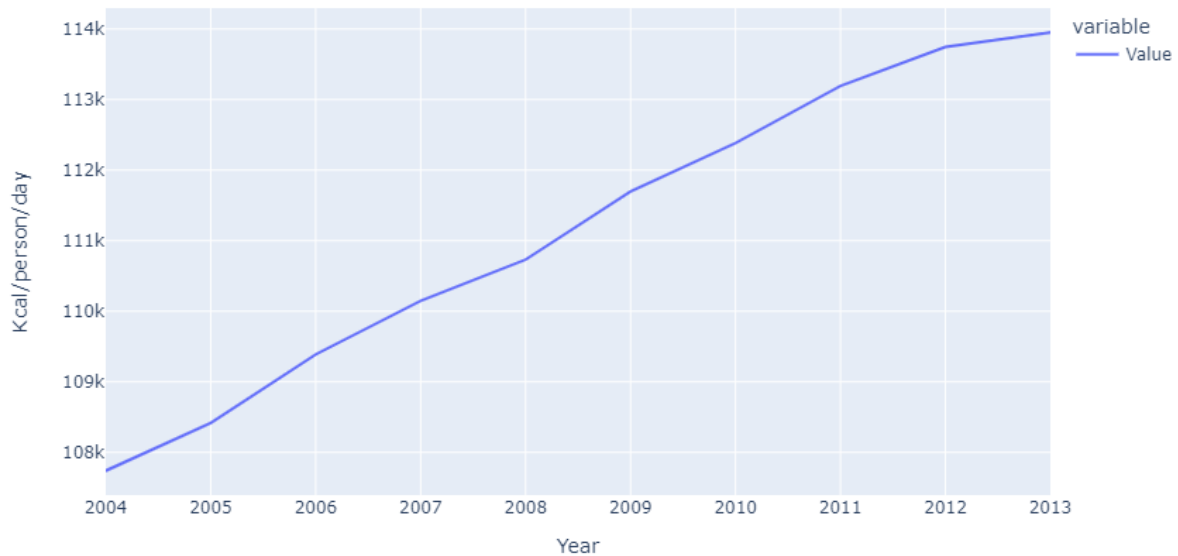
Supply of food across Africa over the years



The figure above shows the food supply (Kcal per person per day) for the African continent.

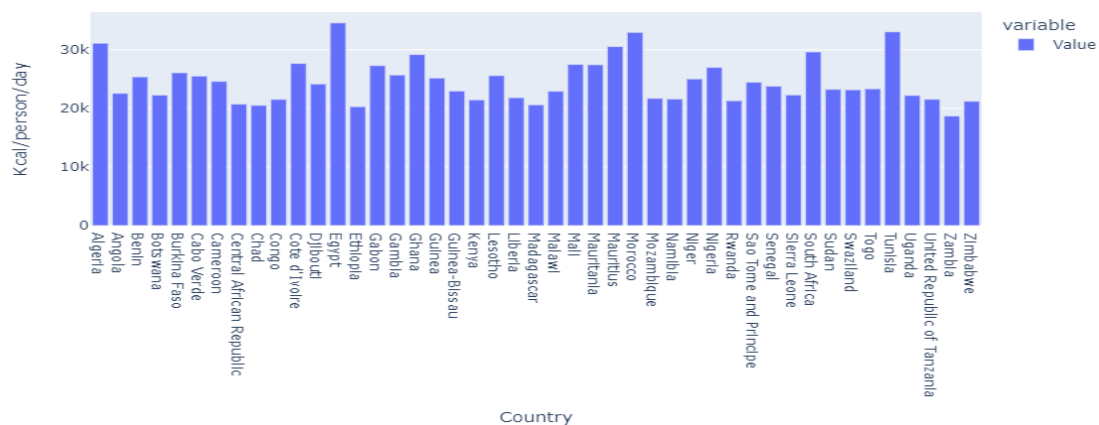
- We can see there are considerable portions of the Africa where the supply of food seems to be scarce .

total supply of food in Africa over the years



- To be fair , Africa has made notable growth for the supply of the food across the continent.

country-wise total supply of food in Africa



- Here is a clearer picture of disparity among African countries in terms of fulfilment of nourishment of their respective population.
- Countries like Zambia, Chad, Ethiopia, Angola are quite behind in terms of food supply to their population.

So the basic of a nation should be to provide their population with the sufficient food supply, so there should be an honest attempt for not only agriculturally lagging nations but also capable nations to make the line of food consumption and line of food production in as much accord as possible, and defeat the starvation together.