

# The NATO Science for Peace and Security (SPS) Programme & Environmental Security

What is **not**  
Desertification?

&

What are the  
Security  
aspects?

What can be done?

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What is **not**  
Desertification?

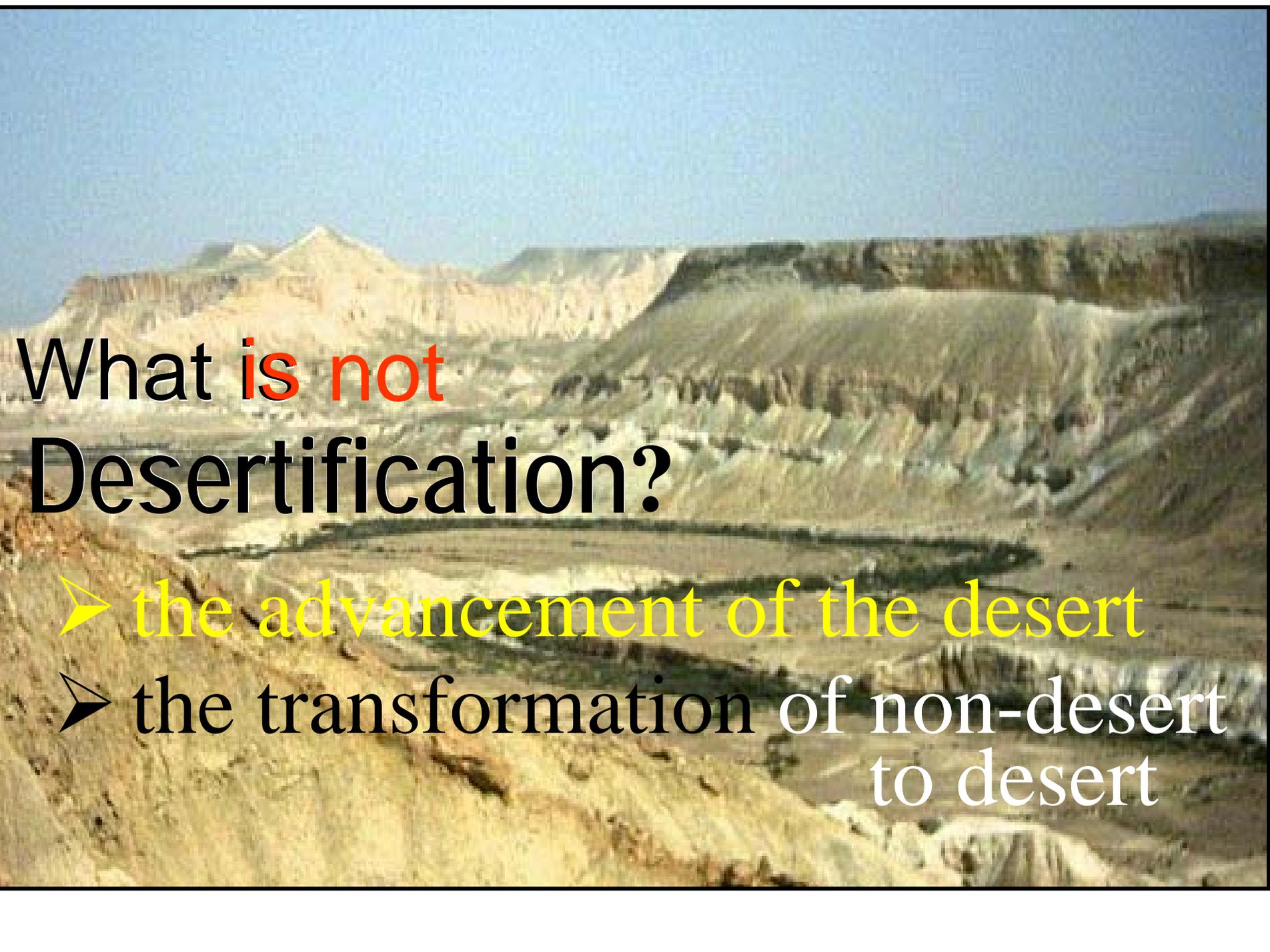


➤ the advancement of the desert

A scenic view of a forest with a path leading through trees towards a valley. The path is a dirt road that curves through the trees. The trees are mostly green, with some bare branches visible. In the background, there are rolling hills and a valley. The sky is blue with some light clouds.

# What is **not** Desertification?

- the advancement of the desert
- the transformation of non-desert



# What **is not** Desertification?

- the advancement of the desert
- the transformation of non-desert to desert

# Article 1 of UNCCD – Use of terms

“desertification” : land degradation

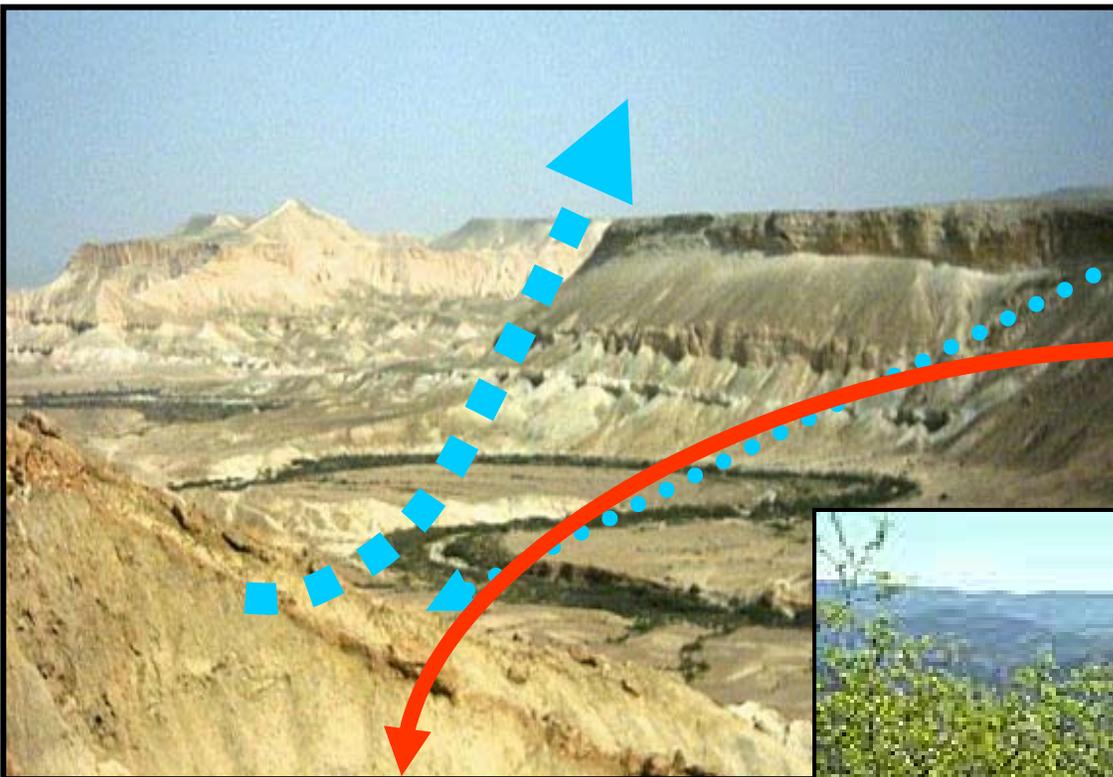
“land degradation:

**reduction**/loss of **biological productivity**

When and where “desertification”  
applies?

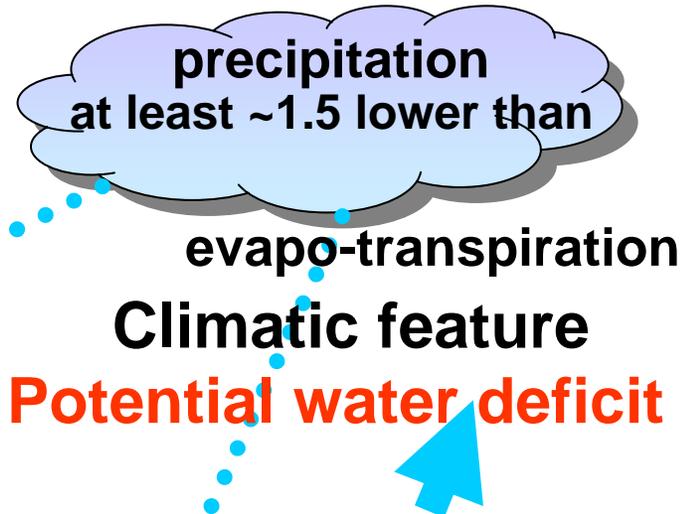
- mainly caused by **land uses**
- in the **drylands**

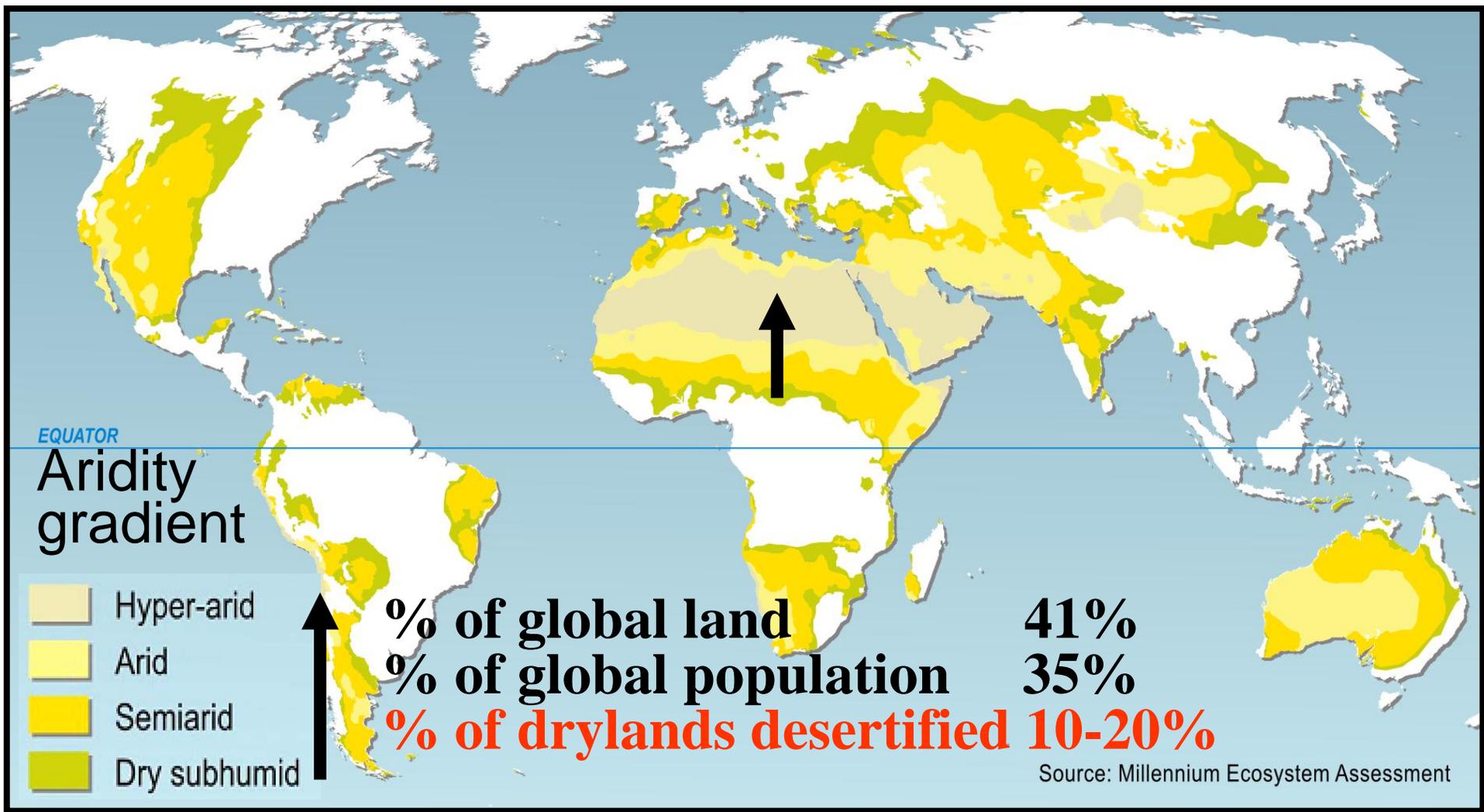
# What is a dryland?

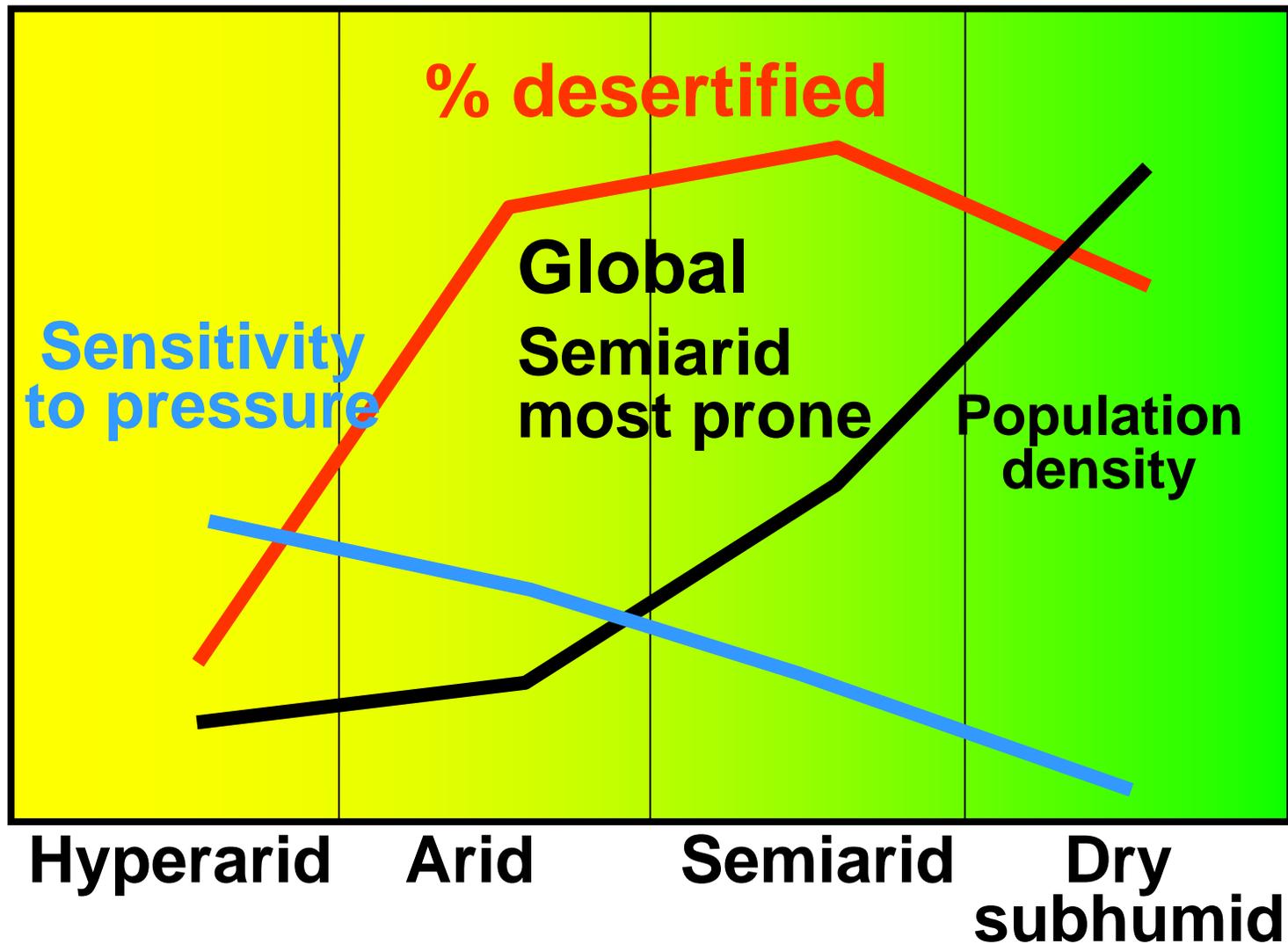


**Biological feature**

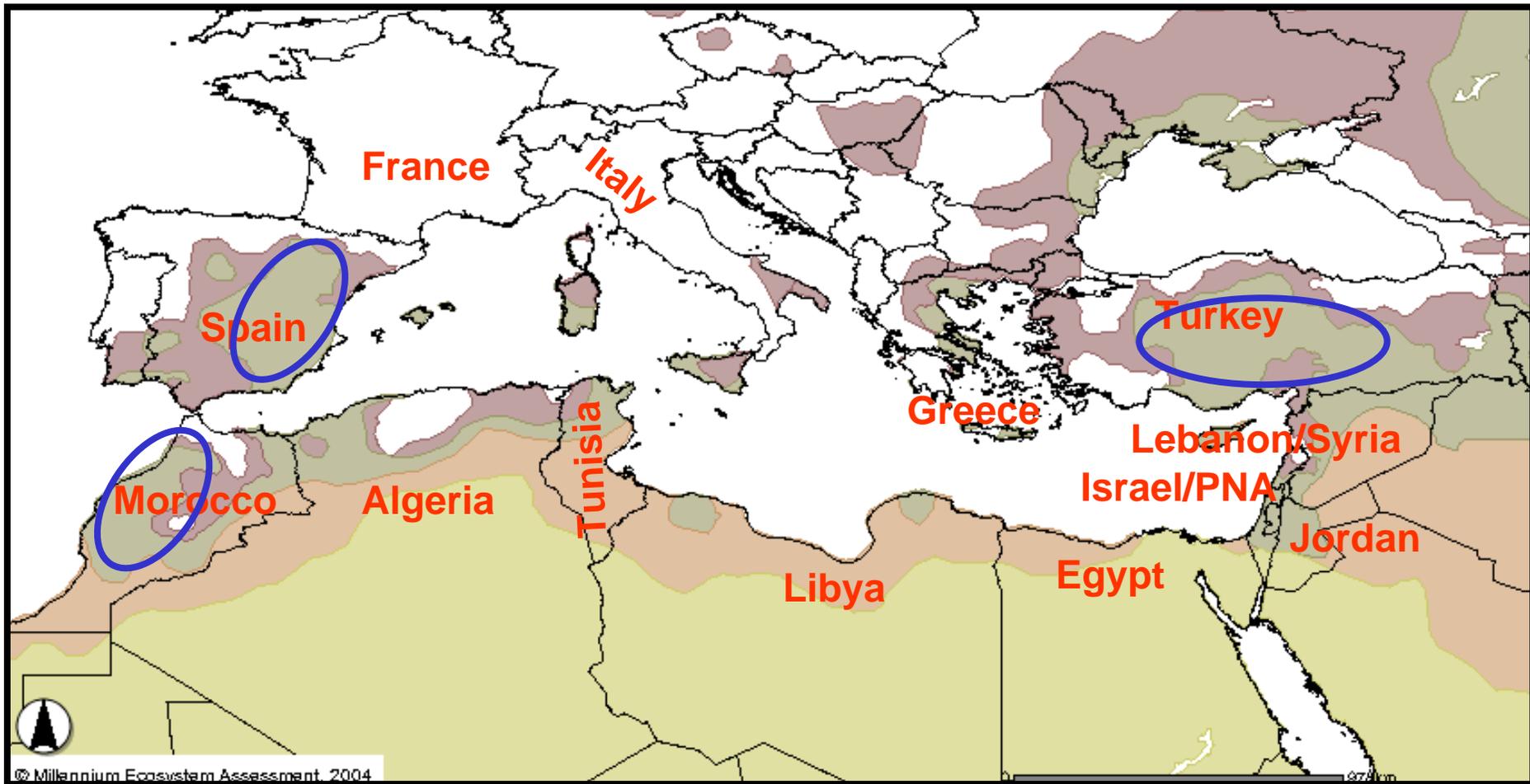
**Productivity  
limited by soil  
moisture**







What about Europe/Mediterranean?



- Hyperarid
- Arid
- Semiarid
- Dry-subhumid

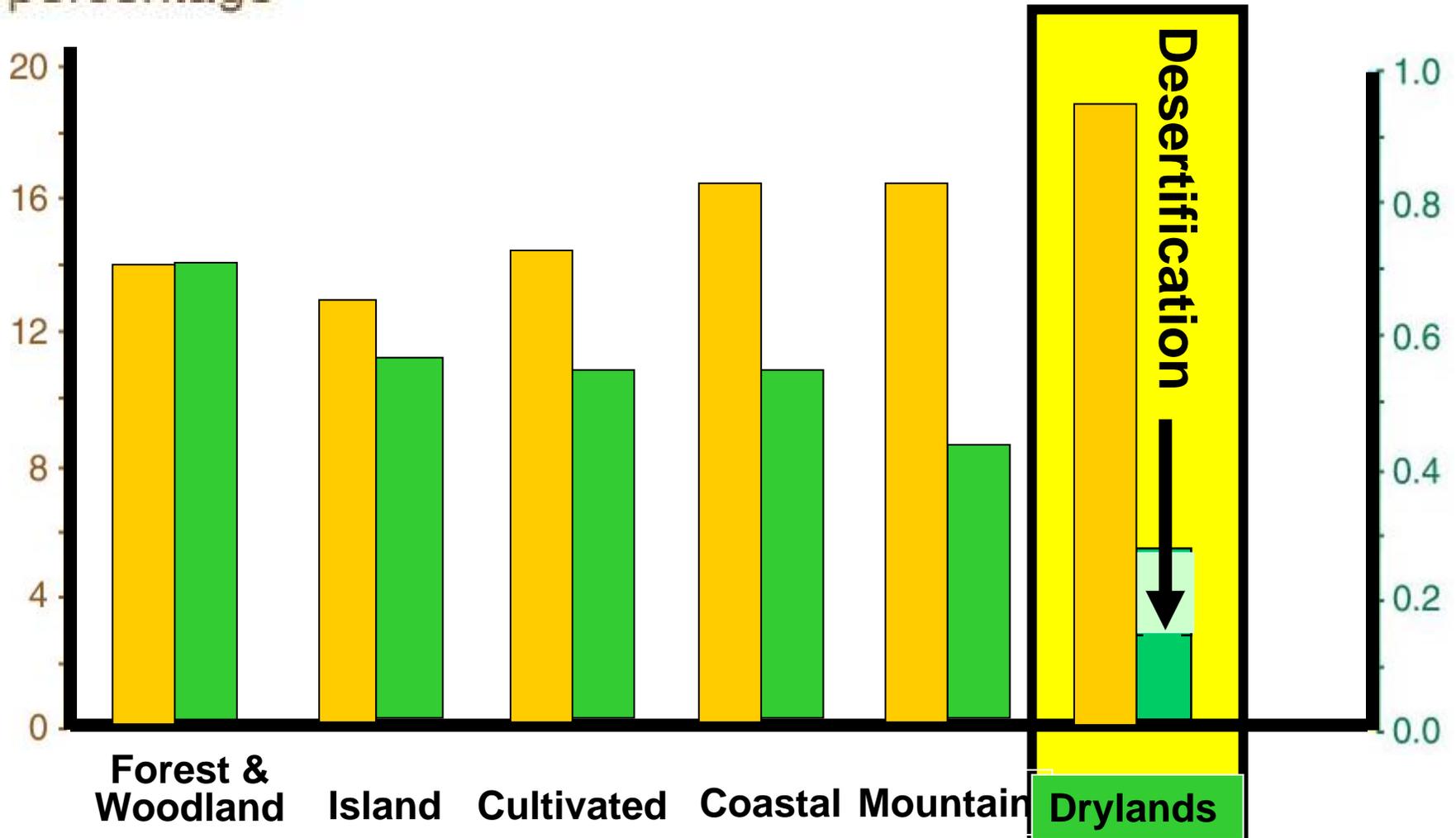
Desertification → reduction from what?

## Dryland attributes

- Low productivity
- High population growth

Net primary  
productivity  
kg / sq. meter / year

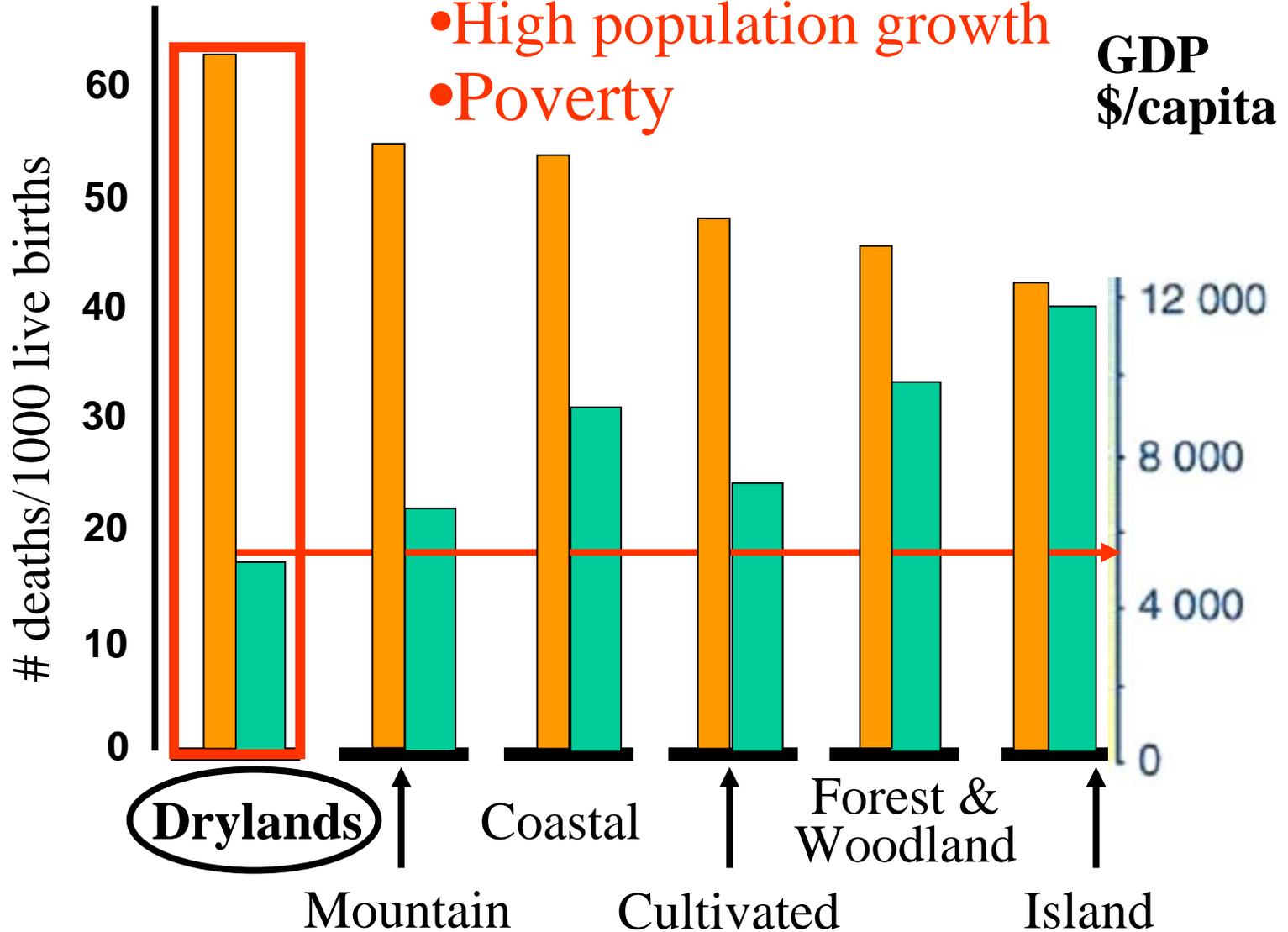
Population growth  
between 1990 and 2000  
in percentage



# Infant mortality rate

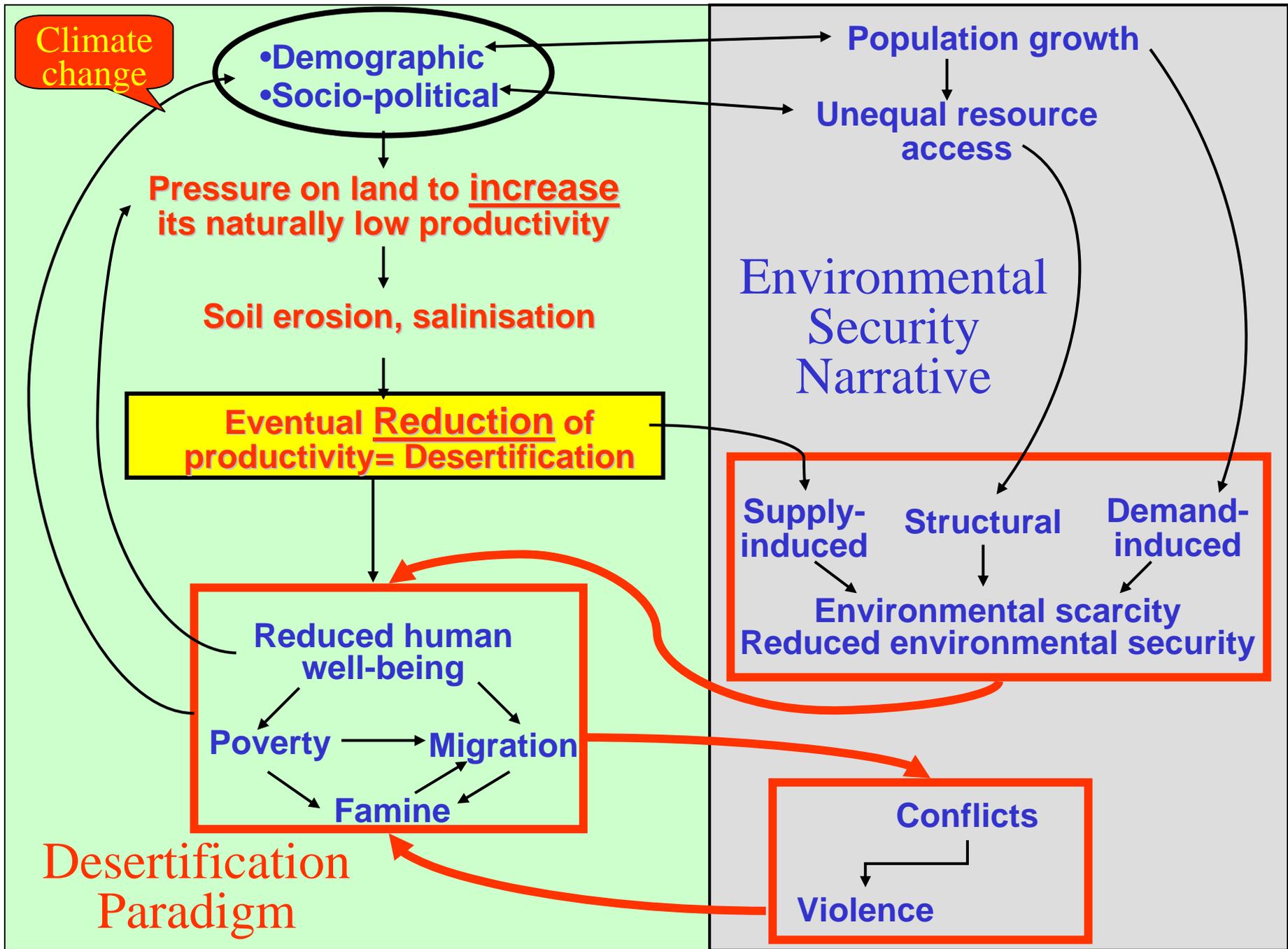
## Dryland attributes

- Low natural productivity
- High population growth
- Poverty



What is  
Desertification? & What are its  
Security  
aspects?  
Poverty 

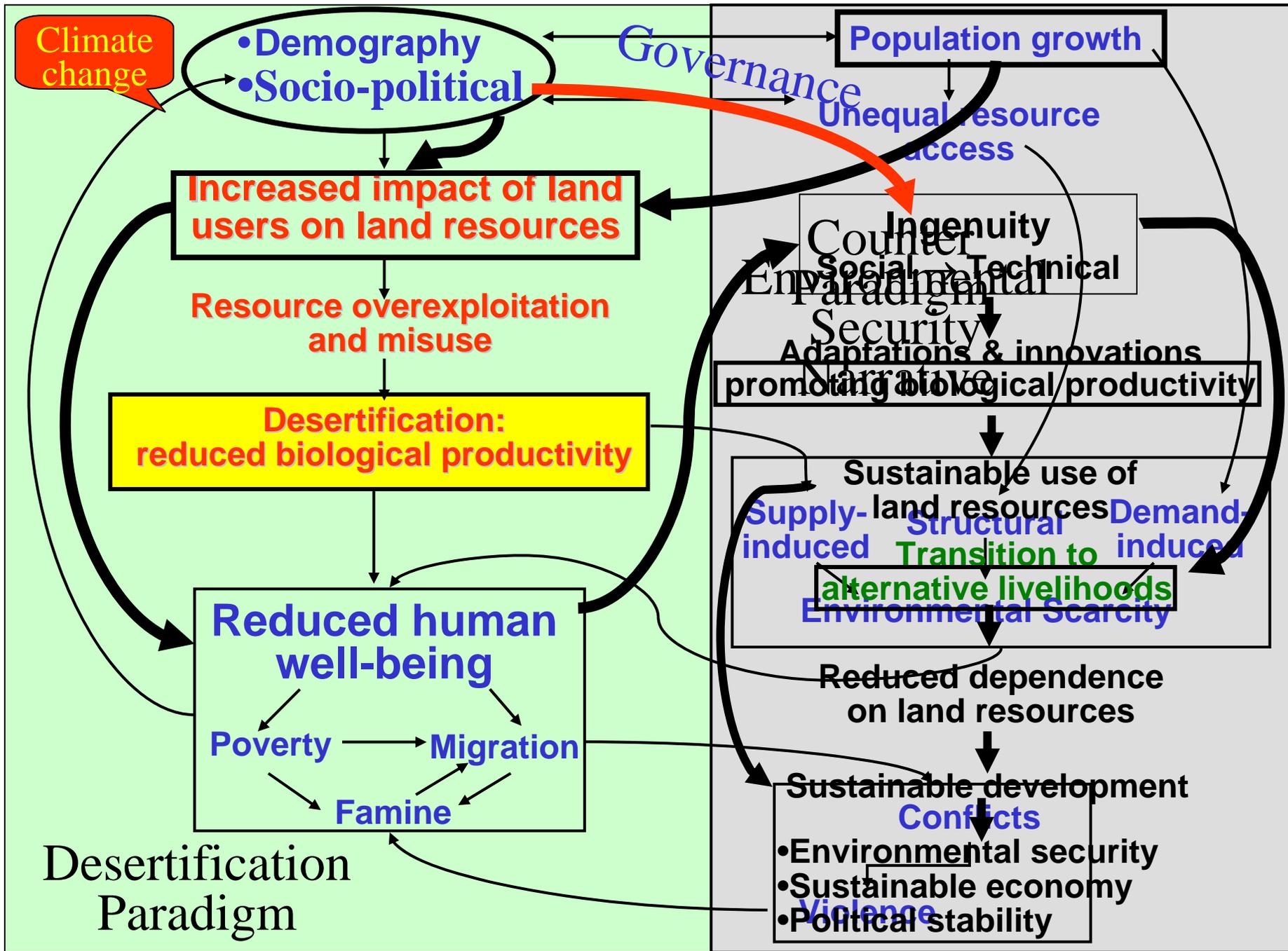
Driven by desertification  
Driving desertification



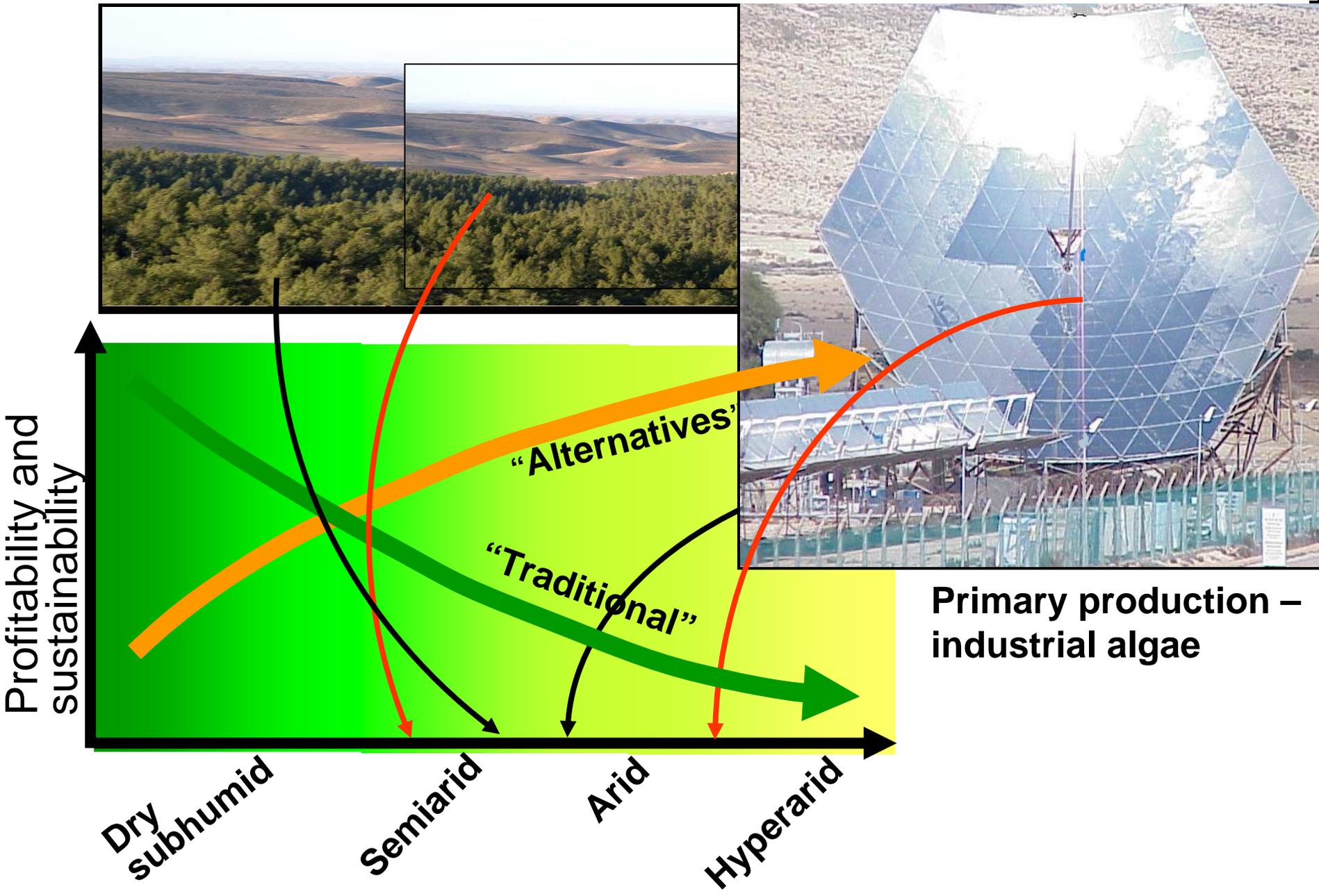
What is Desertification? and What are its Security aspects?  
Poverty 

Driven by desertification  
Driving desertification

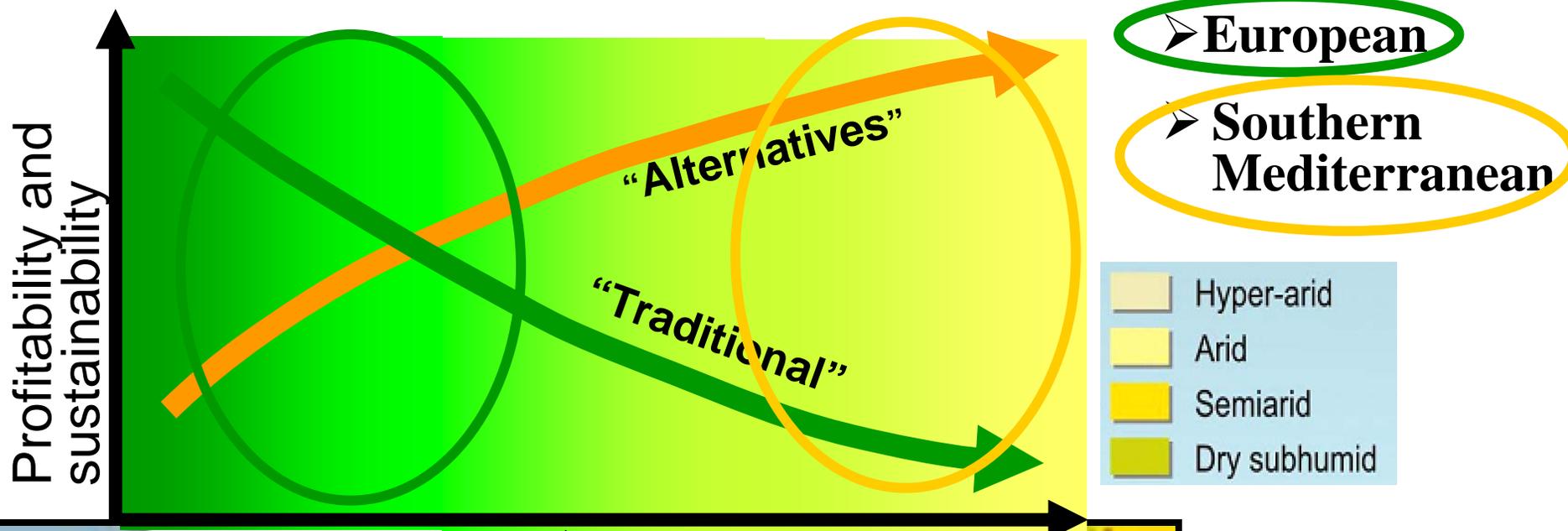
What can be done?



# Livelihoods based on exploitation of drylands advantages

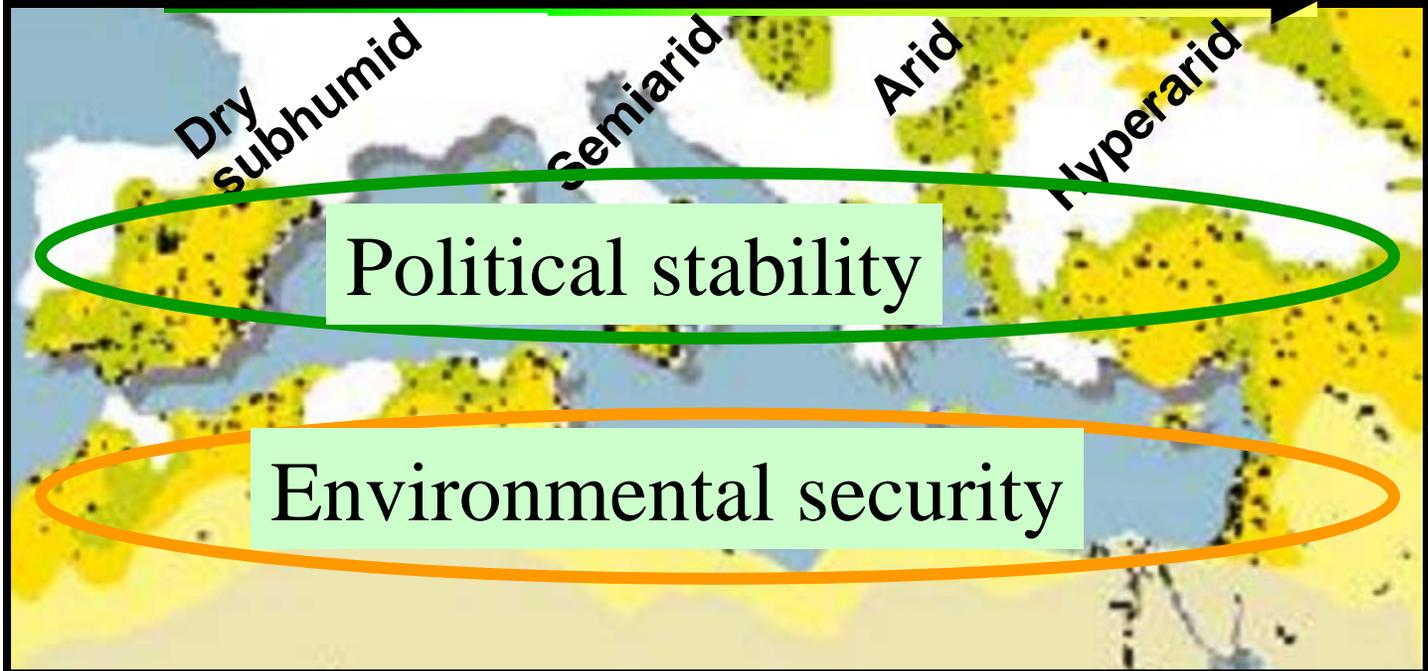


# Drylands/Desertification security risks:



➤ **European**

➤ **Southern Mediterranean**



## Impediments?

➤ **Technology**

➤ **Tradition**

## Needs

➤ **Investments**

➤ **Governance**