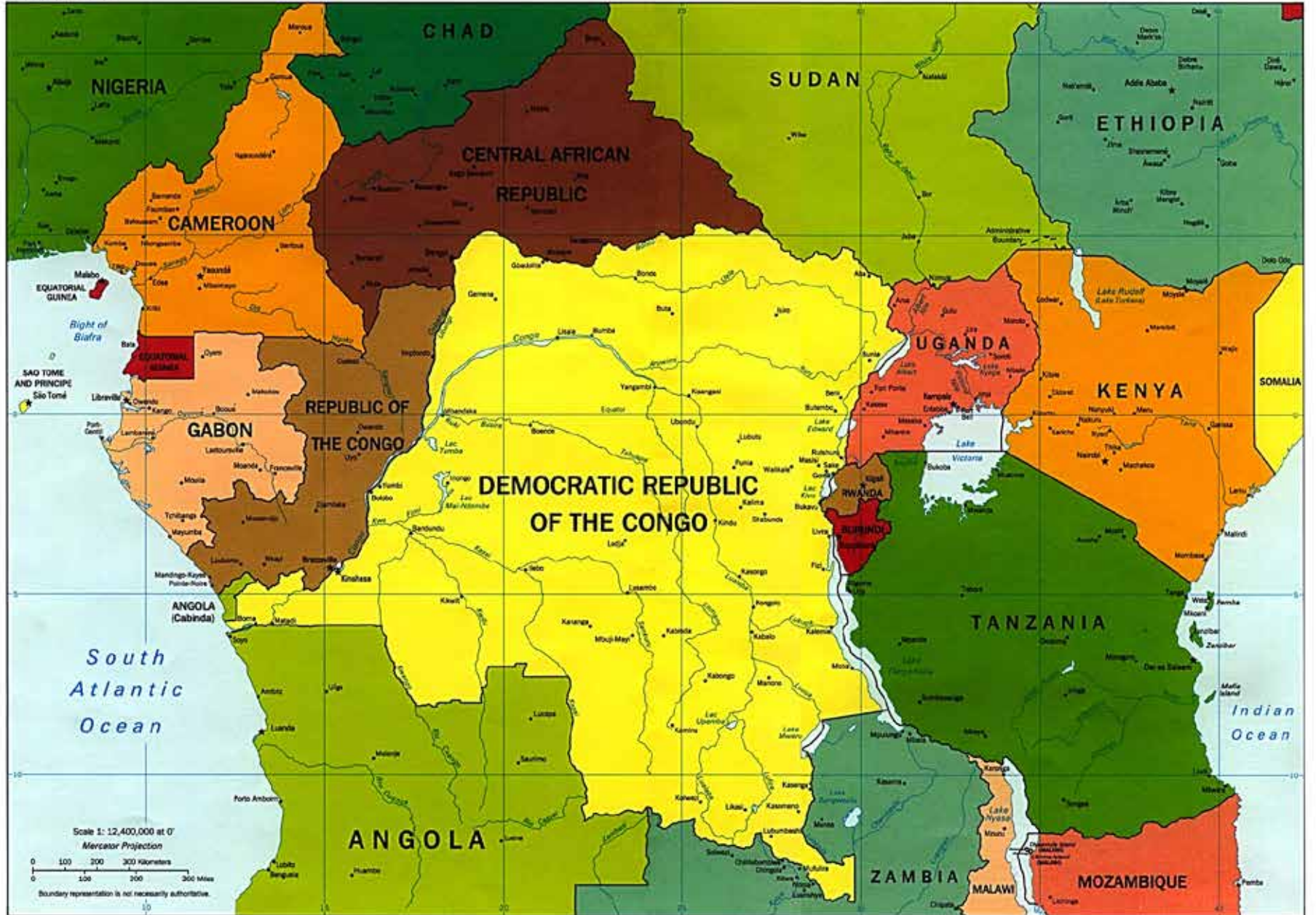


Farming in Burundi and Tanzania



**ETIENE HACIMANA
FIRMIN NTAKIMAZI**

Central Africa



Burundi



- Land of many rivers
- Located on a plateau near Lake Tanganyika
 - “Indagala” fishing
- Very grassy with many trees





Growing up farming



- Both lived in the best district for farming in Burundi
 - 10 miles away from each other!
- Parents go to farm when the kids are at school



Children's Role on the Farm



- Helped parents carry seeds to the field before school and then helped until dark after school
- Summer/Christmas break
- Taking care of animals (feeding, washing, taking out to pasture, guarding)



Agriculture in Burundi



- Yellow kidney beans
- Corn
- Cassava trees
- Green Peas
- Avocados



Agriculture in Burundi



- Cabbage
- Sweet Potatoes, all kinds of potatoes
- Coffee
 - Burundi once received prize as the best coffee in the world!
- White Rice
- Banana Trees



Lenga-lenga



Seasons in Central Africa



- 3 main seasons
- Oct. – Jan: Small Rainy Season
 - ÷ Plant beans and corn together
- Jan. – April: Very Rainy Season
 - ÷ Harvest beans (after 3 months)
 - ÷ Harvest corn April/May (after 6 months)
- May – Sept: Hot Season (harvest)
 - ÷ Start planting around the flood plains



Refugee Situation



- War between Hutu (crops), Tutsi (livestock), and Twa (craft)
 - Power and Land
 - Our families still “own” land in Burundi
- People fled 1972 and 1993 to Tanzania



Refugee camps in Tanzania



- Given 65x82 sq. ft. for a house
- Home gardens, if there was space:
 - ! Tomatoes
 - ! Leafy green vegetables
 - ! Peppers
- ÷ Add to the small UNHCR ration



President Mkapa



- Showed favor to refugees and wanted to limit crime around the camps
- Took out the bush and surrounded the camps with farm land
- Every household had at least 1 acre
 - 30 minutes - 2 hours to walk to their acre of land



Cash Crops in Tanzania



- Beans
- Corn
- Sorghum
- Cassava



Markets



- Trucks would come to the camps from neighboring cities and buy from traders
- One day a week we would carry produce by bicycle or on our heads to a local market outside the camp
 - ! Only allowed to leave that one day



Exporting from the camps



- 1972 refugees
 - | tobacco and beans
 - | Built a railroad to the camp to export the crops to the bigger cities



Our farms



- **Firmin – 5 acres**
 - | Yellow beans and corn, garden at home with vegetables
- **Etiene – 6 acres**
 - | Yellow beans, cassava, rice, sorghum, sweet potatoes, vegetables
- Hire people to work from the camp, pay them daily

In the U.S.



- **Etiene – 2 years at Franklin City of Des Moines Community Garden**
 - Tomatoes, green peppers, spinach, corn
- **Firmin – now has a larger garden at their house**
 - Tomatoes, corn, green beans (like to eat the leaves)

Both very interested in getting back into farming as a way to make an income!

Questions?

