Activity: Pandemic

Instructions and tasks

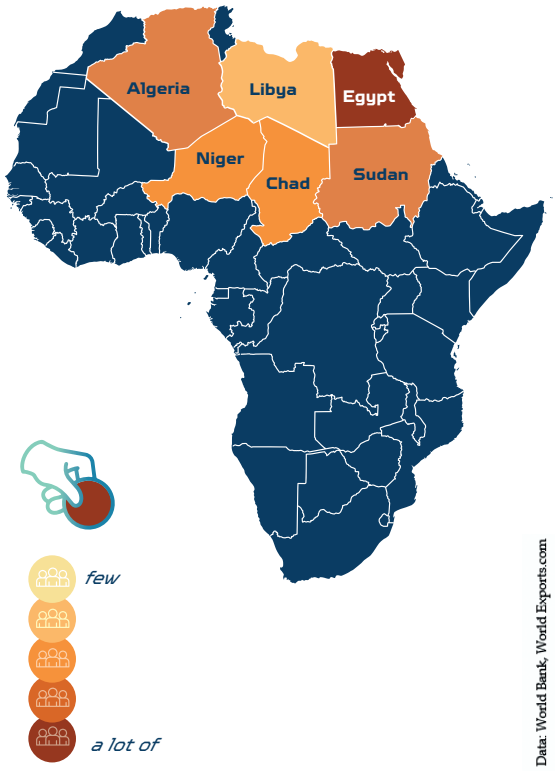
This learning box imitates fictionally and in a very simplified way the work of AI systems that are supposed to predict epidemics or pandemics. For this purpose, the working methods of international AI projects were linked to a map of Africa that the US Department of Defence created in 2020, based on the central factors triggering Covid 19. The students analyse the various factors and thus predict the outbreak of a new pandemic. They recognise that the factors can only be collected to a limited extent and that a sufficient number of factors is necessary for a prediction.

The activity can be used in the area of 'Ethics and society' or 'Fields of application'. The students work in pairs or in small groups and evaluate the individual factors. Depending on the evaluation, suitable coins are distributed to the countries. The prediction of a pandemic outbreak is based on the number of coins.

Task to print out:

Factor:
Urbanisation

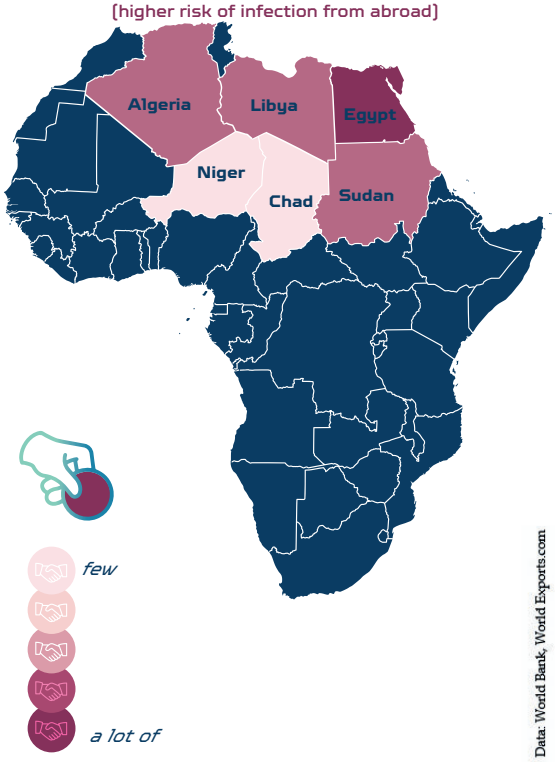
How many people live in the cities?



Factor:
Contact to other Countries

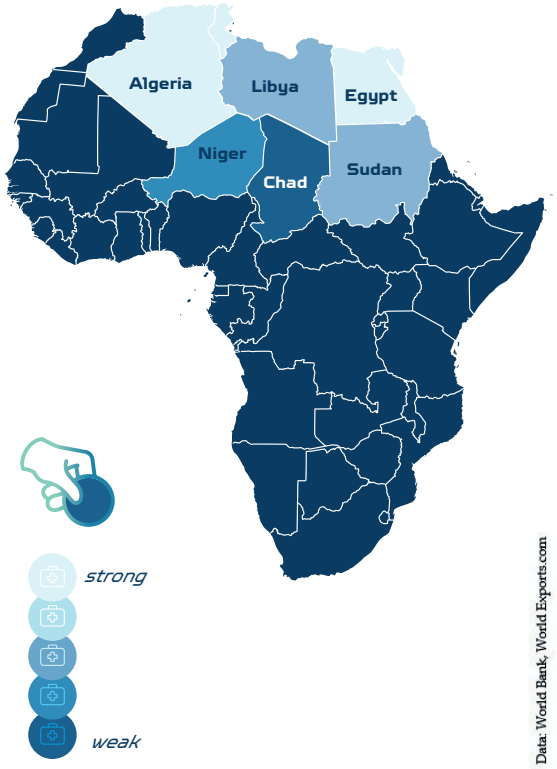
How strong is the country internationally connected with other contries?

(higher risk of infection from abroad)



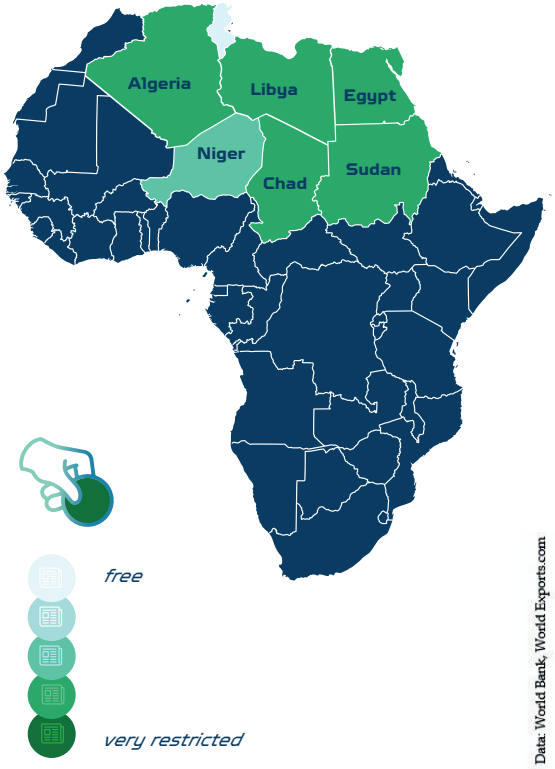
Factor:
Quality of the Healthcare System

How strong and efficient is the healthcare system?



Factor:
Freedom of the Press

How free is the press of political pressure?



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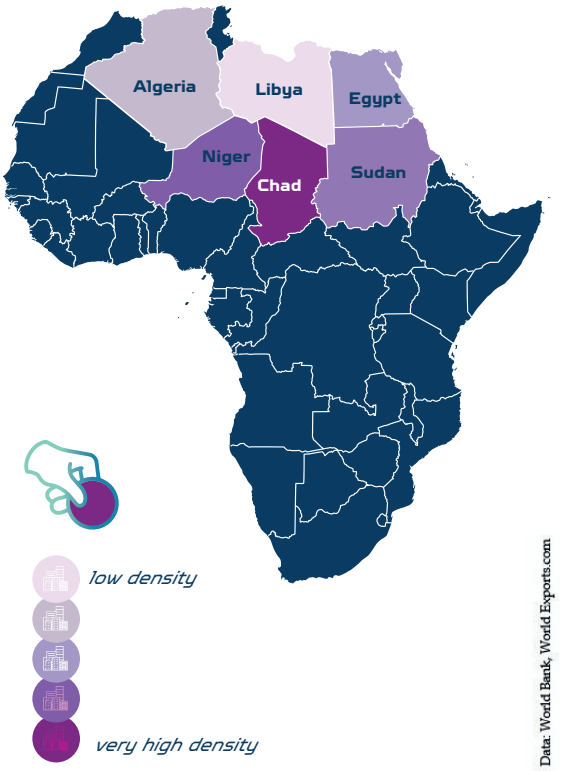
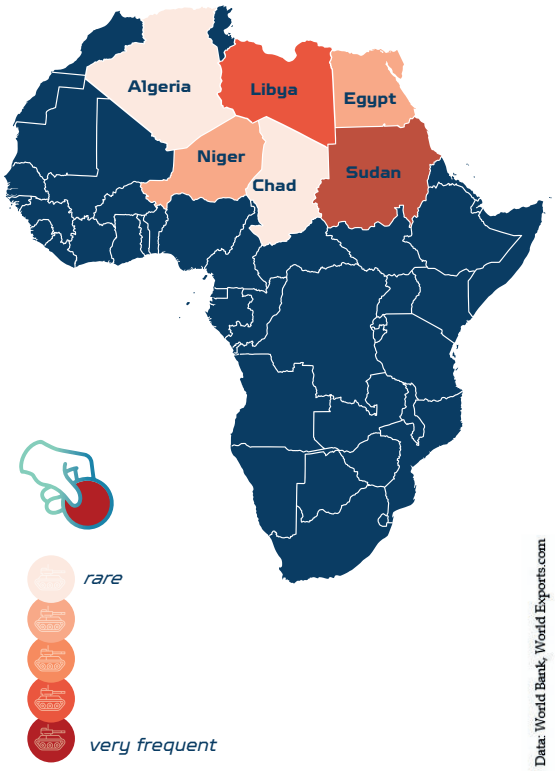
Factor:
Density of Urban Area

How densely populated are the cities of a country?



Factor:
Number of Conflicts

How often are there wars and conflicts?



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Factors:

- Contact with other Countries
- Quality of the healthcare system
- Freedom of the Press
- Density of Urban Areas
- Number of Conflicts
- Urbanisation

Algeria

Libya

Egypt

Niger

Chad

Sudan