

**Decision Support Modelling  
in Export Planning and Analysis**

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**South Africa's maize exports**  
A Strategic Export Market Analysis  
Approach



# Outline of Presentation

- 1. Context**
- 2. Methodology**
- 3. Results**
- 4. Summary and Conclusions**

# Context

South Africa within the global context

# Background

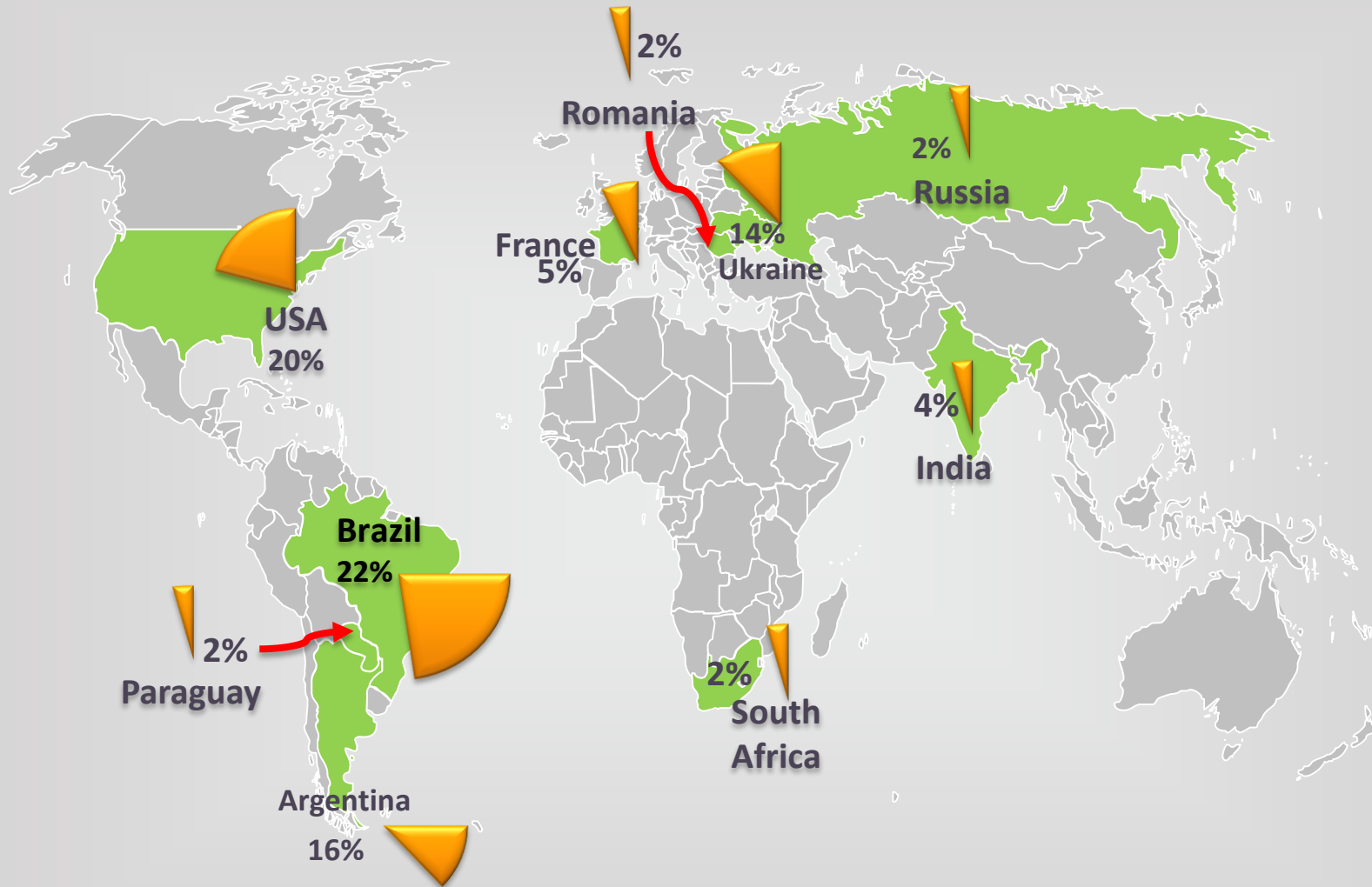
- Saturated domestic market, slow local demand growth and increased competition compelling more agribusinesses to consider exporting or, if already operating in international level, to diversify into new export markets.
- Key Question are:
  - Which markets should SA prioritise and focus its attention on, given limited resources?
  - How do we generate the trade intelligence to answer this question?



# Problem Statement

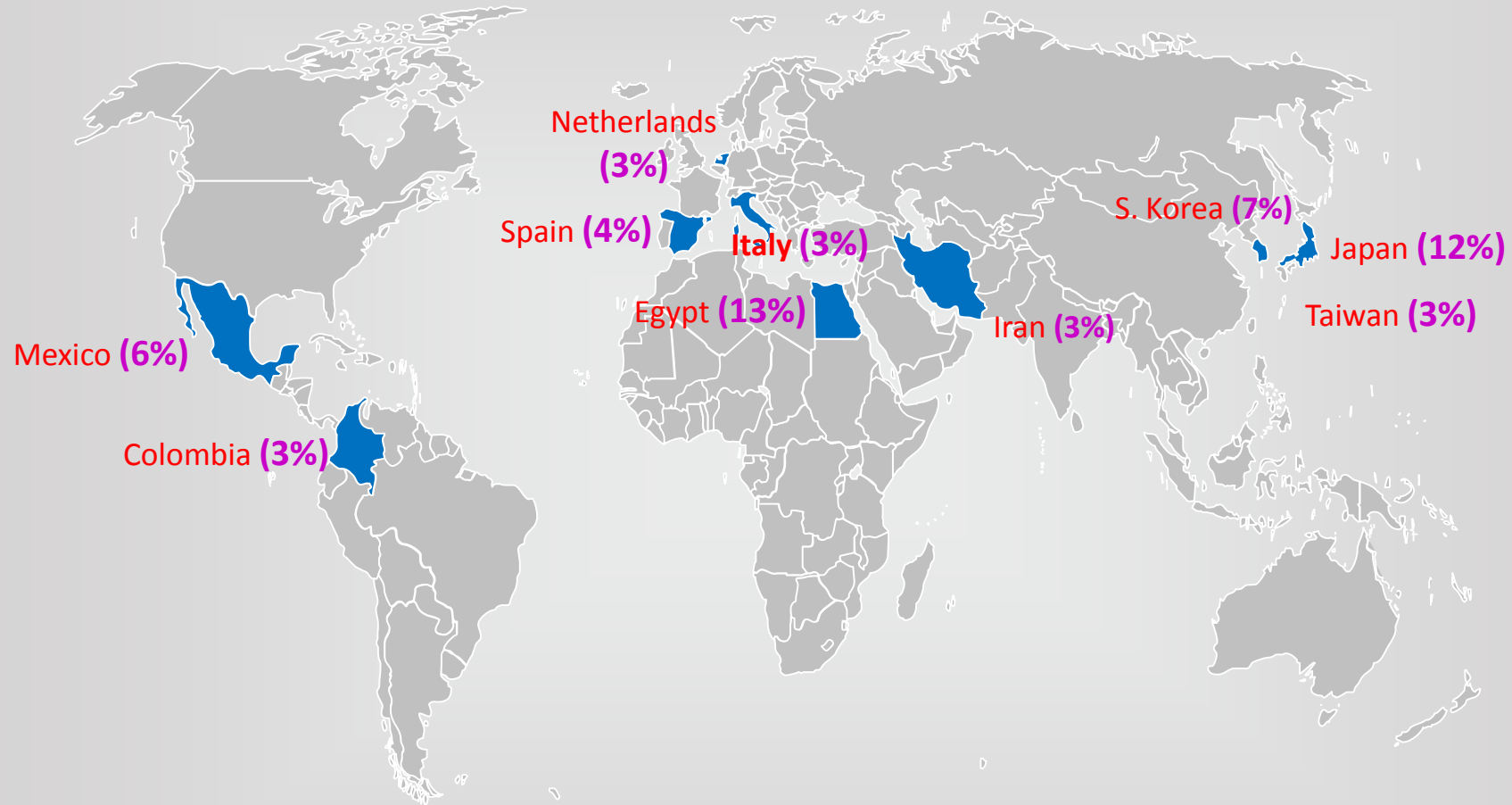
- Outside of the SADC region, SA's maize markets are irregular and inconsistent
- SA's exports are highly concentrated i.e. a large share of maize exports goes to a few countries
- This increases exporter's risk in a global market that is already uncertain and highly unpredictable
- This motivates the need for “export planning and analysis” in order to identify available and potential market opportunities
- The aim is to prioritise a diverse set of countries towards which market development activities can be committed

# Top 10 largest global maize export markets (2013)



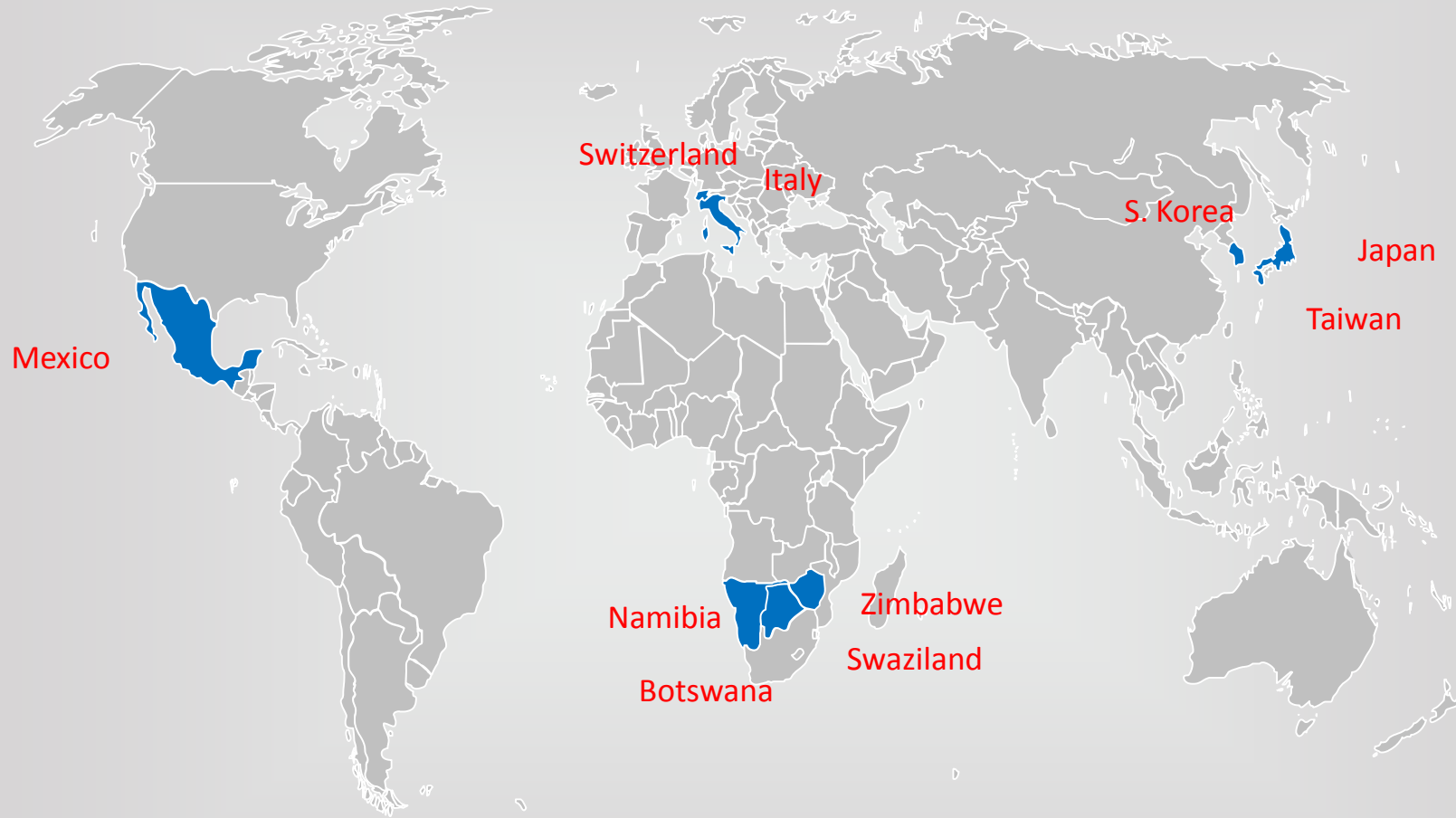
The top 10 largest maize exporters by value (2013) account for **89%** of total global maize exports

# Top 10 largest maize importers by volume (2013)



The top 10 largest maize importers by value (2013) account for **57%** of total global maize trade

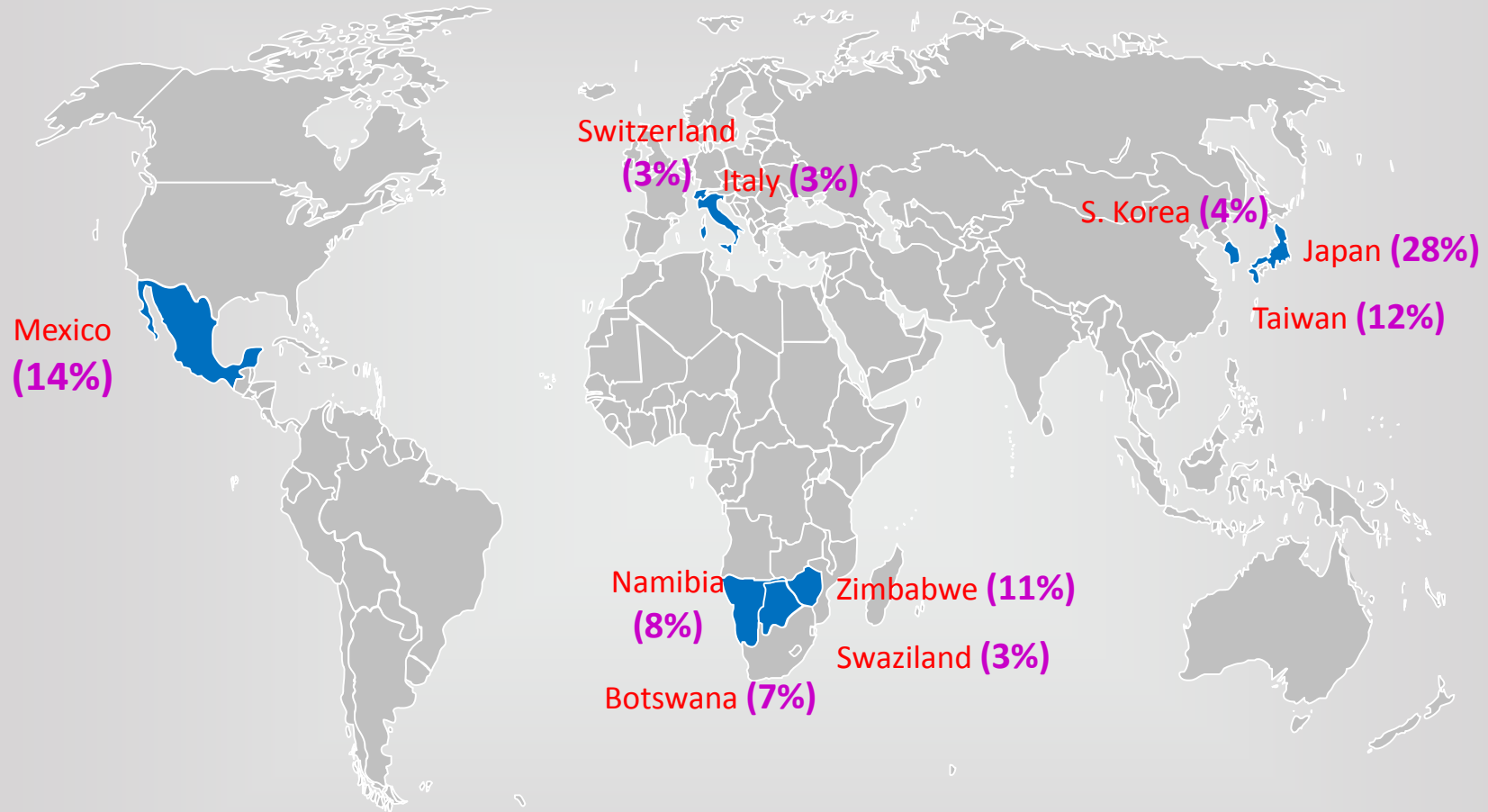
# SA's Top largest maize export markets (2013)



23% of exports went to Southern Africa; 44% Far East; 6% EU; 14% Americas, 12% others



# SA's Top largest maize export markets (2013)



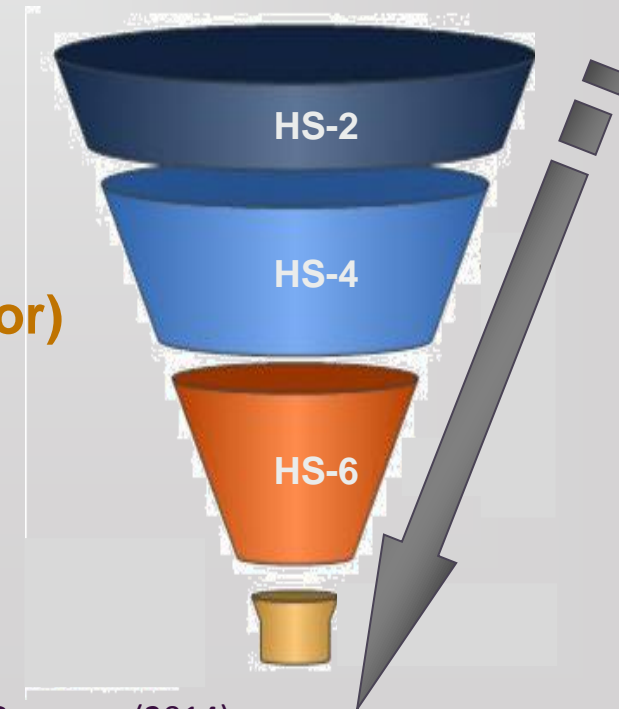
The top 10 largest maize export markets account for **92%** of SA's total maize exports in 2013

# **Methodology**

The Strategic Export Market Analysis Approach

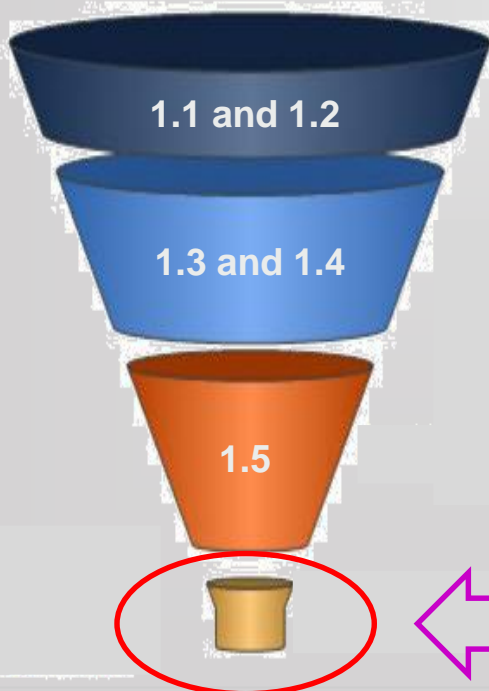
# The data

- We use trade data from the Harmonized System (HS) - *a numerical classification system of products used as a basis for international trade statistics by almost all countries.*
- Data sourced from the International Trade Centre (ITC)
- A breakdown of trade data into 3 clusters:
  - => **HS-2 digit: the chapter of the good (sector)**  
E.g. 10 = Cereals
  - => **HS-4 digit: group within the chapter (sub-sector)**  
E.g. 1005 = Maize (corn)
  - => **HS-6 digit : product within the group**  
E.g. 100590 = Maize (corn) nes



# The SEMA model

- The Strategic Export Market Analysis approach is a “rules based” decision support tool
- It uses a sequential filtering process (5 filters) that eliminate less promising export opportunities, and focuses on those countries that show the most potential



Filter 1.1: export growth (+ve or -ve; *high* or *low*)

Filter 1.2: market share (+ve or -ve; *high* or *low*)

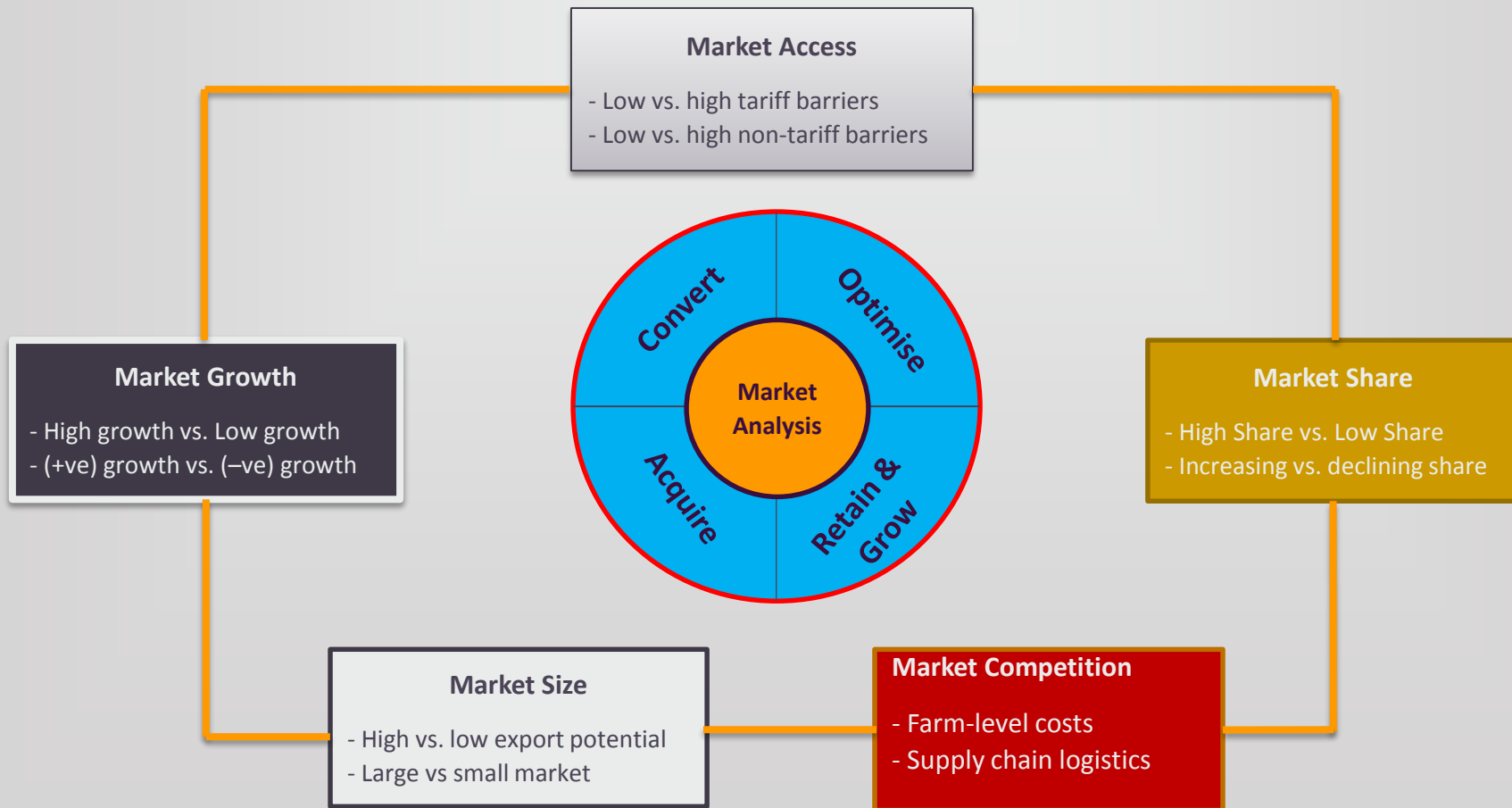
Filter 1.3 market size (*big* or *small*; *high* or *low* potential)

Filter 1.4 market access (high or low tariff and NTM)

Filter 1.5 market competitiveness (high or low costs)

High Potential  
“strategic” markets

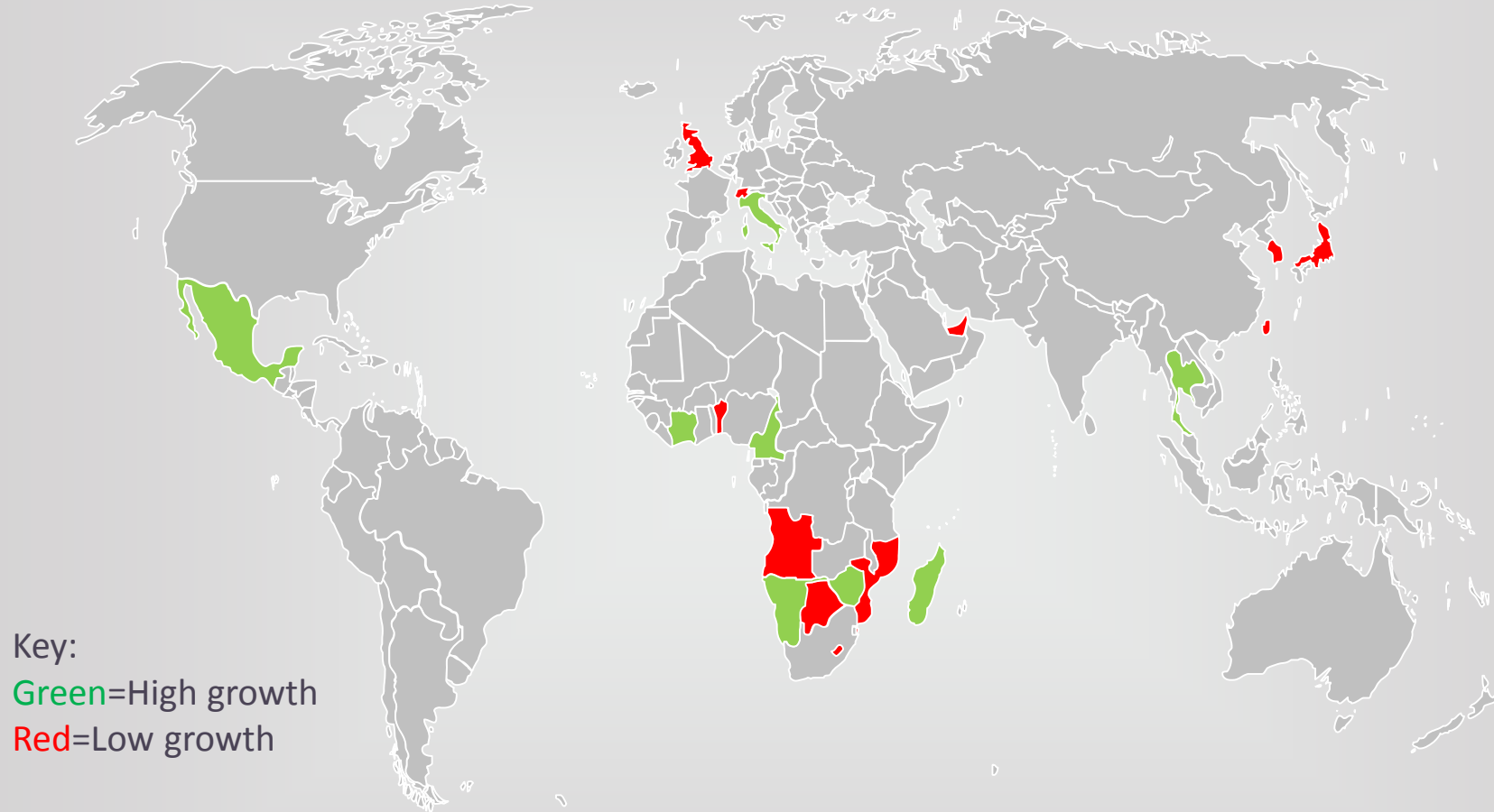
# The Conceptual Framework



# Results

The outcome of a filtering process...

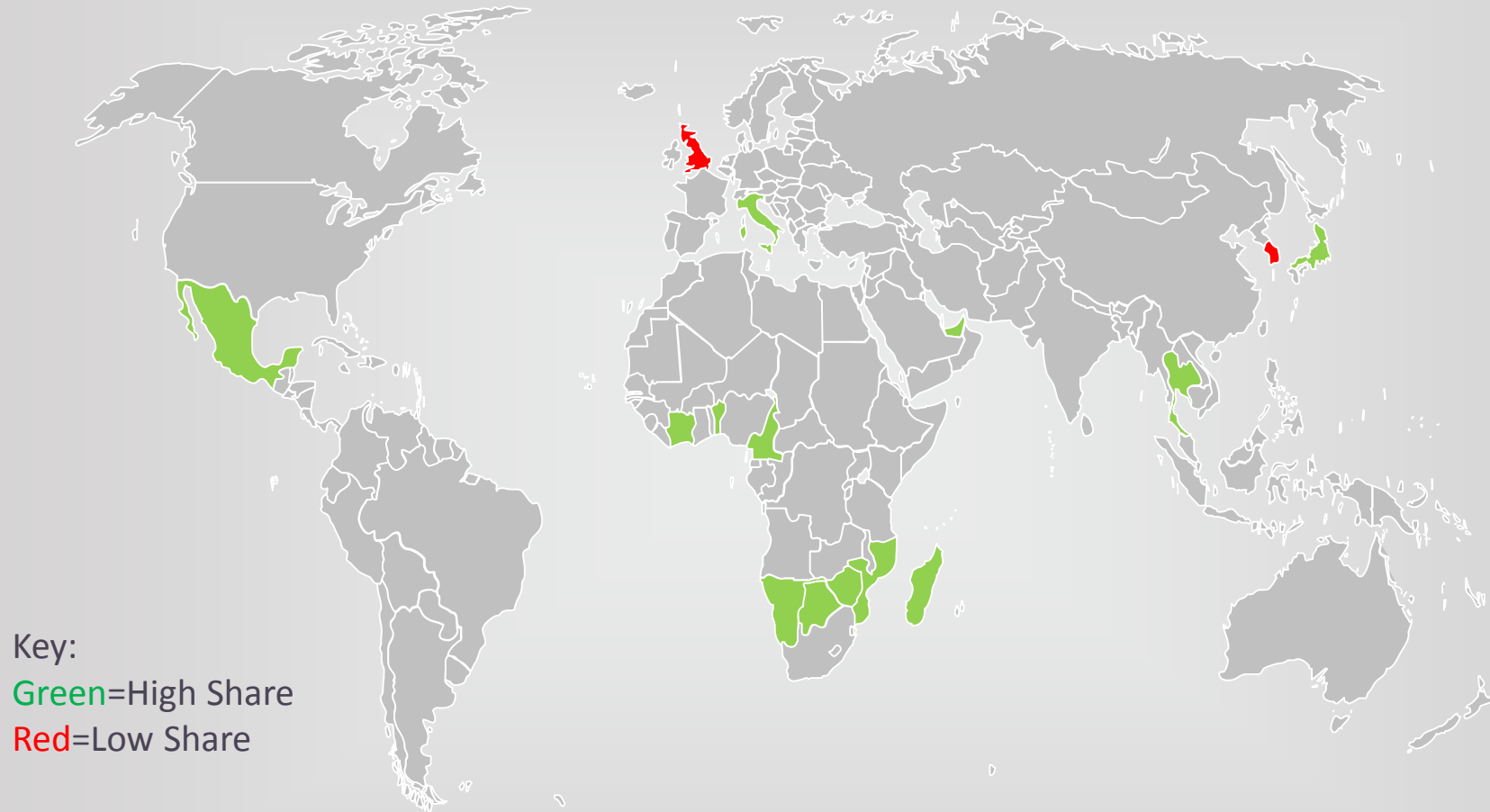
## Filter 1.1: export growth What is SA's Market Growth



The world growth rate of **13%** is used as a benchmark to separate low from high growth markets

## Filter 1.2: Market Share

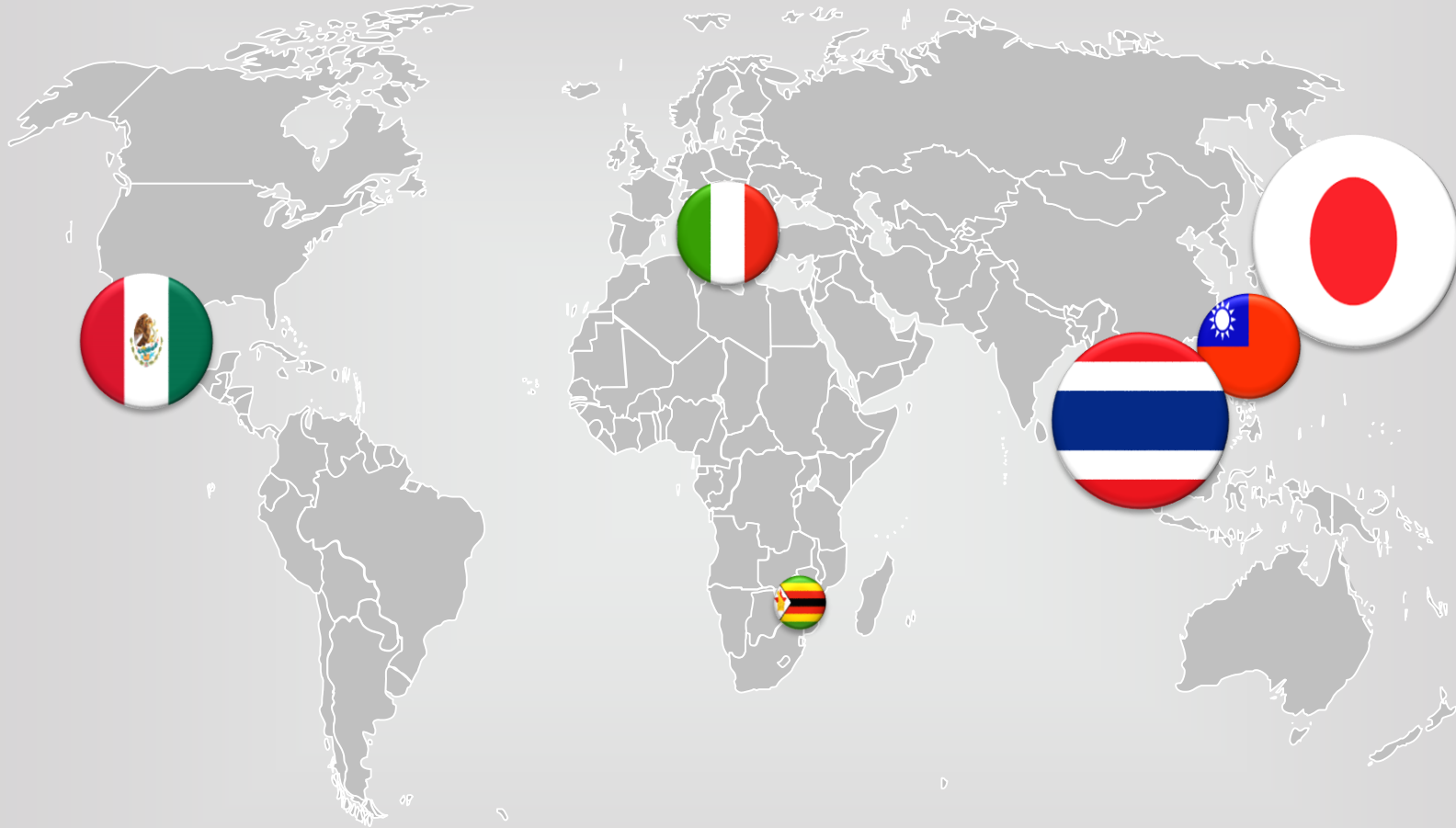
### What is SA's Market Share?



SA's market share of the world of **2%** is used as a benchmark to separate low from high share markets



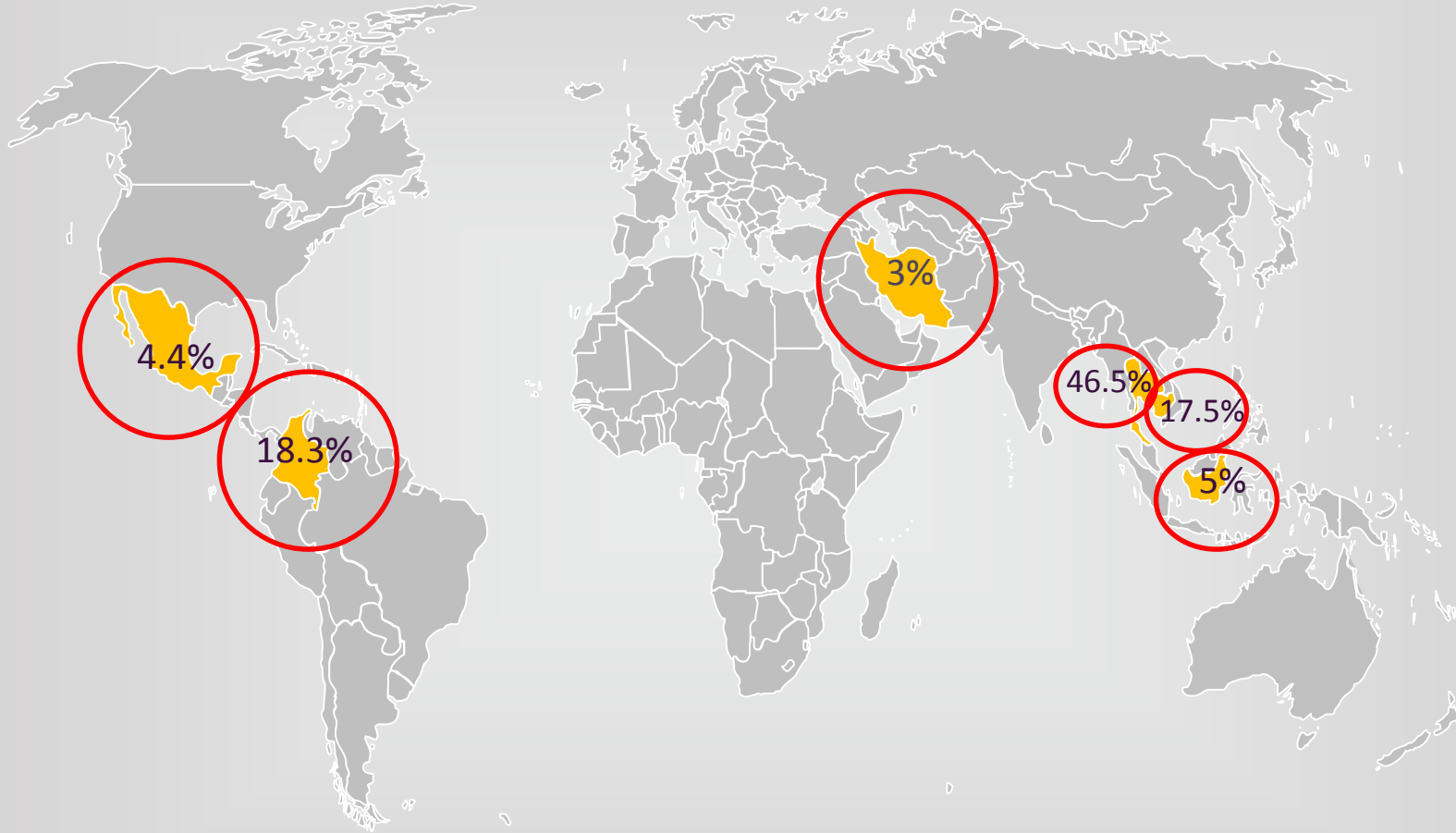
## Filter 1.3 Market Size What is the Market Demand?



Indicative Trade Potential (ITP) to measure SA's unutilised export potential. Bubble graphs to illustrate potentially exploitable market size

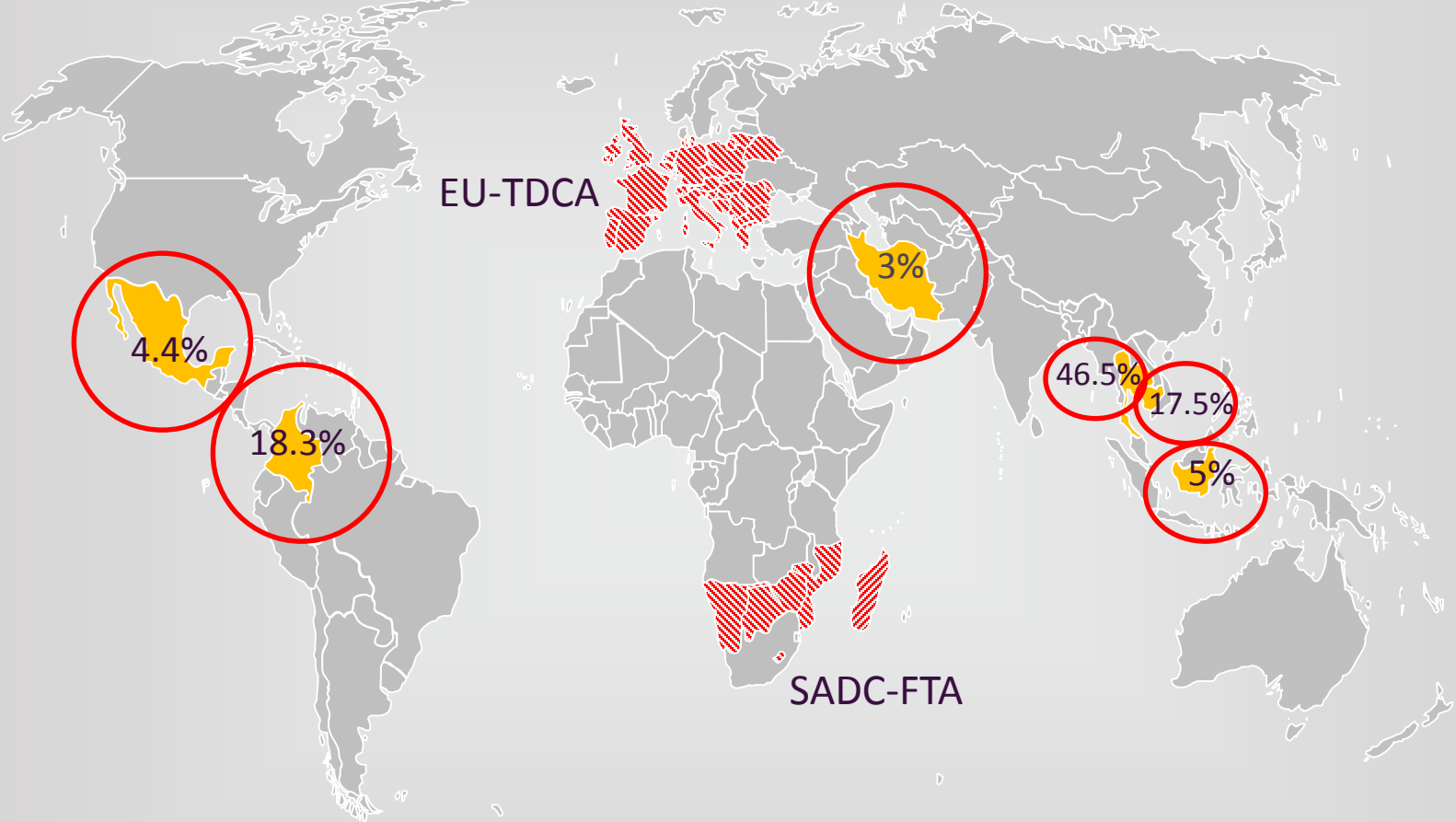
# Filter 1.4 Market Access

## What/Where are the highest tariffs?



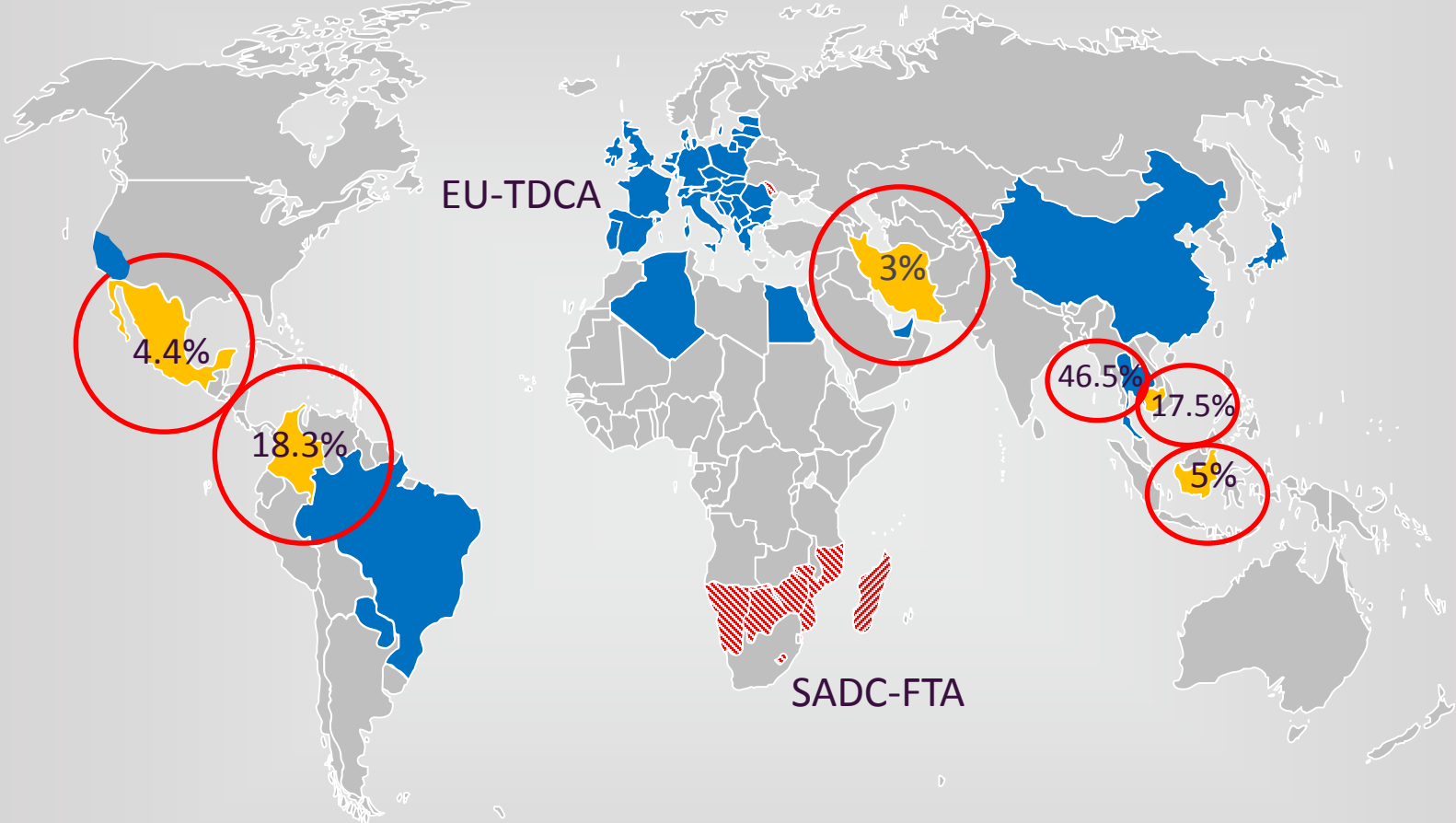
# Filter 1.4 Market Access

What/Where are the highest tariffs? Trade Agreements?



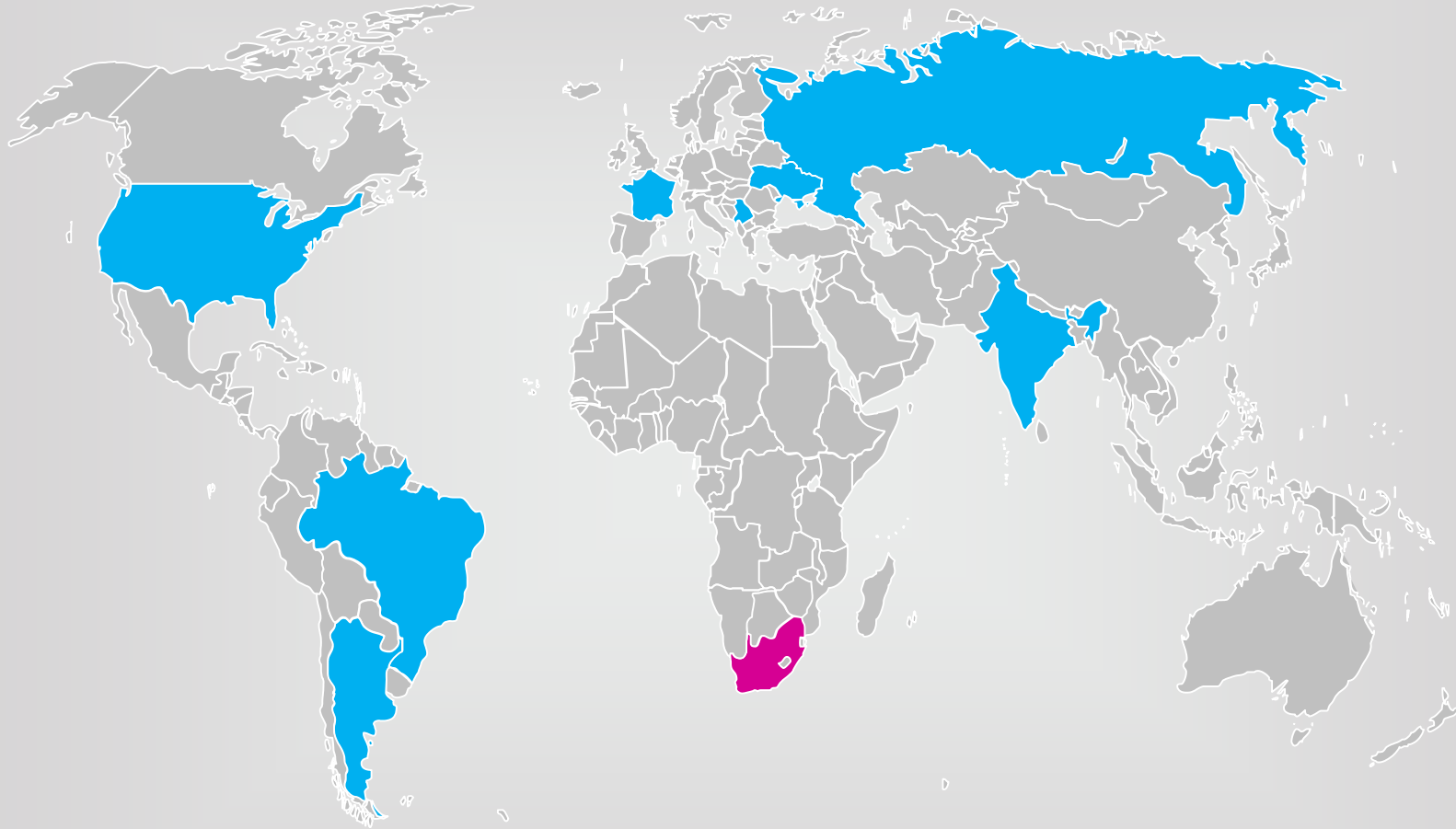
# Filter 1.4 Market Access

What/Where are the highest tariffs? Trade Agreements? GM bans?



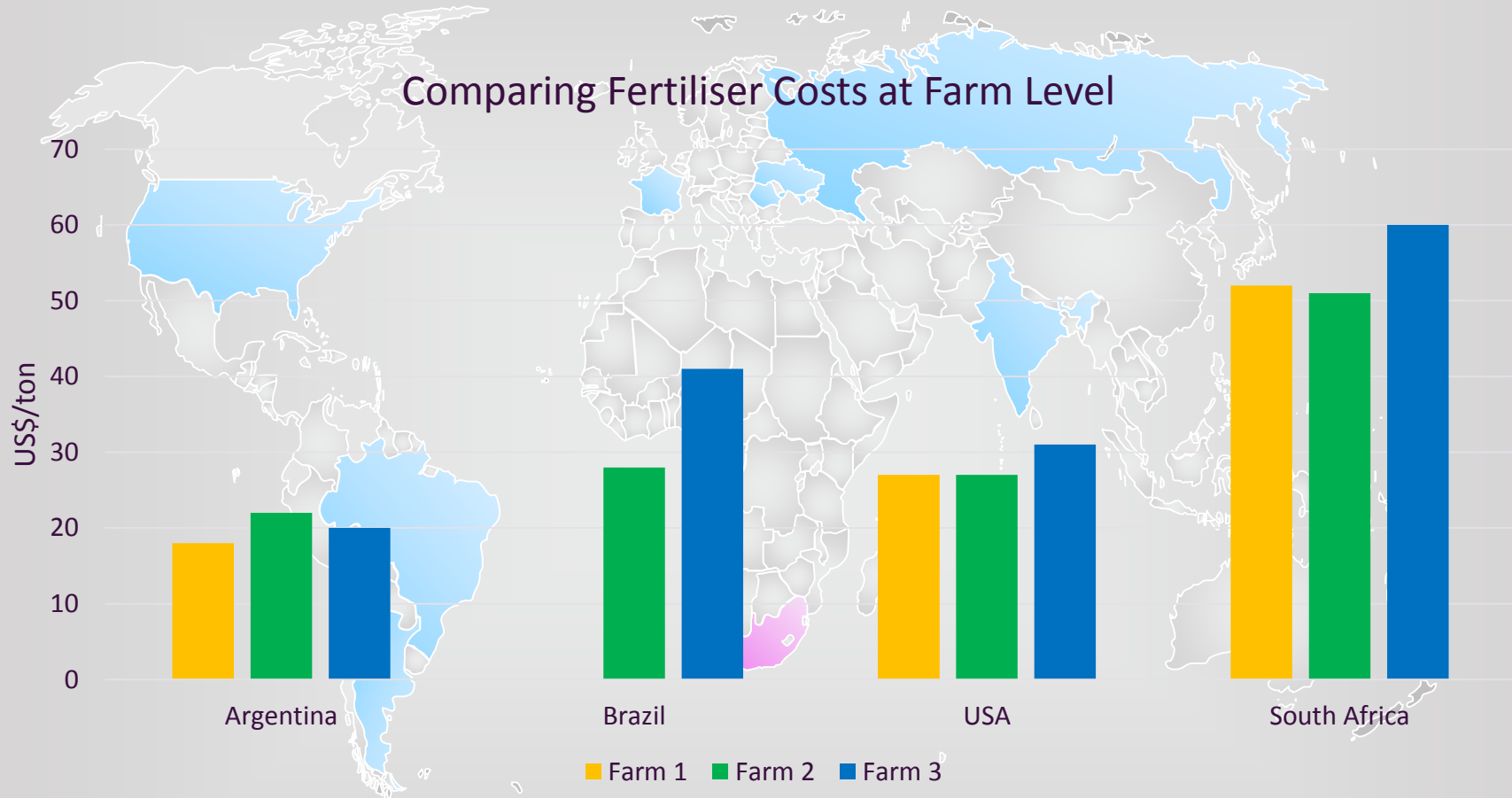
Broad GM restrictions in most parts of Africa, Europe and Asia

Filter 1.5 market competitiveness  
Who/Where is the competition?



Competition in all markets from the largest maize exports – especially Brazil and Argentina

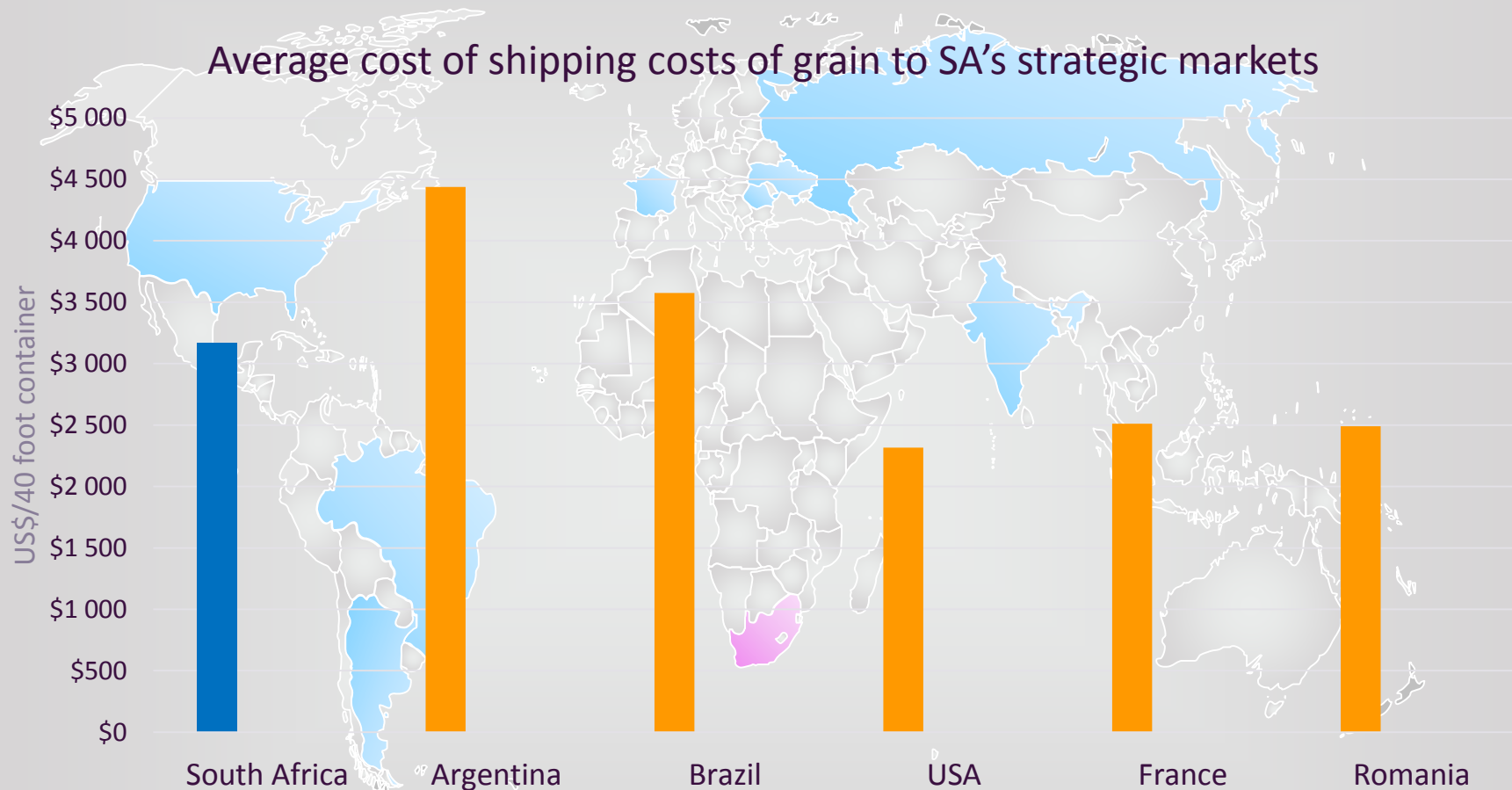
# Filter 1.5 market competitiveness SA's farm level global competitiveness



Source: Agribenchmark (2014); BFAP (2014)

## SA's fertiliser costs exceptionally high compared to other major global exporters

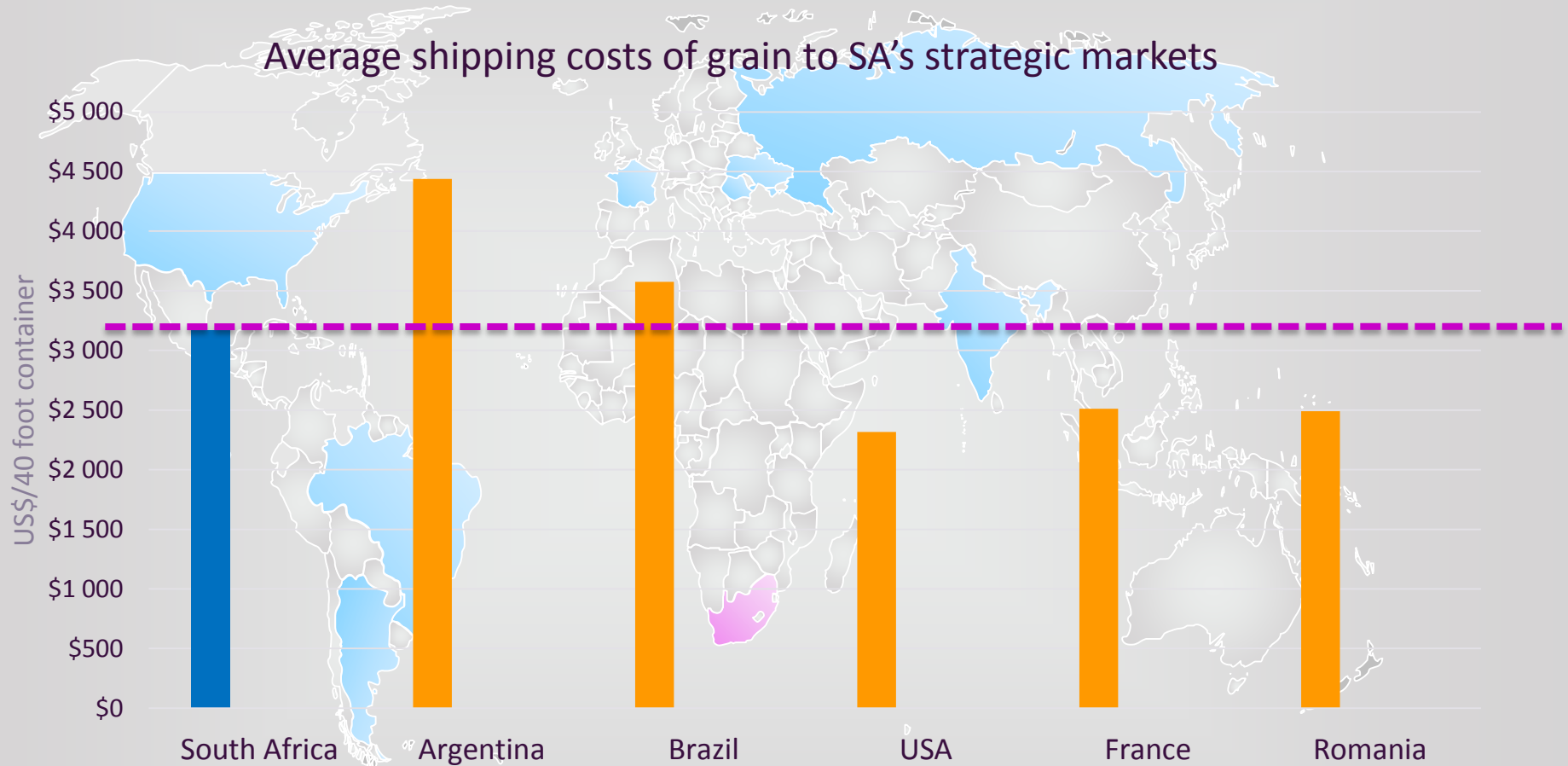
# Filter 1.5 market competitiveness SA's supply chain logistics competitiveness



Source: World Freight Rates (2014)

SA's logistic costs fairly higher than US and EU, but lower than those of Argentina and Brazil

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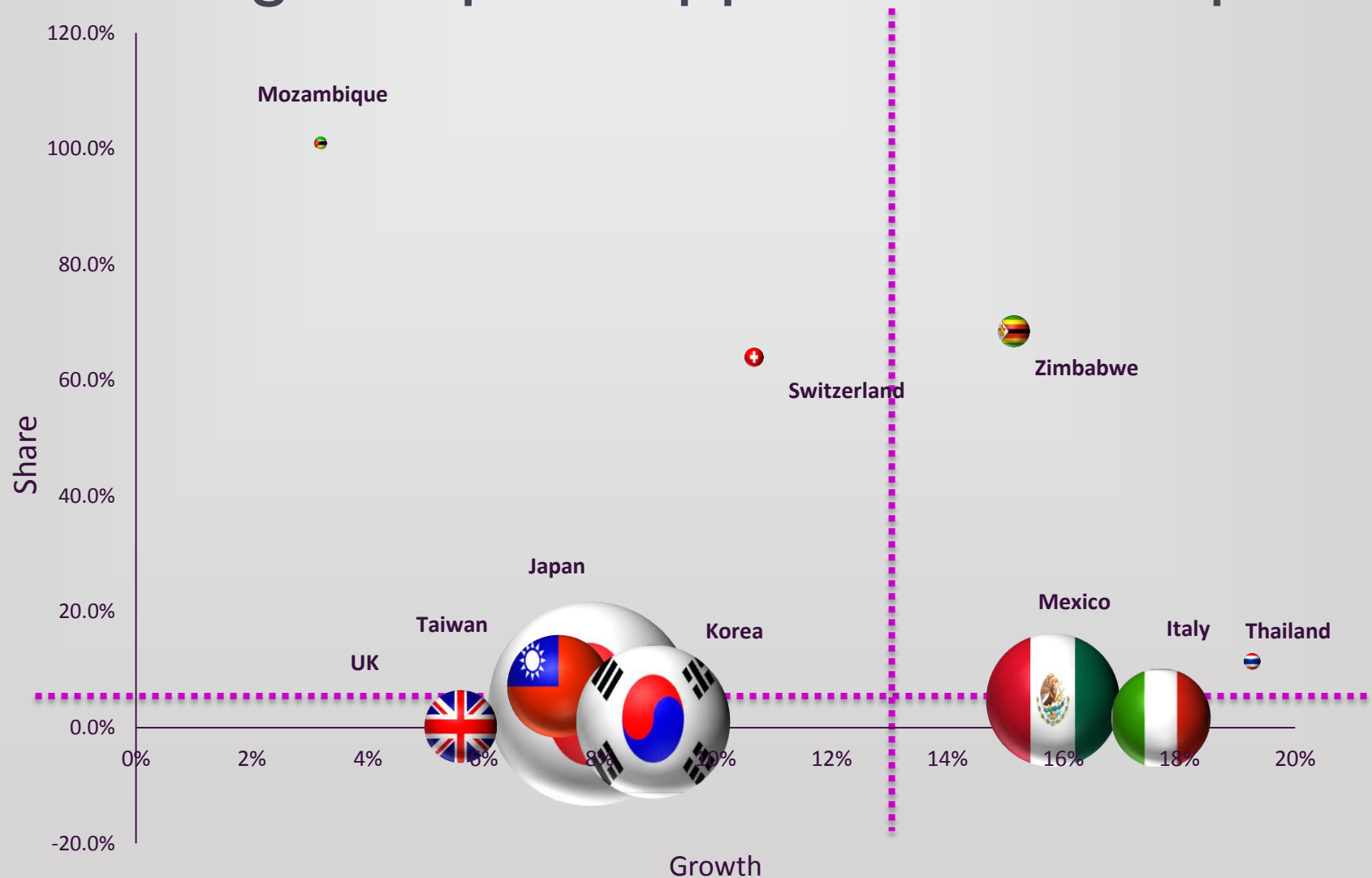


Source: World Freight Rates (2014)

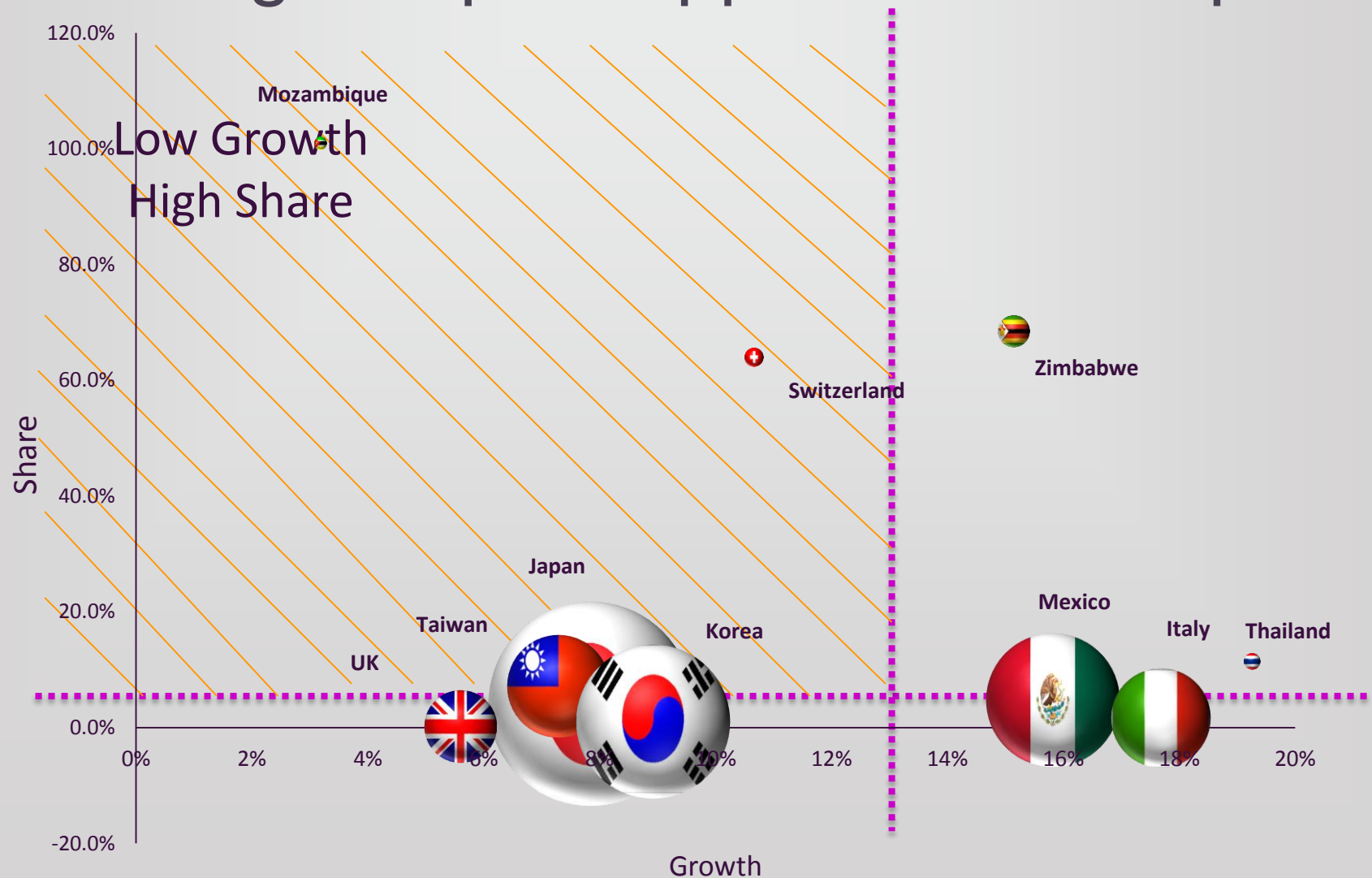
SA's logistic costs fairly higher than US and EU, but lower than those of Argentina and Brazil



# Strategic Export Opportunities Map



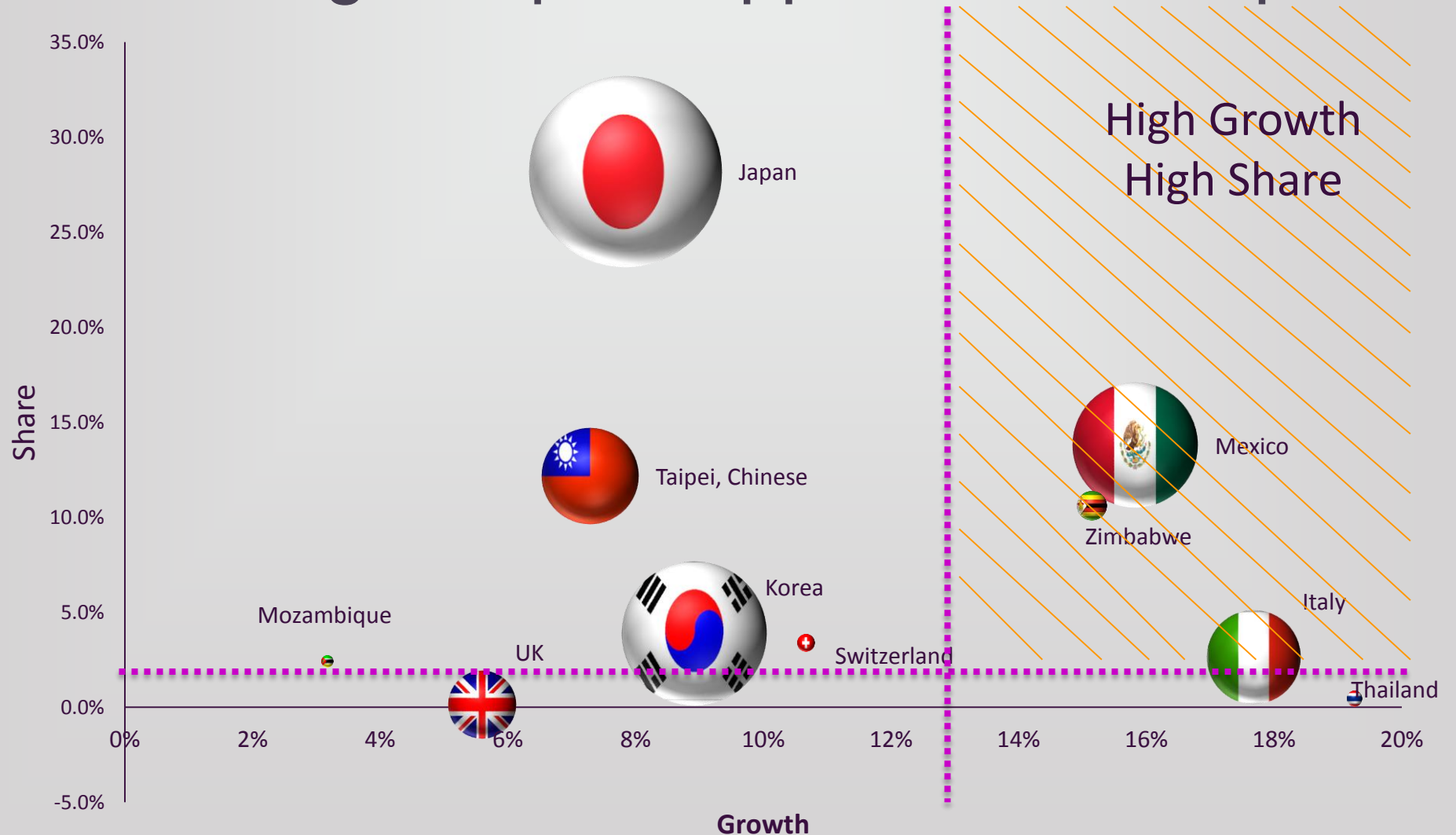
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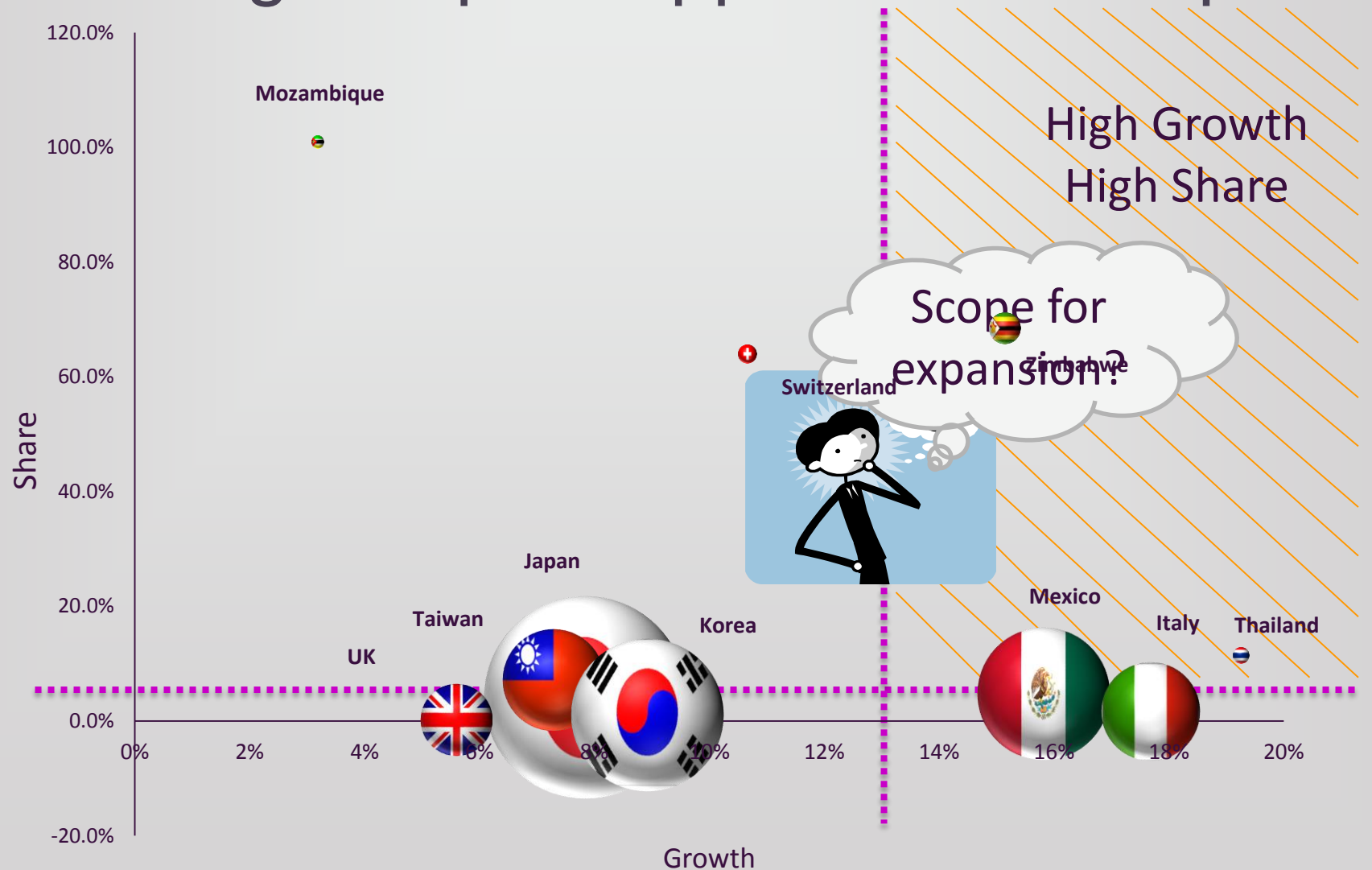
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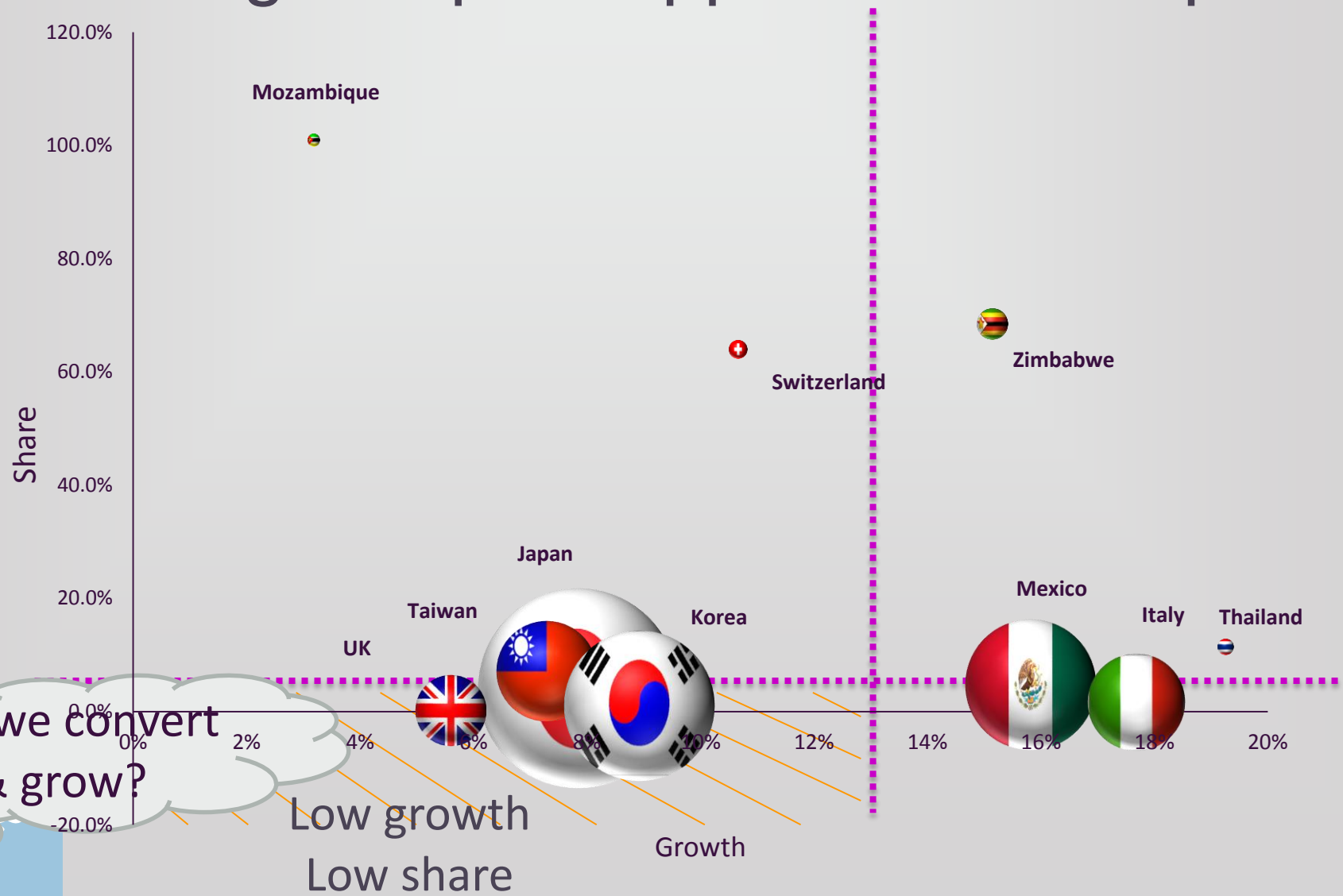
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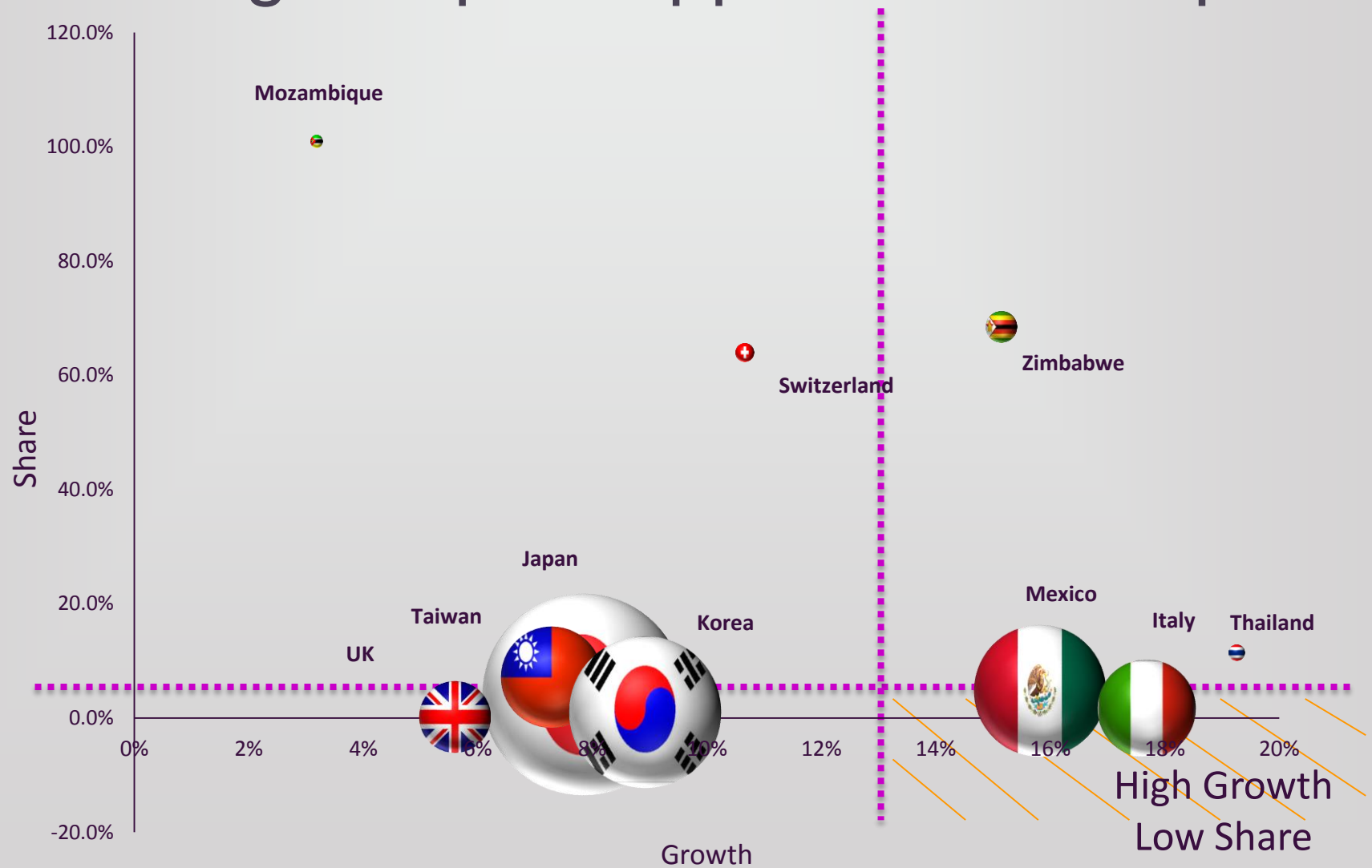
Can we convert  
& grow?

Low growth  
Low share

Growth



# Strategic Export Opportunities Map



# Summary and Conclusions

So what now?



# A focus on strategic markets requires different questions

## Offensive Strategy

*Can I “expand” my market presence and grow?*

*Can I “explore” & “acquire” this market?*



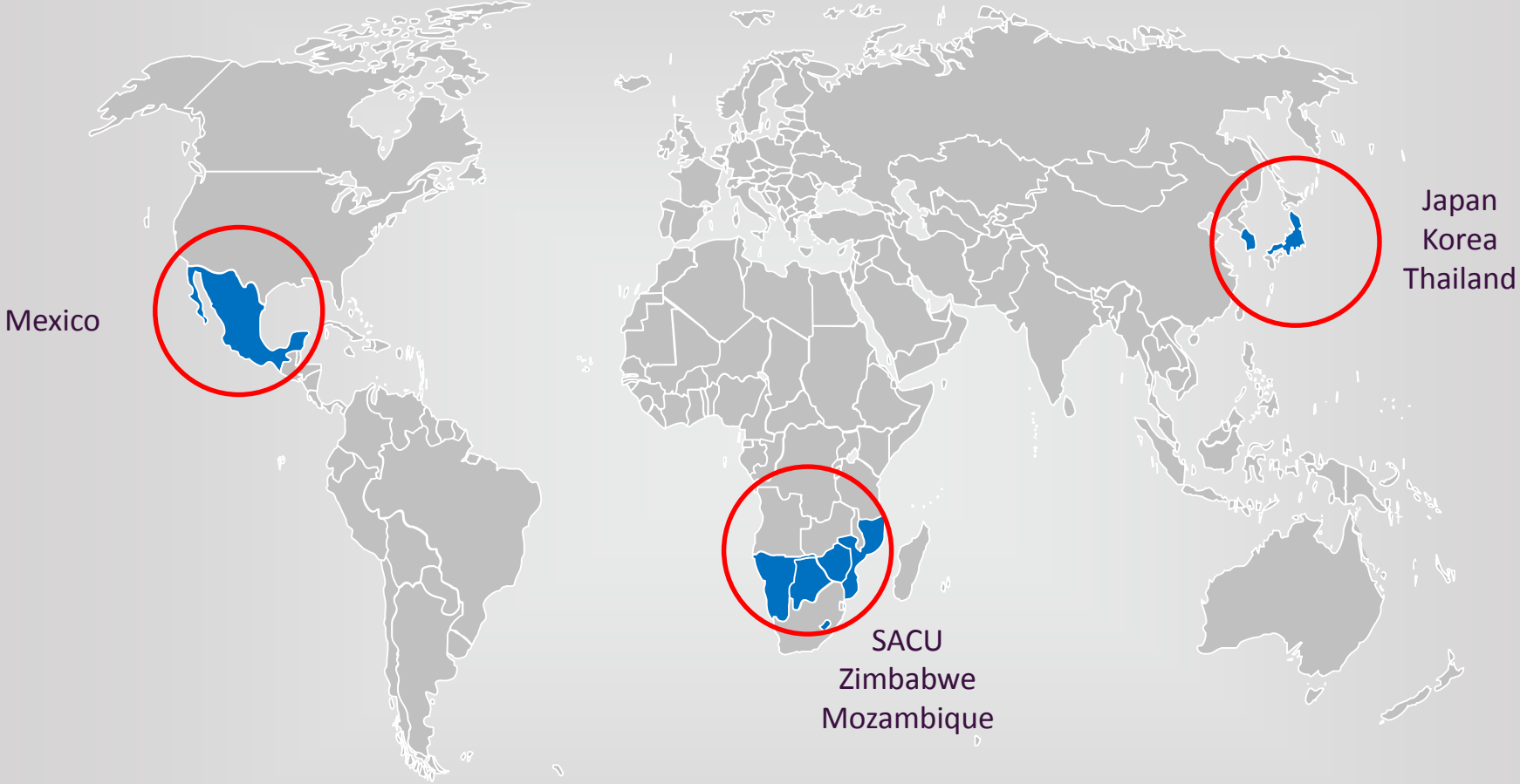
## Defensive Strategy

*Do I need to retain market presence?*

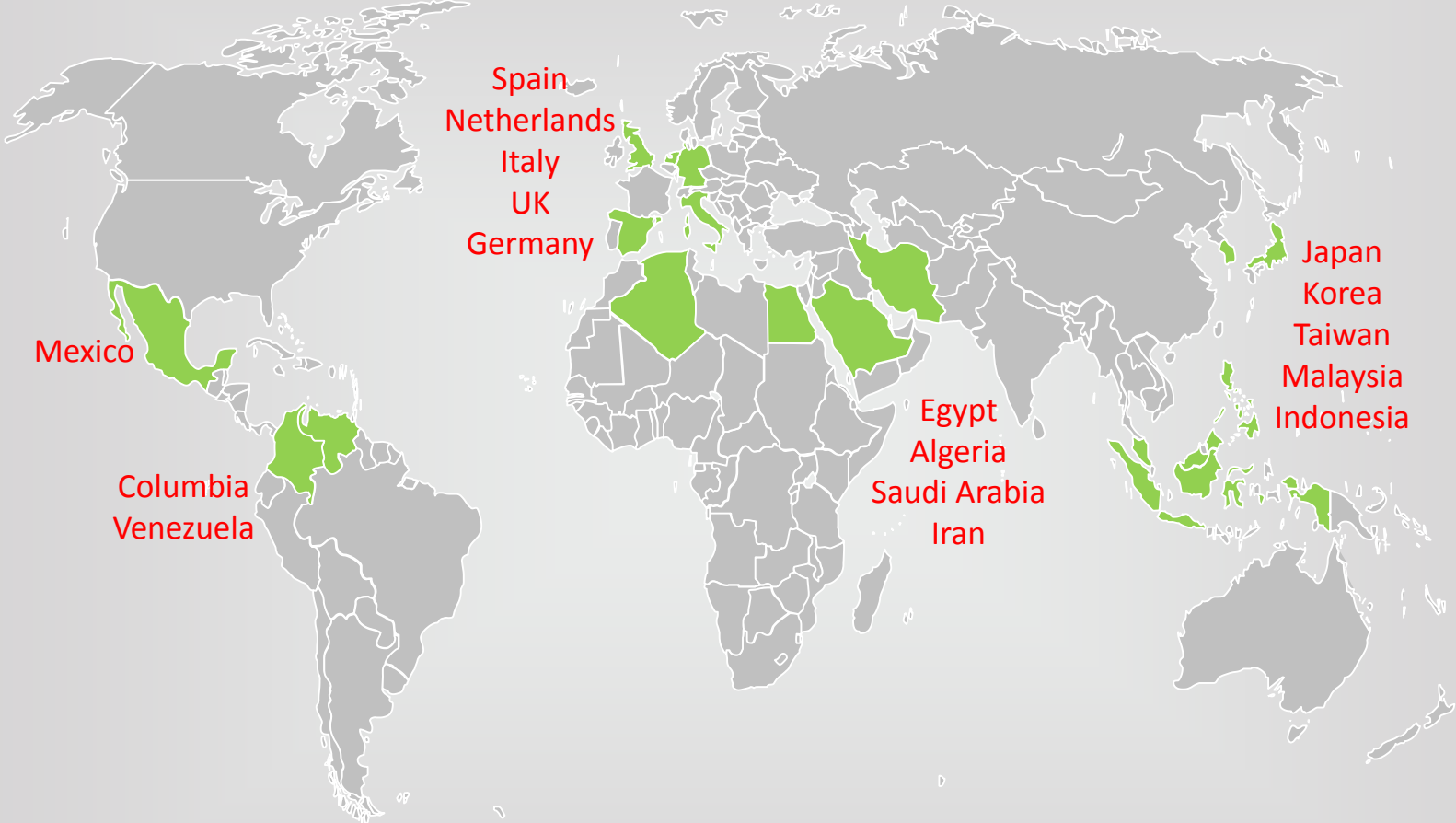
*How can I optimise my market presence in this country – have we filled our export potential?*

*Can we out-compete our competition and sustain exports?*

# Defensive Strategy – “Sustain and Maintain”



# Offensive Strategy – “acquire, convert and grow”



# Conclusion

## Sustainable growth

- Markets that are showing signs of growth in the long term

## Higher trade gains

- building the base for markets with more incentives for growth



## A Maize Sector Export Strategy

## Consistency in exports and market development

- Through high competitiveness, sustained surpluses, and secure supply

## Diversification

- focusing on emerging markets, while preserving the traditional ones

END  
THANK YOU

