

INTRODUCTION

During the 19th century, Nigeria's agricultural economy was self-sufficient in food and produced several export commodities like cocoa.

Plate 1: Cocoa in Pre-independence



METHODS AND MATERIALS

Thorough literature search related to the subject matter.

CONCLUSION

- Spread of cocoa production brought about changes in access and existing pattern of land and labour use.
- Colonial rule triggered off waves of change in the rural economy which made the seemingly strong undiversified economy inherited at independence fragile.

LOOKING BACK: DECADES AFTER INDEPENDENCE

- Commercialization and political centralization affected farmers' access and pattern of use of productive resources under colonial rule leading to changing patterns of cocoa cultivation and contested social boundaries.

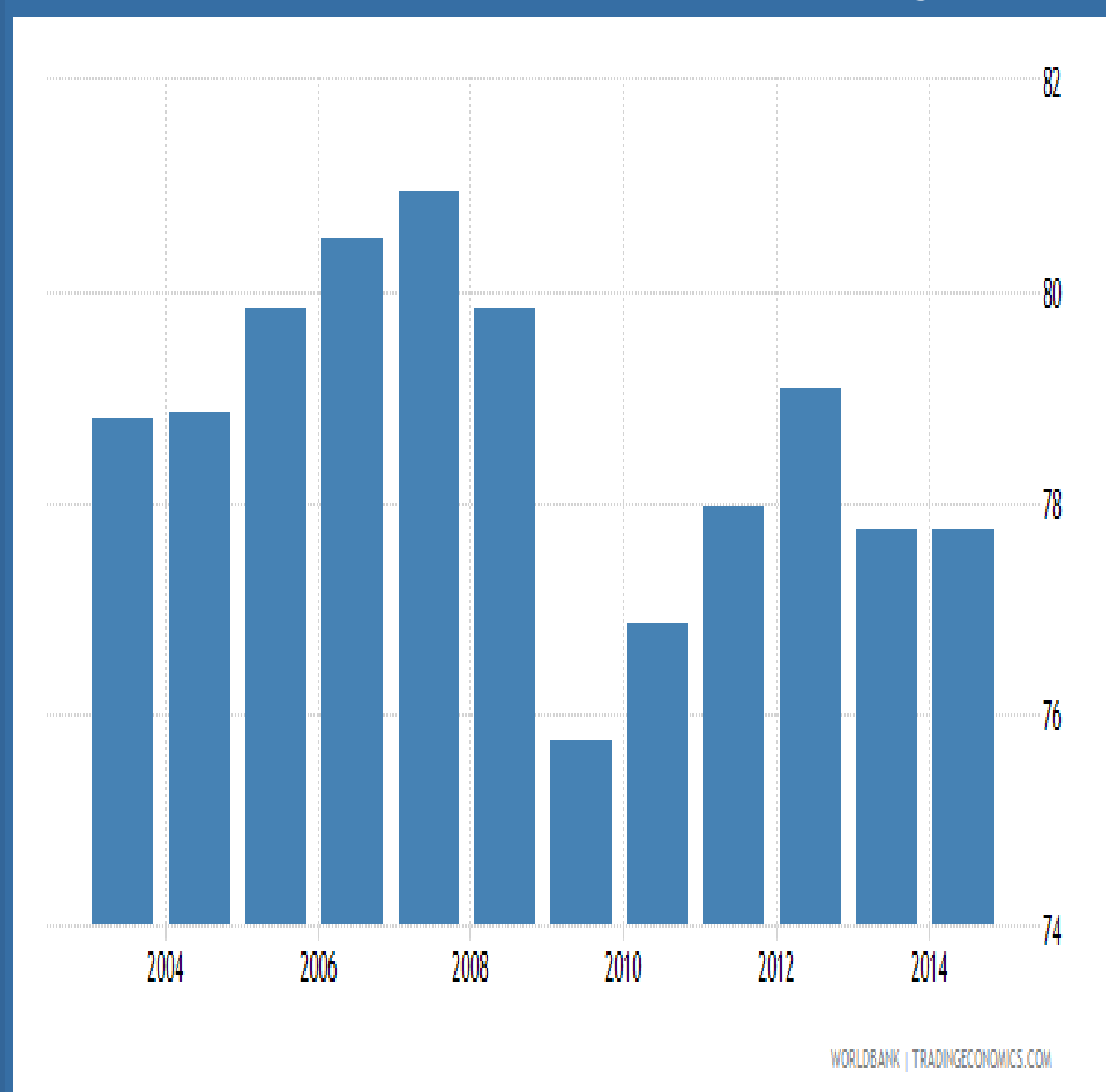
Plate 2: Land use in Nigeria



CULTURE AND RESOURCE ALLOCATION AND USE

- Local practices related to land-use rights, division of labour and output in agricultural production were subjected to common pressures from increasing agricultural commercialization.

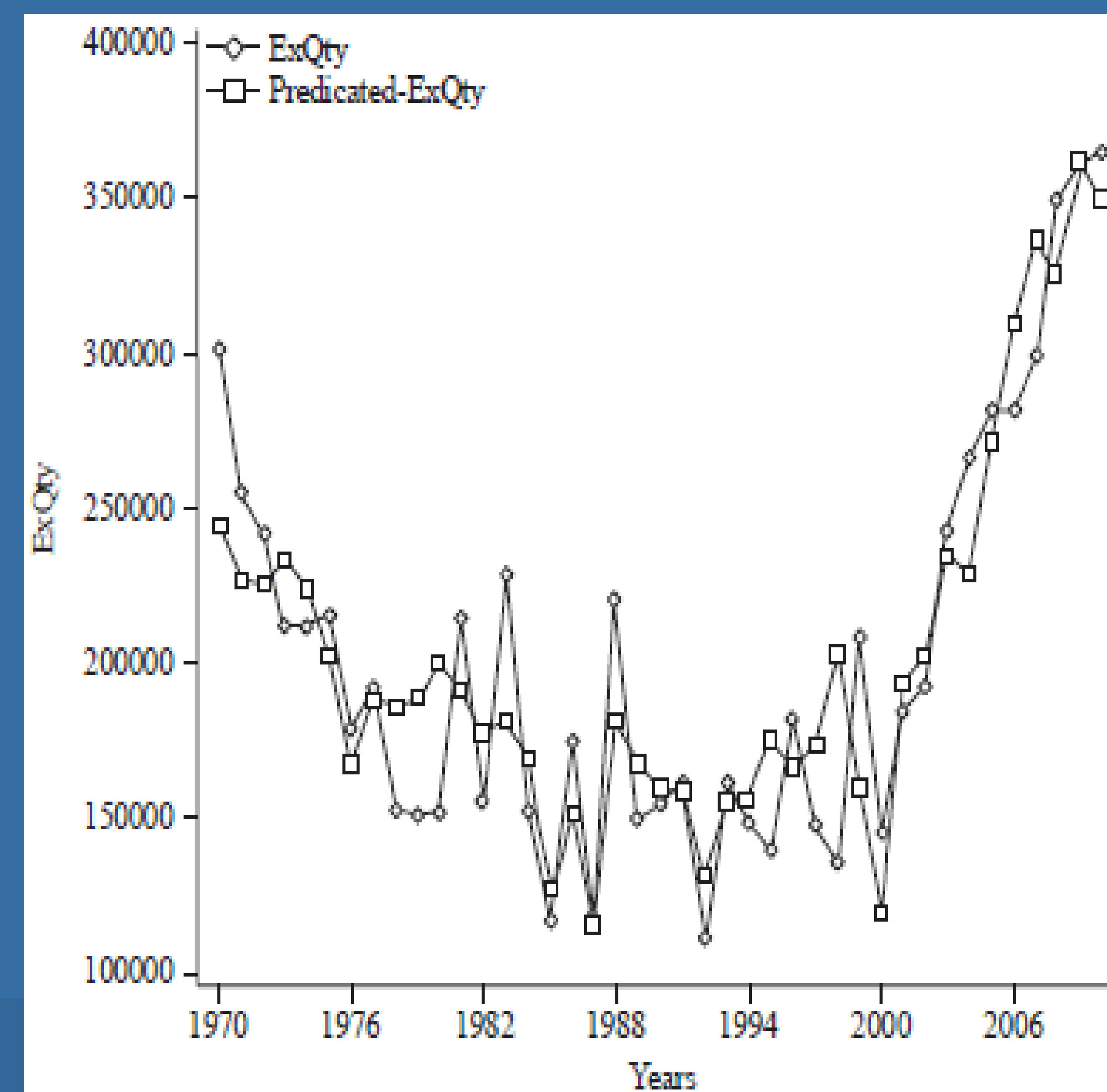
Plate 5: Land – use For Cocoa in Nigeria



ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL PROCESSES IN RESOURCE ALLOCATION AND USE

- The change in the agrarian sector was a response to market incentives and Political power interacting with production and exchange to shape processes of economic growth.

Plate 3: Cocoa production Trend (1970 – 2006)



INDIRECT RULE AND FARMERS' ACCESS TO RESOURCES

- Commercialization as well as the pressure of the colonial administrators to exact taxes, labour and provisions increased the demand/competition for labour and land.

RESOURCE ALLOCATION AND USE IN THE COLONIAL ERA

- Access to land and labour were both influenced by processes of commercialization, political centralization and by farmers' membership in local social networks but they followed different trajectories over time.

COMMERCIALIZATION AND RESOURCE ALLOCATION AND USE

Commercialization created conditions for capitalist accumulation by dividing producers or farmers into two groups:

- Owners of resources of production
- Non-owners of resources of production.

Plate 4: Production actors in cocoa



Plate 5: Land and Labour use in colonial era

