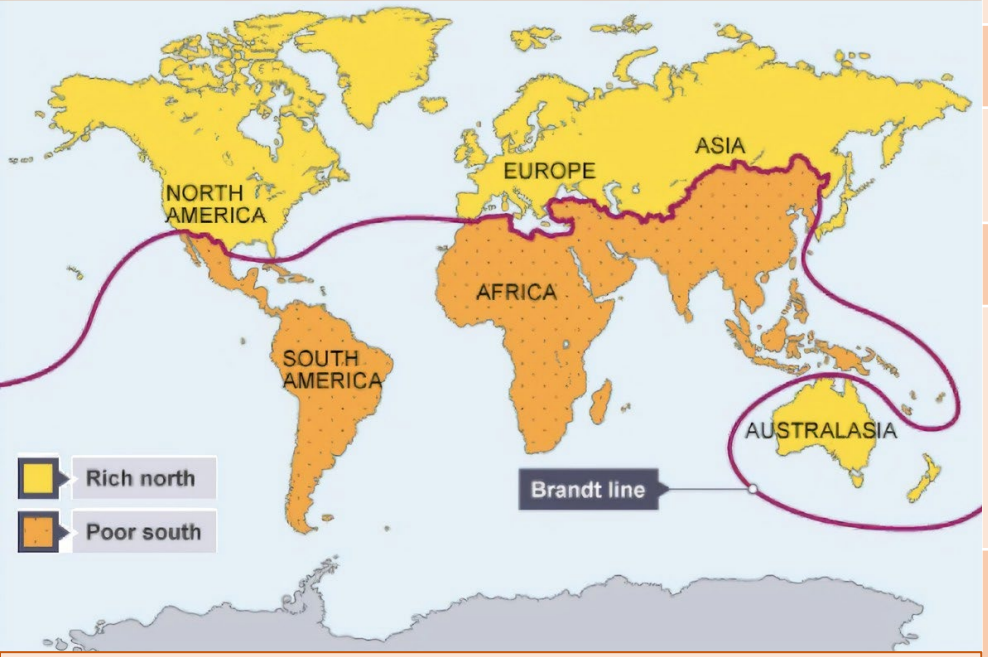
Year 8 - Development

What is Development?
Development is any improvement in the standard of living of the people living in a country.

The Brandt Line:
In the past, the **Brandt line** divided the planet into the rich north and the poor south. However the world has changed a lot in the last 20 years and the Brandt line is now too simplistic. For example, China and India are no longer seen as poor countries.



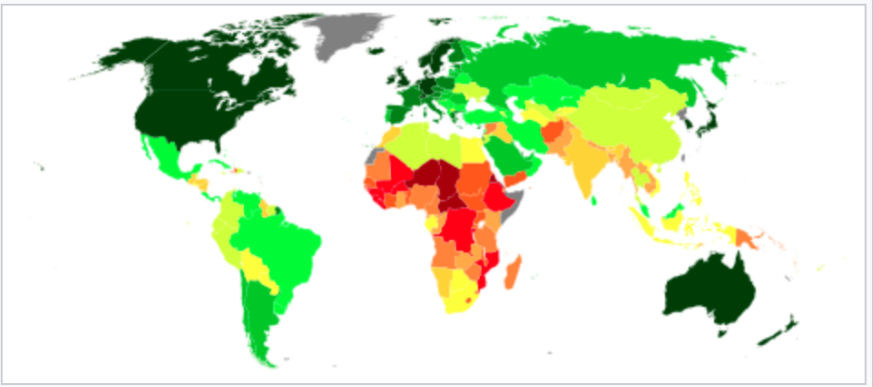
Why don't we just use money to access development?

Using just one measure of development can be misleading, and it is often better to use more than one. For example, Zimbabwe is a low income country, but 84% of people living there can read and write.

Another example is China. The country has a very low birth rate, but it is not included in the World Bank's list of high income countries. China's previous policy of one child per family reduced its birth rates considerably. In 2015, the government decided to end the policy, allowing couples to have two children if one parent is an only child. It is hoped that this move will **mitigate** the effects of China's ageing population.

Key Word	Definition
HIC	High Income Country (USA, Norway)
LIC	Low Income Country (Chad, Afghanistan)
NEE	Newly Emerging Economy (Nigeria, India)
Development Indicator	Can give some idea of a country's development.
Birth Rate	The number of live births per thousand of population per year.
Death Rate	The number of people who die per 1000, per year.
HDI	The **UN** use Human Development Index which is made up of a number of important measures, such as: **GNP per capita**, **No of years in education** and **Life expectancy.**
GDP	The amount of money a country earns divided by the number of people who live there.
Gender Inequality	Men and woman are not treated equally.
Literacy Rate	Literacy rate is the percentage of people aged 15 years and above who can read and write.
Natural Resources	Materials or substances occurring in nature which can be exploited for economic gain.

HDI World Map



World map indicating the **Human Development Index** (based on 2015 and 2016 data, published on March 21, 2017).

0.900 and over	0.650–0.699	0.400–0.449
0.850–0.899	0.600–0.649	0.350–0.399 and under
0.800–0.849	0.550–0.599	Data unavailable
0.750–0.799	0.500–0.549	
0.700–0.749	0.450–0.499	

What are the causes of a Development Gap?

Levels of **development** are determined by several factors:

•**Physical factors** – some areas have a hostile or difficult landscape. This can make development more difficult. Examples of this are very hot climates or **arid** climates which make it difficult to grow sufficient food.
•**Economic** factors – some countries have very high levels of **debt**. This means that they have to pay a lot of money in **interest** and **repayments** and there is very little left over for development projects.
•**Environmental** factors – some places experience environmental issues, which can prevent them from developing. Examples might be extreme flooding or **desertification**.
•**Social** factors – some parts of the world have issues that are caused by people. These include low levels of education, poor water quality or a lack of doctors.
•Political factors – some countries are at war or the government may be corrupt. Therefore money does not reach the people who need it most and spending on areas such as education and infrastructure may be insufficient.
•Natural resources – some countries have an abundance of raw materials such as oil or precious minerals. These can be sold and the money invested into developing the country.