

## Back from the Western Front: African soldiers in WW1 Worksheet

**Activity One:** The Berlin Conference of 1884-1885 marked the peak of competition amongst European imperial powers for territory in Africa. This process was also known as the Scramble for Africa. During the First World War, these territories became battlegrounds and their populations thrust into the War. The rush for territory led to conflict amongst the European powers. The Berlin Conference was held to negotiate and formalise the various claims to African territories. The peoples of Africa had no say in the division and distribution of their land. It was literally a smash and grab project. By 1900, 90 percent of Africa was under European control.



Discuss in pairs or small groups:

What natural resources prompted Europeans to fight over different parts of Africa?

Why were African people themselves not in control of these areas?

