

The Changing Economic World: Nigeria

Nigeria is a **west african** country which has experienced recent development to become an **emerging country**. In many ways, Nigeria is having a large **positive influence** on the world:

- Nigeria has the **highest GDP** for Africa, and has the **27th** largest economy in the world (larger than Norway, Greece and the UAE)
- Nigeria has a large supply of **oil**, which they sell to the world. Countries that supply oil have large **political influence** over those who don't.
- Nigeria has the **7th largest population** in the world, with 200 million Nigerians calling it home. This is three times bigger than the size of the UK's population.



What about the rest of Nigeria?

Nigeria's Culture	Politics	Life in Nigeria
<p>Nigeria actually has the second largest film industry in the world (nicknamed Nollywood!).</p>  <p>Source: Buzz Nigeria</p> <p>Nigeria is socially diverse, with many ethnic groups and religions. This is because Nigeria had many tribes in the past, as well as being ruled by Britain during the British Empire.</p>  <p>Source: Travel Jumia</p>	<p>Nigeria has contributed military assistance to many UN peacekeeping tours, especially protecting a ceasefire in Liberia.</p>  <p>Source: Nigeria News Day</p> <p>However, Nigeria has battled to stop its corrupt government. Much of the population has lost trust in the government, who accepts money bribes.</p>  <p>Source: carnegieendowment.org</p>	<p>Over 70% of the population are farmers, so Nigeria relies predominantly on agriculture & farming.</p>  <p>Source: fmic.gov</p> <p>Nigeria has a variety of landscapes, from hot desert to tropical rainforests. This means there are many different crops grown, as well as different living conditions.</p>  <p>Source: phys.org</p>

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Nigeria's Environment & Lifestyles

Nigeria's wealth has been **increasing** over the last century. However, a recent **recession** (a dip in the economy) has resulted in **unemployment** and **slow improvements** in the lives of Nigerians. Here are some measures of quality of life for Nigerians:

Life Expectancy	54 years (the average for the world is 73 years, which is significantly higher than Nigeria's life expectancy)
Literacy Rates	65.1% - This is very low, especially in girls, due to inequality in girls and boys' aspirations. Only one in three children stay in school.
Human Development Index (Rank out of 188 countries)	158 out of 188 - Low life expectancy and large inequality in wealth has resulted in this low rank.

Industry

Nigeria, even though it is a developing country, has a **large agriculture industry**. Agriculture has the largest number of workers, many of whom grow just enough food to feed themselves and their family (called **subsistence farming**). This is unusual for a developing country, as farmers don't make much profit.

Most developing countries have large manufacturing industries because manufactured goods make more profit than raw materials. In Nigeria, manufacturing is mainly in the form of **processing oil** that has been mined. Oil makes a **large profit** and can help Nigeria have **political influence** over other countries.

TNCs

The most influential **TNCs** in Nigeria are **oil companies**:

- Foreign companies (such as French company **Total** or the USA's **Exxon-Mobil**) that invest in Nigeria and buy rights to export oil from the country.
- Nigeria has its own TNC - **Transcorp** - which provides hospitality services across the globe, as well as energy.

Foreign TNCs are important to Nigeria, because they influence Nigeria's economy directly:

👍 Foreign oil TNCs can **invest** in new production & mining sites, which provide **more jobs**. In addition, TNCs also **share technology** across countries; for example, new safety measures or mining practices developed in a different country can be shared with Nigerian oil workers.

👎 However, oil is very damaging to the **environment**. Oil spills can **damage habitats** and harm wildlife. The Niger river has regular **oil spills**, affecting wildlife and local residents' health. In addition, burning fossil fuels like oil contributes to **Global Warming**, which impacts Nigeria's environment directly (droughts & desertification in some places, increased flooding and extreme weather in other regions of Nigeria).



Aid

There have been several **NGO campaigns** in Nigeria to improve the quality of life and health of locals. This is the focus of most **aid**, as Nigeria has a large economy but much of its wealth is made by rich oil companies and isn't shared to Nigeria's poorer residents. Take a look at the different schemes by two NGO charities:

Christian Aid



Source: Christian Aid

💙 Protecting displaced Nigerians, who have had to leave their homes due to violence in North Nigeria.

💙 Supporting individuals with HIV in support groups, to reduce discrimination in the community against people with HIV

💙 Medical treatment to 200,000 children under 5 years old for Malaria, Pneumonia & Diarrhea.

Action Aid



Source: Action Aid

💖 Encouraging girls to go to school by constructing girls toilets and providing sanitation products, so they don't miss school because of their period.

💖 COVID-19 meant some families couldn't afford food. Action Aid have delivered food parcels to families out of work due to the virus.

💖 Pressuring TNCs to pay their taxes in Nigeria, so the government can invest in communities.

