



Changing Economic World

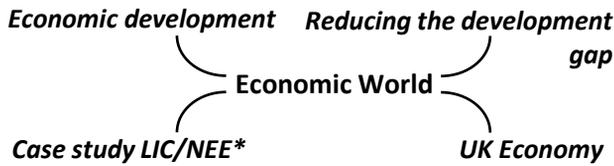
International Aid



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quiz

The Big Picture



Does Nigeria Need Aid?

One of the main reasons why Nigeria receives a considerable amount of aid is due to the significant inequality of wealth within the country. According to the UK Department for International Development (DFID), despite having the largest economy in Africa, around a third of Nigerians (60 million) live below the national poverty line, with around another third just above.

Other issues in Nigeria include:

- a low life expectancy at 53.87 in 2017 according to the [World Bank](#)
- high birth rates at 5.5 children per woman
- the high infant mortality rate at 100 child deaths under-5 (per 1,000 live births)
- low literacy rates with only 44% of children attending secondary school
- only 42% of children aged 12-23 months are immunised against measles
- violence and protests in the Niger Delta due to oil wealth and environmental impact
- terrorism in the north, e.g. Boko Haram
- the high death rate from Malaria

Key Terms

 **International Aid** – Money, goods and services given by the government of one country or a multilateral institution such as the World Bank or International Monetary Fund to help the quality of life and economy of another country.

What is International Aid?

International aid is help given by one country to another. Aid can be given as advice, technology, food and money. Typically, aid is given to low-income countries (LICs) and newly-emerging economies (NEEs) by high-income countries (HICs).

Aid can be given by national governments, international organisations, charities and non-government organisations (NGOs). The United Nations set HICs a target of committing 0.7% of their GDP to aid. The UK achieved this in 2013.

Issues with Aid

Corruption in the government and individuals means some aid is lost or not given to the right people. There have been claims aid money has been used to supply the Navy. Donors of aid may have political influence over who does and does not benefit. In addition, they may use donations to promote themselves.

Types of Aid

International Aid

Official Development Assistance (ODA) given by governments and funded by taxes. Sometimes unpopular with taxpayers.

Multilateral aid is given through international organisations such as the IMF or World Bank.

Bilateral aid is when a country gives aid directly to another. Conditions can be attached.

Voluntary aid is donated by individuals or companies and distributed by charities and NGOs, like Oxfam.

Short-term emergency relief provides support immediately after disasters such as war and earthquakes.

Long-term development assistance improves lives over time through healthcare, education or agricultural development

How does Nigeria benefit?

- Nets for Life project provides education on Malaria and give mosquito nets to households to prevent the spread of the disease.
- World Bank-funded loans to businesses to help diversify the economy away from being dependent on oil to develop new businesses.
- The UK government has funded health and HIV programmes providing health and education in rural areas. This will help to protect people against infection in the future and help them to work and improve their own lives.