



# Urban Issues and Challenges



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## Urban Planning

### Improving Life in Makoko

quiz



#### The Big Picture



#### Makoko

- Informal settlement located on the Lagos Lagoon.
- Current population is estimated at over 85,000 residents.
- Originally a fishing village that has grown into a densely populated area.
- Homes are built on stilts over the water, making it unique but vulnerable.
- Faces significant infrastructure and service challenges.



#### Issues in Makoko

- **Flooding:** Located below sea level, Makoko frequently suffers from flooding, damaging homes and infrastructure.
- **Lack of Basic Services:** Inadequate access to clean water, sanitation, and waste management affects residents' health.
- **Substandard Housing:** Homes are mostly made from wood, making them vulnerable to natural hazards and lacking essential safety features.



#### Urban Planning Strategies

The Lagos Metropolitan Development and Governance Project (LMDGP) was launched in 2007 to upgrade infrastructure, focusing on roads, drainage, water supply, sanitation, and public amenities in Lagos. It was funded with a World Bank loan of \$200 million US dollars. Improvements in Mokoko included:

- **Makoko Floating School:** Built in 2013, this innovative school adapted to the flooding conditions, offering education and serving as a community hub.



#### Key Terms



**Community participation** – Involving residents in planning and implementation to ensure the sustainability of improvements.



**Informal Settlement** – Areas developed without official urban planning, often lacking basic infrastructure and services.

- **Makoko Market Upgrading:** Improvements included clearing waste, paving the market area, and constructing modern stalls to enhance economic activities.
- **Community Participation:** Efforts were made to involve residents in the planning and implementation processes to ensure the changes met community needs and could be sustained.



#### Improvements to QOL



##### Social improvements to quality of life

- **Education:** The Makoko Floating School provided children with access to education, improving attendance rates and community pride.
- **Sanitation:** The installation of boreholes and mobile toilets improved access to clean water and sanitation, reducing disease.



##### Economic improvements to quality of life

- **Market Upgrading:** Modernised market stalls and paved areas increased economic activity, supporting local traders, particularly women.
- **Job Opportunities:** Upgrades in infrastructure and the community's involvement in projects created local employment opportunities.



##### Environmental improvements to quality of life

- **Flood Reduction:** Drainage systems and road rehabilitation have reduced the impact of flooding, making the settlement more resilient.
- **Waste Management:** Clearing waste from market areas and improving sanitation facilities has enhanced the environmental quality of Makoko.