

LAGOS is a good example of the growth of cities due to migration and the benefits and problems this causes.

LAGOS - A city in an LIDC

City context:

Migration/Challenges/Management solutions

Location - on the coast of Nigeria built around the western shore of a large lagoon

Population - 21 million and one of the fastest growing areas in the world. It is growing at more than 500,000 people a year.

History— The city was under British rule during colonial times and was a centre of trade. It was the national capital until 1991, and remains the main financial centre for the whole of West Africa. Lagos was originally a small fishing village.

Importance of Lagos - It has an international port and airport, making it an important centre for regional and global trade. The city contains 80% of Nigeria's industry and lots of global companies.

Poverty— Most of the people are very poor, with few mega rich.

Distinctive ways of life - big film industry, western-style fashion and traditional mix, 250 different ethnic groups, 66% of population live in slums, very rich live on gated communities, extensive leisure, consumption levels rising

Pattern of National and International migration - The population is growing rapidly due to rural-urban migration. Large influx leads to outward urban sprawl into the surrounding countryside.

Majority of people into Lagos come from Nigeria, seeking jobs as incomes are 4 times higher than in rural areas. **International** migration from Chad and Niger also contributes. Some migration from further afield also eg UK, USA, China linked to foreign business investment.

Success/issues? Changed from its origin as a fishing village, change in cultures, mixed nationalities, overcrowding. Congestion, pollution.

Challenges - Squatter settlements— house 60% of population e.g. Makoko. Housing is flimsy, wooden huts, illegal. Communal toilets and waste straight into the lagoon. Water supply from a communal water point. Electricity is via illegal connections only.

Health - no access to sewers or clean water leading to cholera. Malaria also a problem due to stagnant water. Limited healthcare facilities and expensive. Distrust western medicines.

Waste disposal - huge amounts of waste due to huge population. Only 40% of rubbish is collected. Waste disposal and emissions not controlled.

Informal job sector - aren't enough formal jobs. Scavenging. Little pay and long hours.

Sustainable management solutions (waste) — Lagos State Integrated Waste Management Project—to improve sustainability by reducing the amount of waste that goes into landfill site and reduce air pollution. World Bank financing a project to collect waste from food markets and turn into compost reducing landfill waste and methane emissions. Aim to generate electricity via burning methane from landfill sites. (see p. 60 CGP)

Assess Evaluate Describe justify

LIDC CITY:

LAGOS, NIGERIA

Urban challenges topic