

Nigeria – Secondary School Teaching Resource



Country Profile

Nigeria is by far Africa's most populated country with a population of 137 million people from over 250 different ethnic groups.

It is the biggest country in West Africa, covering an area of 923,000 square kilometres.

The country has lots of natural resources, including gold, oil and diamonds, but most people are still very poor.

This is partly because there has been fighting over the last 40 years and corruption is widespread.

Democracy was reintroduced to Nigeria in 1999 and peoples lives are slowly improving.

The British government says that 80-90 million people in Nigeria still live on less than 65p a day.

With this they have to buy all their clothes and food and pay rent and school fees. Many people cannot afford all this so they are hungry, homeless or cannot afford to go to school.

SOS Children's Villages works in Nigeria to provide children with a home, family and education.

SOS Children's Villages in Nigeria

SOS Children's Villages began working in Nigeria in 1970, after the war. Many parents had been killed in the war, so there were lots of orphans and abandoned children in the country who needed a new home and a new mum. SOS Children's Villages started building a new Children's Village in a big town called Lagos, in an area called Isolo.

SOS Children's Villages has also built a Nursery School and a Primary School in Isolo, Lagos. Children from the local area, as well as children from the Children's Villages attend these schools. Over 43 per cent of adults in Nigeria are illiterate – this means they cannot read or write – so it is harder for them to get a job. This

is one reason many people are so poor. It is therefore very important that their children can go to school.

The whole community benefits from SOS Children's Villages. For older children, there is an SOS Training Centre, where they can go and learn skills that they need to get a job. They learn how to use computers, how to work in an office, and how to design beautiful crafts that they can sell.

There were so many children that needed a new home, so SOS Children built a new village in a town called Owu-Ijebu in 1996. At Owu-Ijebu January an SOS Social Centre was opened which will offer health care, child care and counselling to over 26,000 poor people in the community who have been affected by HIV/AIDS. HIV/AIDS is a disease that is very common in Nigeria.

The new '6 villages for 2006' Children's Village in Nigeria

The "6 villages for 2006" campaign is a joint project between FIFA, and SOS Children's Villages which will run until the end of the 2006 football World Cup.

The aim of the campaign is to raise money for six new SOS Children's Villages and provide more orphaned and abandoned children with a new



home and hope for the future. One of these six villages will be in Nigeria. It will be in Gwagwalada, near Abuja, Nigeria's capital city.

The new SOS Children's Village will consist of 12 family houses, a Nursery, Primary School and Medical Centre.



Case study - Alexander: SOS Children's Football Star

Alexander came to SOS Children's Village Isolo in 1984 when he was four, with his brother Paul. Their mother died and their father could no longer take care of them

He was discovered as a talented left footed player when he was eight years old. Since then, he has played in almost all the football matches inside and outside the Children's Village. In many games he played in he was named 'Player of the Match'.

Alexander was chosen as an outstanding player in an introductory football course organised by FIFA. A local newspaper reported that the FIFA instructor, Martin Andermatt, said that FIFA was introducing this course so they could set up a football school at the SOS Children's Village.

Alexander's footballing qualities have been recognized by the whole of SOS Children's Village Isolo and the surrounding area. When he plays a football match, many people watch with interest. "Alexander is a colourful boy and passionate about his game. He loves football a lot", said his SOS mother.

Football boots and a football kit were purchased for him by the Children's Village to help him improve his performance.

His favourite players are Jay Jay Okocha from Nigeria, Ronaldo from Brazil and Samuel Eto'o Fils from Cameroon. He loves them because of their skills, the effort they put into their football, and their famous reputation!

He is very proud of the African teams who play in the World Cup. Alex loves his national team and he particularly likes following the international competitions such as the African Cup of Nations and the World Cup and he loves his national team Nigeria, who are one of the best teams in Africa.

SOS Children's Nigeria shopping list:

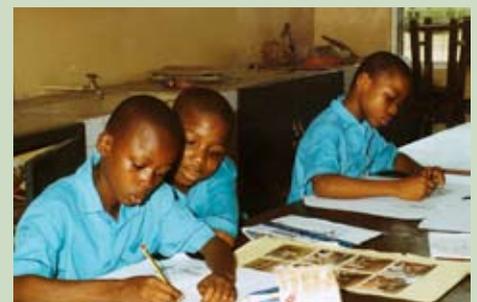
Just 8p buys a child at an SOS School a pencil

School lunch for one child costs £1.40

A desk and chair can be bought for £5

£1300 will cover the running costs for an SOS home for a whole year.

Can you help fundraise for our shopping list?



Mango and Banana Sundae

Ingredients:
 1 Mango, fresh or canned
 2 Bananas
 2 Tablespoon lemon juice
 4 Tablespoon orange juice
 Vanilla ice cream

Instructions:
 Peel the mango and chop finely. Peel the bananas and slice them finely. Place in a large bowl and add the lemon and orange juice. Mix lightly. Place the ice cream in a sundae dish and add the fruit. Eat and enjoy!