



# USAID | NIGERIA

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**USAID NIGERIA PROMOTES A HEALTHIER MORE EDUCATED POPULATION, INCREASES INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH, AND STRENGTHENS GOOD GOVERNANCE. USAID ALSO PROVIDES STABILIZATION SUPPORT AND HUMANITARIAN RELIEF TO THE CONFLICT-AFFECTED NORTHEAST.**

## OVERVIEW



Referred to as the “Giant of Africa,” Nigeria is the most populous country on the continent with more than 60 percent of its population under 25 years of age. Nigeria has one of the largest economies in Africa and a population of an estimated 190 million people – all of which represents tremendous potential. As a result of development and governance challenges, Nigeria has one of the world’s lowest per-capita social spending levels, with 86 million Nigerians living below the poverty line. Nigeria’s stability and success is of vital importance to the region and the African continent. The United States government, through the **U.S.**

**Agency for International Development (USAID)** will invest an estimated **\$510 million** in bilateral development foreign assistance in 2018. USAID/Nigeria works with governmental partners, United Nations agencies, and local and international non-governmental organization partners to implement a portfolio of activities that improve social services, support transparent and responsive government, and promote a market-led economy. USAID is also the largest bilateral contributor of humanitarian assistance to the conflict-ridden Northeast.

## HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM

The ongoing violent extremist insurgency in Northeast Nigeria has resulted in 8.5 million people requiring food, reliable water, healthcare, and education, of which more than 2 million are Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). Since 2014, USAID has aided millions affected by the conflict, donating more than **\$500 million**. This includes distributing relief supplies, increasing access to clean water and sanitation, food aid, and addressing the physical and emotional needs of victims of violence. The USAID **Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI)** provides short-term assistance helping to counter violent extremism by diminishing conditions that sustain Boko Haram and ISIS-West Africa. Through small grants to local partners, USAID engages vulnerable youth in apprenticeships, sports activities and agriculture skill building projects.

## IMPROVING HEALTH

To help Nigeria address its high mortality rates, especially among women and children, USAID works to build stronger health systems guaranteeing equitable access to quality health care services nationwide. Since 2014 USAID has:

- Helped Nigeria reduce the rate of malaria infection by **36 percent** among children under-5 years old as part of the U.S. government’s **President’s Malaria Initiative (PMI)**;
- Distributed **22 million** mosquito nets and **14 million** malaria test kits and treated **50 million** malaria cases; and
- Averted **1.8 million** unwanted pregnancies through USAID-supported family planning efforts.

As of September 2017, USAID is supporting **260,000** Nigerians with life-saving HIV therapy through the multi-agency **President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief** (PEPFAR), and also provided **10 million** HIV test kits. Through USAID, **55,000** HIV-positive women received medication to prevent transmission to their babies. PEPFAR assists more than **one million** orphans vulnerable to HIV/AIDS.

## SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION

With Nigeria's rapidly growing school-age population, its education system seeks to keep pace. Over 10 million children do not attend formal schools, with an additional one million children out of school as a result of violent extremism, conflict, and displacement. USAID supports Nigeria to deliver quality education, focusing on six vulnerable states in the North. The assistance helps increase enrollment, strengthen basic education curriculum, build teacher capacity, and raise minimum literacy standards. Since 2014, more than **80,000** children and youth impacted by extremism in the northeast have benefited from accelerated learning programs and psycho-social support. Since 2015, USAID provided **2 million** textbooks to children and trained **45,000** teachers and learning facilitators to improve the reading skills of more than **2 million** students by 2020.

## ECONOMIC GROWTH

Economic growth in Nigeria is hampered by a non-diversified economic base, challenging business environment, and one of the lowest rates of power availability in the world. USAID programs support market-based solutions, private sector-led growth, trade, and privatization of the energy sector as critical to reducing poverty in Nigeria. The U.S. government's **Feed the Future** initiative implemented by USAID helps improve agricultural production and processing, expands access to financing, and boosts marketing capabilities, having assisted more than **800,000** people since 2012. **Power Africa** works to increase power generation and connect people to sources of electricity both on- and off-grid. USAID helps boost access to clean water and improved sanitation facilities, by assisting the government to build new infrastructure and improving management of services.



## DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE AND CONFLICT MITIGATION

USAID supports the Government of Nigeria at state and local levels to improve performance and transparency, which is fundamental to Nigeria's development. USAID helps improve responsiveness of governance, enhance credibility of elections, and promote civic engagement in politics. Our work helps state and local governments with budget preparation and fiscal oversight to help improve service delivery, as well as civil society organizations to advocate with and engage officials to improve social service delivery. USAID and other U.S. government agencies also support Nigeria's Independent National Electoral Commission, political parties, and civil society.

For over a decade, ethnic tensions and disputes between sedentary farmers and pastoralists have resulted in communal conflicts that have claimed the lives of an estimated 60,000 Nigerians. Leveraging the support of religious leaders, communal activists, and other local stakeholders, USAID supports community-driven solutions enabling participants to peacefully resolve disputes and advocate for inclusivity, understanding, and engagement. Since the start of our peace and reconciliation activities in 2015, the number of violent incidents reported in USAID-assisted communities has declined by 85 percent.

For more information: [usaid.gov/Nigeria](https://www.usaid.gov/Nigeria). Visit us on [facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).