
NIGERIA

Nigeria is a lower income country and ranks 152nd out of 188 countries on the UNDP's 2016 Human Development Index. Of a population of 182 million people, about 56 million live in extreme poverty.

Nigerian women, girls and children bear the brunt of poverty. Every single day, Nigeria loses approximately 2,300 children under the age of five and 145 women of childbearing age. This makes the country the second-largest contributor to under-five and maternal mortality in the world. One in nine Nigerian children never reach the age of five.

Early pregnancy of malnourished adolescent girls is one of the many factors contributing to the country's high maternal mortality rates. UNICEF reported the maternal mortality rate in 2015 as 814 per 100,000 live births. Sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and girls are a neglected area in Nigeria. Fewer than 20% of health facilities offer emergency obstetric care. UNICEF reported that in 2014, only 35% of deliveries were attended by skilled birth attendants.



Unemployment resulting from lack of livelihoods also fuels violence and makes youth vulnerable to radicalization by terrorist movements such as Boko Haram.

To address these gaps, Canada's programming focuses on the poorest and most vulnerable, notably in the north of the country. Programming supports community-level health issues, including sexual and reproductive health. Programming also helps reduce the burden of diseases—for example, by supporting polio eradication. Canada supports agriculture as an engine for inclusive growth for unemployed or underemployed youth. Programming across all sectors targets women and aims to address key barriers preventing women from attaining their full rights.