



Living in Lagos

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Transports present in Lagos.

- One of the biggest challenges Lagos is facing is the lack of public transport, a source of traffic jam and stress.
- In Lagos, the only forms of transport presents are the car, the ferry and the danfos (little yellow buses). The public transports are rarely available on the road, so the population use their cars, which accumulates traffic and makes Lagos a polluted city. A worker testified that when he uses the ferry, he takes 20-25 minutes to get to work, whereas by car it takes him 1-2 hours! Even though the Ferry is faster, it is nevertheless very expensive.



Transports present in Lagos (2)

- As well, the stress is present in every single person who drives, scared by having an accident or being late to work. But still the government is looking for eco-friendly transports.
- Furthermore, the lack of financial resources is so big that the government still has not finished constructing the railway.



The solutions.

- The government searches as a solution, an ecological transport to pollute less
- Even though the government thought about the railway and started to build some, they can't finance the rest and all the other lines .
- But as well a lot of workers approved that the ferry is faster than on the road but is more expensive, so they could make more ferries and make it more accessible to everyone.
- If they succeed all these solution , there will be less traffic on the road and the city would be less polluted.



Olusosun landfill

Olusosun landfill, situated in the center of Lagos, is also known as "Nigeria's biggest landfill". Olusosun receives mostly electronic waste such as lamps.

This attracts waste pickers who go and look for recyclable materials to resell them. As the access to the landfill is not restricted, adults and children work there.



The workers

Most of the children that work at Olusosun are boys aged between 13 and 17, and more than half of them do not attend school. Children work as waste pickers due to poorness, social and economic reasons. Their labors are wearing and physically impacting. For instance, they are bitten by snakes and insects. They are also at risks of falling or slipping. Besides, they suffer from severe headaches. For this, they earn from 1.20\$ to 3.85\$ a day. Even though these of children for work is forbidden, Nigerian government does nothing to inforce this law for the protection of its younger population.



Their conditions.

In addition to their work, their environments are also hazardous and detrimental to the children's health. In order to find the materials they are looking for, they have to sort waste manually, without any protective equipment, at risk of being hurt by sharp objects like pieces of glass. Furthermore, they work in unsheltered environments, regardless of conditions like rain, hot sun or cold weather. All these reasons, adding to the fact that many of these children come from areas deprived of potable water, sanitation and basic healthcare, have resulted in numerous gastrointestinal illnesses, as well as headaches.



The solutions.

- As a solution to these problems Lagos is facing, financial aid could be offered to the families, as free primary and secondary schooling, which are key to keep children in classrooms rather than working, as it is a key to settling safe and ensuring decently paid future work. Lastly, cash could be distributed to them to make them see they have other options . Associations are being created to build a better future for the Lagos children that are in need.
- On the other hand, possible solutions for the landfill would be to start a recycling factory. If the government does not have enough money, they could also burn some parts of the trash while waiting for funds and help from others.



Violation of Human Right Laws

In Lagos, the population is 23.3 million and, 2/3 people live with less than 1 \$ per day. 70% of Lagos inhabitant live in informal settlements. The government is trying to erase this part of the population with violence for security reasons. They destroy their homes and sometimes even hurt people. 50 000 people have been evicted and are now homeless. The separation of families is very common, as well as drawing and injured people.

Finally, the international organization is calling out the government for breaking the laws of human rights laws. Even though these evictions were "necessary", the Lagos government needs to prevent further atrocities. They have also been asked to start an investigation on this case. All victims should get access to compensations, re-habitation and guarantee this won't happen again.



*Thank you
for Listening!*

