



WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION

FRAGILE BORDERS, INSECURITY AND BORDER ECONOMY: THE NIGERIA EXPERIENCE

**PRESENTATION MADE AT CONFERENCE OF CUSTOMS AND DEVELOPMENT
PARTNERS ON BORDER SECURITY**

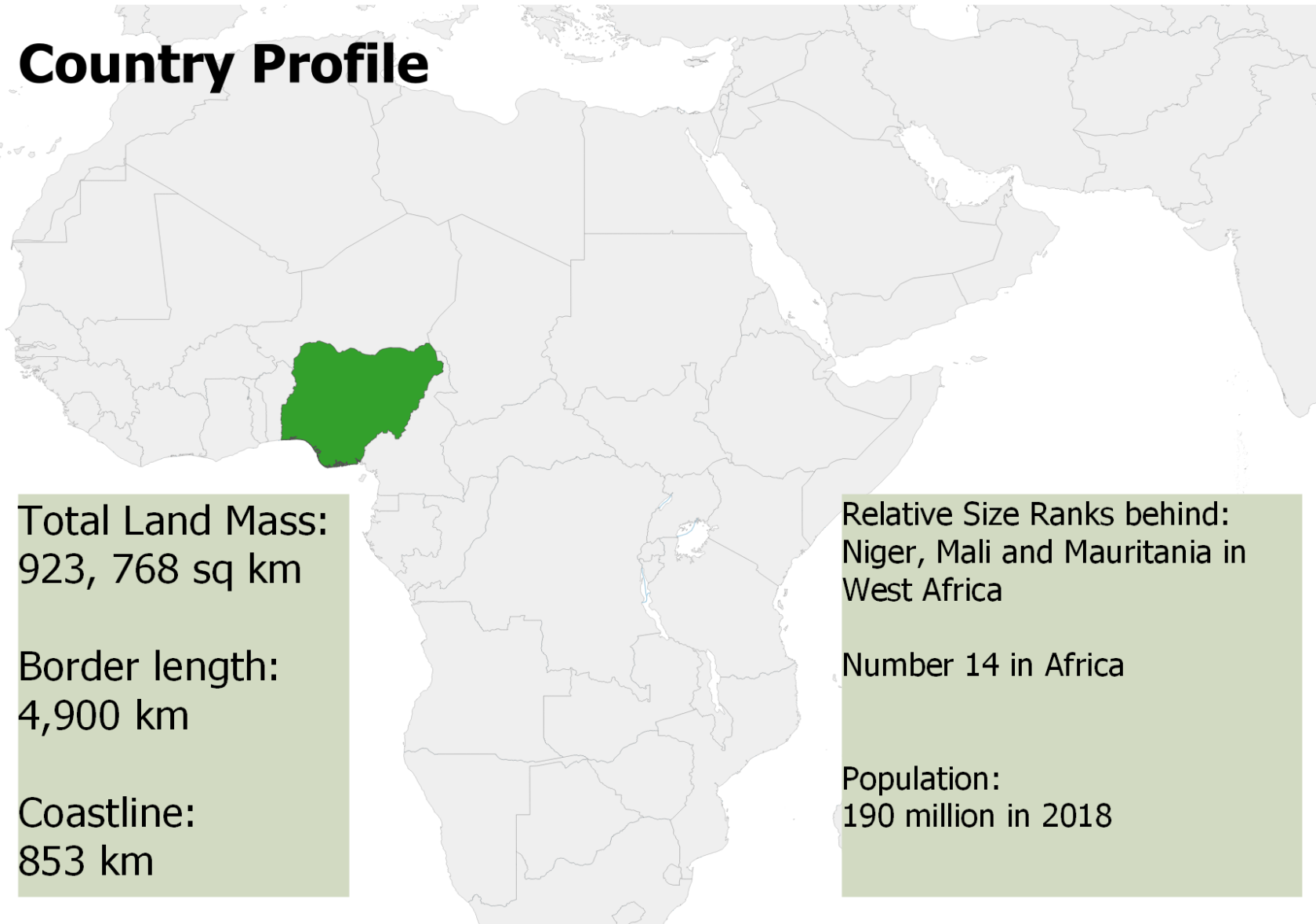
By

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NIGERIA CUSTOMS SERVICE**

16 OCT 19

NIAMEY, NIGER

Country Profile



Total Land Mass:
923, 768 sq km

Border length:
4,900 km

Coastline:
853 km

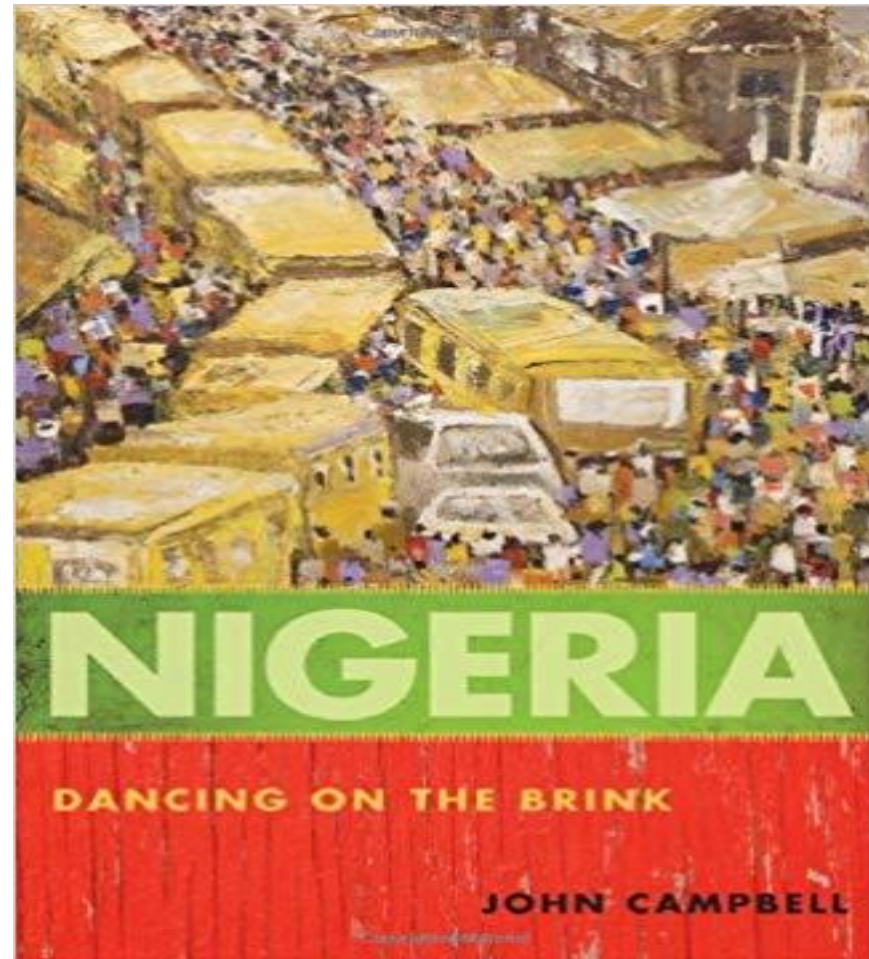
Relative Size Ranks behind:
Niger, Mali and Mauritania in
West Africa

Number 14 in Africa

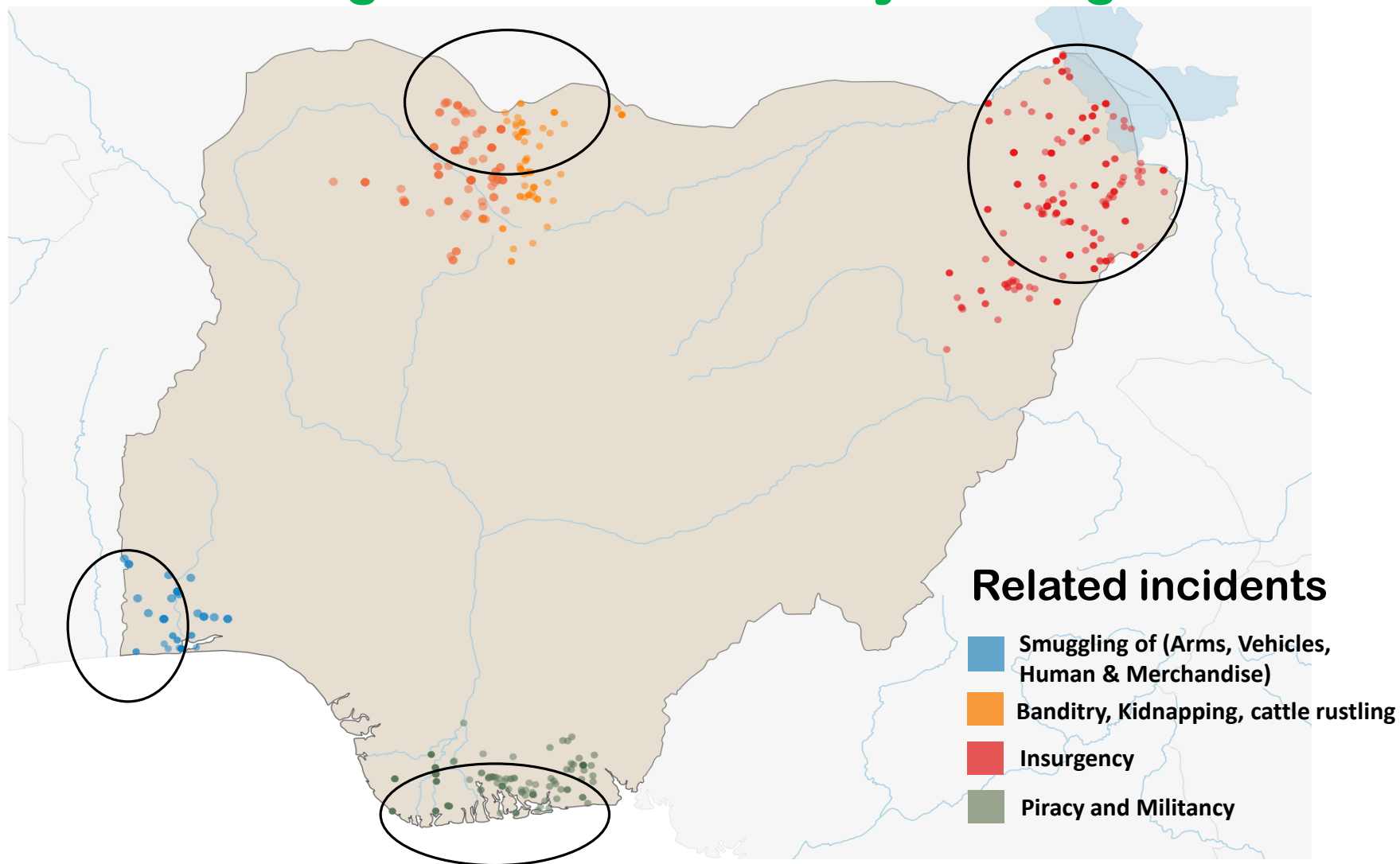
Population:
190 million in 2018

OVERVIEW OF NIGERIAN SECURITY SITUATION

Nigeria: Dancing on the Brink”
John Campbell



Forces creating cross-border security challenges





NIGERIA HANGS ON

- 1. Survived post-election crisis in 2015 & 2019**
- 2. New Government consolidating with prospect of continuity**
- 3. Increased militarization of the frontier economy**
- 4. Capacity of insurgents “degraded: attention shifted to isolated attacks and soft targeting.**
- 5. Factional groups have emerged, leadership regeneration worrisome.**
- 6. Ransoming policy sustains the crisis.**



EFFECT ON THE BORDER ECONOMY

- a. Military calls the shot**
- b. Trade Goods move under Military escorts**
- c. Trade Data distortion**
- d. Increase in cost and Time**
- e. Informal economy with strong ties to the criminal elements**
- f. Fortress cities providing cover for Border economics under consistent attacks**
- g. Military victory turning to economic defeat.**
- h. Customs and State organs losing trust and confidence**



CHALLENGES TO CUSTOMS

- 1. Formal Declaration of a state of emergency and full military operation launched in NE**
- 2. Border closure, withdrawal from posts.**
- 3. Operation exposed the deficiency in Customs Capacity Building strategy.**
 - a. Intelligence gathering and application**
 - b. IED Detection and Protocols**
 - c. Personal protection.**
 - d. Use of Data for informed analysis and decision - taking.**



CUSTOMS RESPONSE

- 1. Forged regional approach to initiate a security project SPC++**
- 2. Engaged the military to reiterate Customs mission to rebuild the structure of cross-border trade**
- 3. Active collaboration in capacity-building projects, especially in the area of security and intelligence.**
- 4. Limited slots in the NAF Geo-spatial intelligence centre, plan to set up unit.**
- 5. Nationwide Border Drills with other Agencies. Arrest of 317 smugglers and 108 illegal immigrants.**



C2C COLLABORATION

- 1. Strategic collaboration with Cameroon**
- 2. Major Pillars are implementation of PGS/SPC++ exchange of trade data and MOU.**
- 3. Encouraging outcome including exchange of intelligence leading to seizure of ammunitions, IED components.**

RECENT SIEZURES



CHALLENGES

- 1. Funding, funding, funding**
- 2. Limitation in contents, scope and depth of training offered by the military**
- 3. Awareness of the impact and potential of new technologies**
- 4. Institutionalizing structures to sustain Short term gains**



PROSPECTS FOR C2P COLLABORATION

Setting up of Geo-spatial Intelligence Unit:

Quick wins

- **High-level commitment**
- **Seven (7) NCS officers completed basic training**
- **Approval for setting up of the Unit secured**
- **Ongoing collaborations with academic institutions**

Areas of intervention

- **Technical support (Sat-image, subscription)**
- **Equipment**



PROSPECTS FOR C2P COLLABORATION

Other areas

- 1. Training in new technologies**
- 2. Setting up secured platform for Exchange of Data**
- 3. New Curriculum development and capacity-building programs.**



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THANK YOU!!