



FRAGILE BORDERS, INSECURITY AND BORDER ECONOMY: THE NIGERIA EXPERIENCE

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

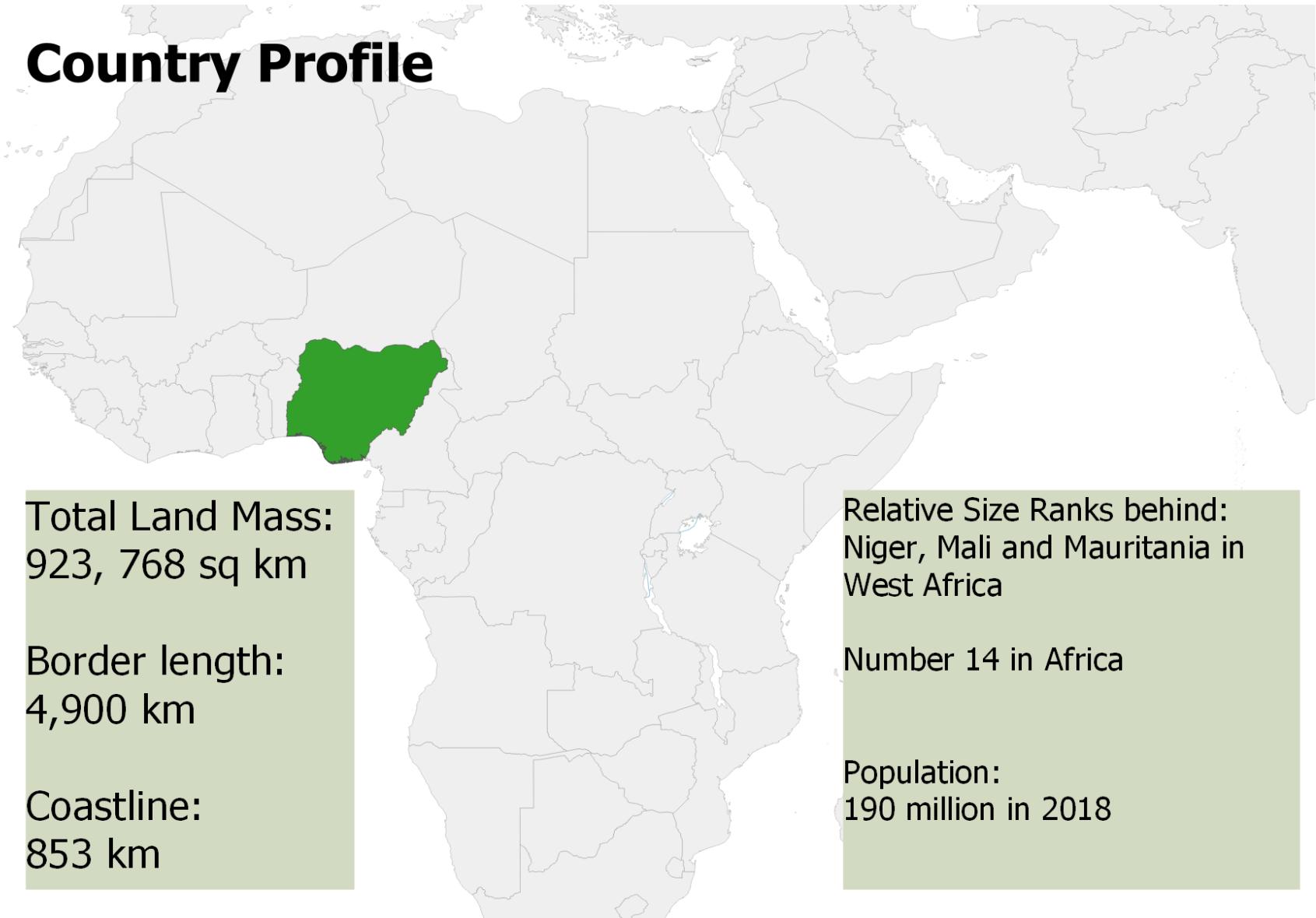
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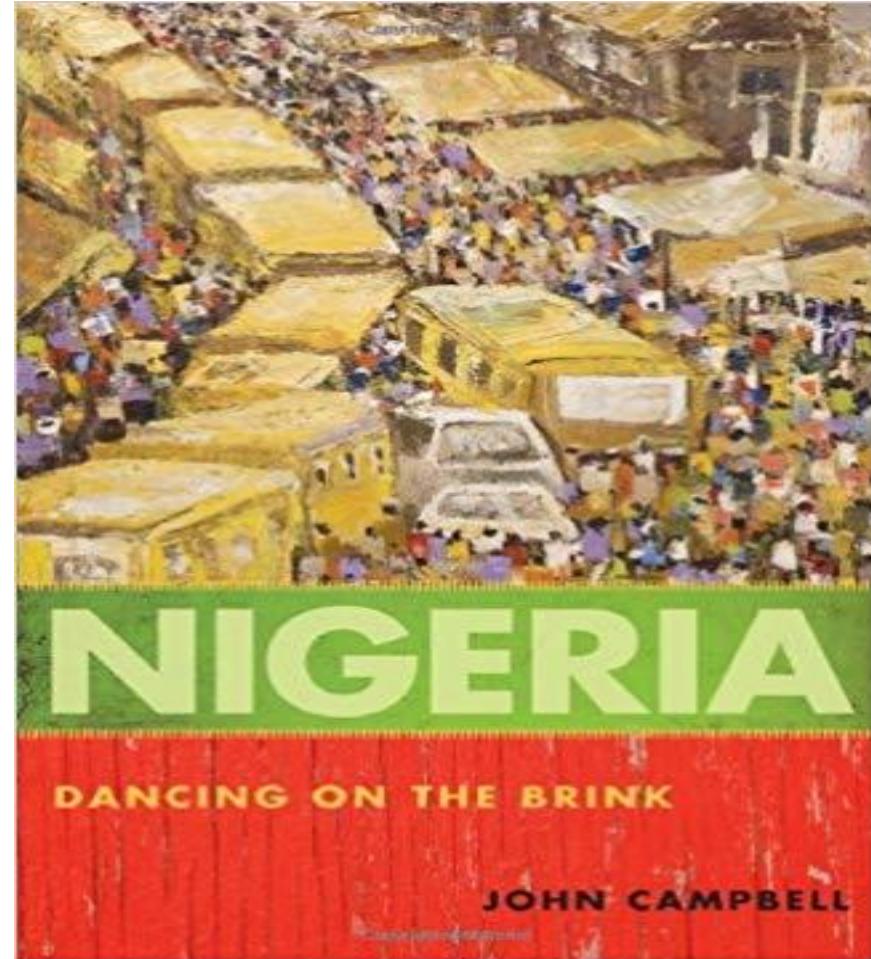
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Country Profile

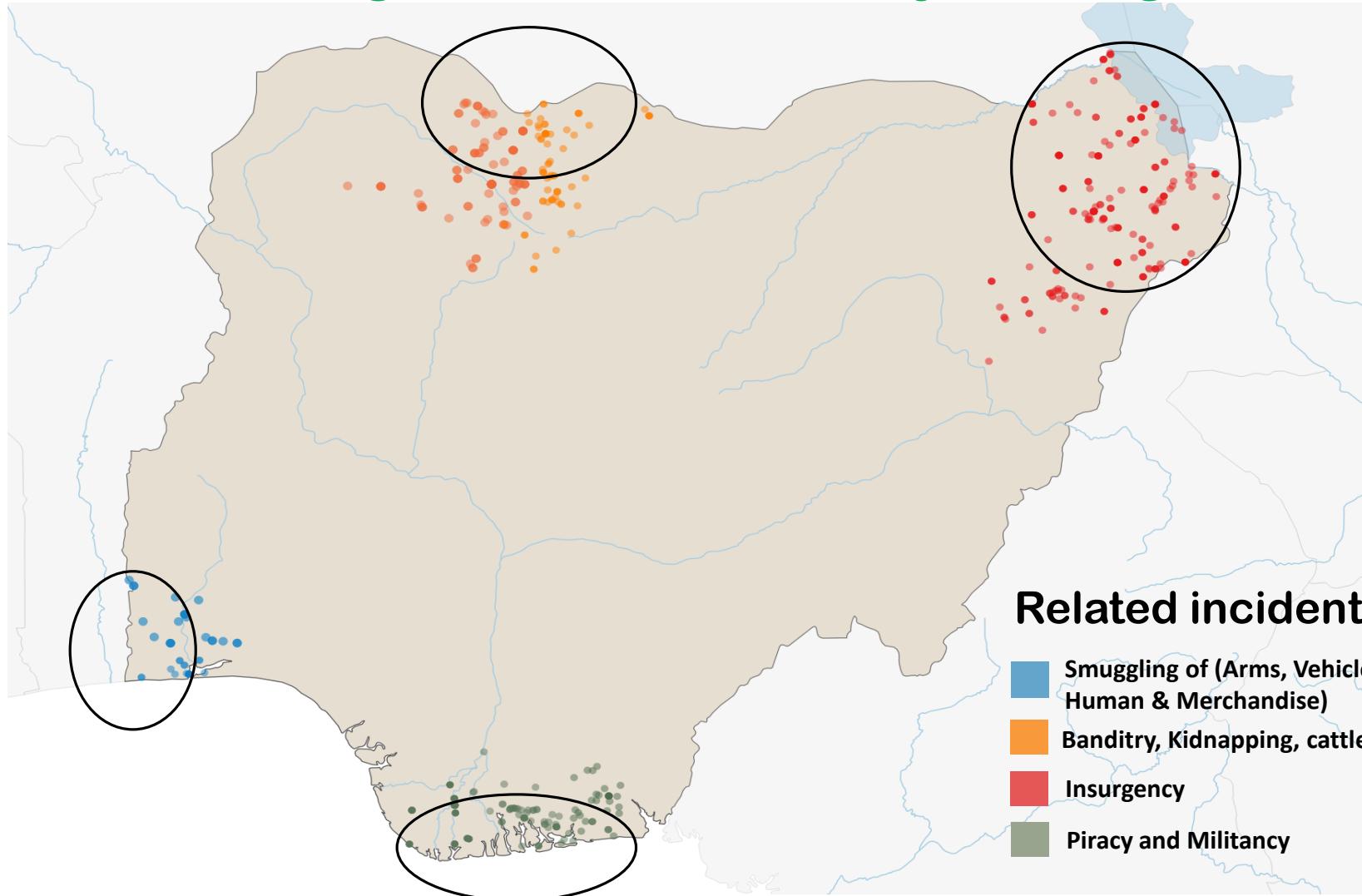


OVERVIEW OF NIGERIAN SECURITY SITUATION

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.



WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION

THANK YOU!!