

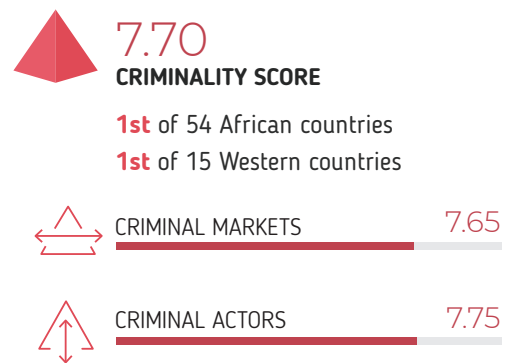
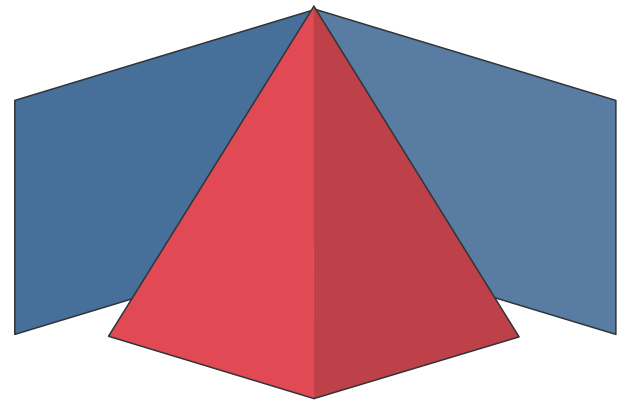
 **NIGERIA**

Nigeria has the highest level of **criminality** in Africa, ranking 1st in the Index.

Although four countries in Africa rank higher for **criminal actors**, Nigeria has the highest score for **criminal markets**, as a result of very high scores in almost every criminal market. No criminal market scores lower than 6.5, and half of them exert a severe impact on nearly all parts of society. Nigeria has the highest score in Africa for the illicit market for **non-renewables**, driven mainly by the high levels of oil bunkering that occur in the country, as well as illegal gold mining. Nigeria also faces severe problems with regard to drug markets, **cannabis** and **synthetic drugs** in particular, the illicit **fauna** market and **human trafficking**.

A major factor in the pervasiveness of criminal markets throughout Nigeria is the strength of numerous types of **criminal actors** operating in the country. **Criminal networks**, scoring 9.5 in the Index, are ubiquitous in Nigeria, accounting overwhelmingly for the dominant form of criminal entrepreneurship that is present in the country. **State-embedded** and **foreign criminal actors** are also heavily involved in organised-criminal activity in Nigeria.

Yet, although Nigeria has the highest levels of **criminality** in Africa, it is simultaneously in the top ten highest-scoring countries for **resilience**, ranking 8th on the continent. Nigeria has the most robust and comprehensive organised-crime **legislative framework** in Africa, building upon a solid foundation of **international cooperation** on the matter. Furthermore, the country's **law-enforcement** agencies, its **anti-money laundering** capacity and the strength of the **economic regulatory environment** in Nigeria have all been key factors in the country's ability to penetrate organised-criminal activity. Nigeria has also allowed **non-state actors** to grow and operate relatively effectively, particularly in tackling drug consumption and trafficking. Nevertheless, there is significant scope for improvement with regard to the criminal-justice system's ability to tackle organised crime.



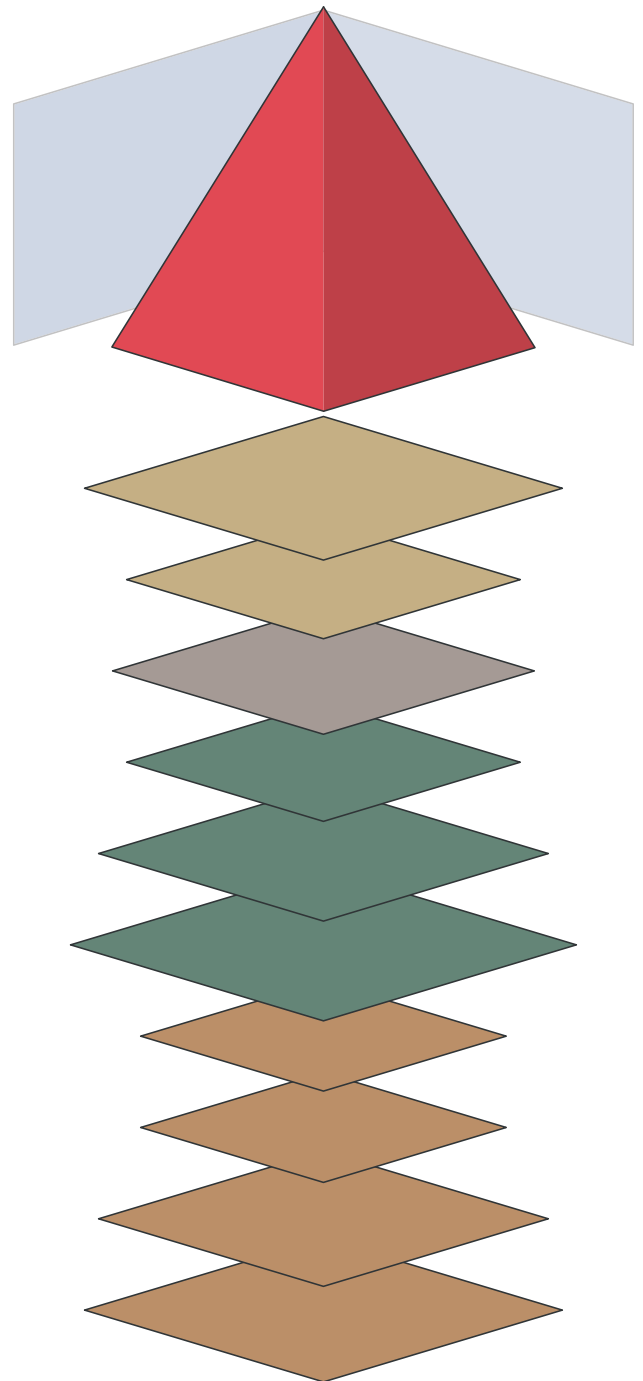
CRIMINALITY SCORE



CRIMINAL ACTORS	7.75
MAFIA STYLE GROUPS	6.0
CRIMINAL NETWORKS	9.5
STATE-EMBEDDED ACTORS	8.0
FOREIGN ACTORS	7.5



CRIMINAL MARKETS	7.65
HUMAN TRAFFICKING	8.5
HUMAN SMUGGLING	7.0
ARMS TRAFFICKING	7.5
FLORA CRIMES	7.0
FAUNA CRIMES	8.0
NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES CRIMES	9.0
HEROIN TRADE	6.5
COCAINE TRADE	6.5
CANNABIS TRADE	8.0
SYNTHETIC DRUGS TRADE	8.5



Criminal Markets

Although all categories of criminal markets are highly prevalent in Nigeria, it is possible to identify those that exert a severely negative influence in the country. The most pervasive criminal market in Nigeria is for **non-renewable-resource crimes**. This is explained by both the sheer range of commodities that are illegally traded and the overall reach of these submarkets within the country. Oil bunkering is a major phenomenon in Nigeria and approximately 15% of the country's oil production is lost,

between 300,000 and 400,000 barrels per day, to oil theft. Oil is stolen directly from pipelines, refined through artisanal means, and sold in local and international markets. The criminal actors carrying out the more highly organised bunkering activities are heavily armed and have extensive links to foreign criminal actors. Furthermore, illicit gold mining occurs in Nigeria, but the levels of illegal activity are lower than in other African countries. Nevertheless, limited alternative livelihoods among local



populations may make them vulnerable to exploitation and co-option by criminal groups in the illegal gold mining industry.

Nigerian **human trafficking** networks are notoriously well established, both across Africa and in other parts of the world. Trafficking networks operating out of southern Nigeria (especially Benin City) specialise in sex trafficking, in many cases for exploitation domestically, in West Africa and in Europe. Other Nigerian networks specialise in trafficking, across the West African region, for labour exploitation, especially trafficking of children for domestic work, begging, small commerce, mining and farming.

Furthermore, Nigeria is a major hub for **fauna** trafficking, particularly for wildlife that is trafficked into Central Africa, and is a transit country, especially for ivory and pangolin scales destined for Asian consumer markets. As Nigeria has a small population of elephants and pangolins, most of the trafficked parts come from abroad. Illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing is also a major problem in Nigeria: the Nigerian Navy has reported that the country loses as much as US\$70 million annually to the illegal practice.

Drugs markets are pervasive in Nigeria. Psychotropic substances (opiates, especially Tramadol, amphetamine and codeine) are increasingly both traded and abused in Nigeria. Methamphetamines and Tramadol are the **synthetic drugs** that lead this market – both are smuggled and sold in the country. The port of Lagos is a major hub for Tramadol imports, supplying the entire West African region. Mexican and Nigerian networks have worked together to build crystal meth labs (mainly in the south-west of the country), and Nigerian-sourced methamphetamine now competes in the Asian and South African markets. Domestic abuse of Tramadol and codeine is very high, especially among Nigerian youths, the latter being consumed mainly in the form of cheap codeine-based cough syrups.

Nigeria heads the list of West African countries that produce and export **cannabis** to Europe. The country's lax border controls, corrupt officials and globally networked organised-criminal groups facilitate the cannabis trade. The country is also one of the largest producers of cannabis in the region. Nigeria's south-west region (comprising Ondo, Osun, Oyo and Ogun states) and the south (Edo and Delta states) produce much of the cannabis that is consumed in West Africa. Cannabis is also widely consumed domestically, and evidence from the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency indicates

that cultivation is on the rise. While **cocaine** is associated with affluent consumers and tends not to be used domestically among poorer segments of the population, Nigeria nevertheless plays a major role in transnational cocaine trafficking.

Criminal Actors

As with the country's **criminal markets**, all four **criminal actor** types are either significantly or severely influential in Nigeria. **Criminal networks**, however, are the overwhelmingly dominant form of criminal entrepreneurship in the country. Loose networks of opportunistic Nigerian criminals are a common occurrence in every state of Nigeria. These are involved in a large number of criminal markets, including armed banditry, kidnapping, burglary, carjacking and smuggling of persons, drugs and other contraband.

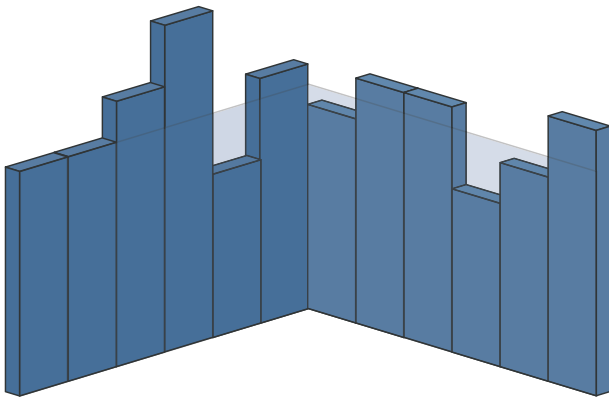
State-embedded criminal actors are widespread in Nigeria and corruption is rife, and operate especially in criminal activities involving public procurement, and collusion among national and multinational corporate entities. While some measures have been taken to tackle corruption under the current administration, with some degree of success, corruption is pervasive at all levels of the political apparatus. Individuals involved in criminal enterprises are known to have become involved in politics, but often after having laundered their proceeds through licit enterprises.

Foreign criminal actors are also present to a significant degree in Nigeria. Several foreign criminal entrepreneurs are active in the criminal markets for arms trafficking, oil and gas, mining and practices associated with illicit financial flows (in particular, multinational corporate entities). Lebanese networks are known to be present in Nigeria (and across West Africa generally), and use their contacts within the diaspora and their import/export businesses to facilitate numerous types of trafficking, from gold to drugs. Mexican cartels also cooperate with Nigerian businesses.

Lastly, there are some Nigerian organised-crime groups that have known names and identities. **Mafia-style organised crime groups** are predominantly active in illegal oil bunkering, often with the protection of armed militant groups in the Niger Delta.



RESILIENCE SCORE



POLITICAL LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE	5.5
GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY	5.5
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION	6.5
NATIONAL POLICIES AND LAWS	8.0
JUDICIAL SYSTEM AND DETENTION	4.0
LAW ENFORCEMENT	6.0
TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY	5.0
ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING	6.0
ECONOMIC REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT	6.0
VICTIM AND WITNESS SUPPORT	4.0
PREVENTION	5.0
NON-STATE ACTORS	6.5

Nigeria ranks high up in the Index – at 8th – for overall levels of **resilience**. The country's resilience scores are between 4 and 8, suggesting an unbalanced focus on some areas in the fight against organised crime at the expense of others. Fighting organised crime and corruption has been a pillar of President Buhari's administration, in power since mid-2015. Nevertheless, positive government rhetoric does not always translate into action, and organised criminality has thrived in conflict zones in the country, especially in the north-east (where arms smuggling, drug smuggling and human trafficking are rife and in the Niger Delta (a region beset by arms smuggling and oil bunkering).

Nigeria has a robust anti-organised crime **legislative framework**, much of which is compliant with UNTOC, conforming to the criteria of criminalising organised-crime activity as a 'serious offence' and criminalising organised crime groups in and of themselves. However, challenges of coordination and capacity hamper the **judicial system's** utility. A combination of factors affects judicial performance in Nigeria, including a judiciary that is severely compromised, a lack of modern facilities in courtrooms, conservative judicial and legal practice, and pervasive corruption.

Law-enforcement agencies in the country, on the other hand, are much better equipped to tackle organised crime. There has been strong progress made since 2015, and some agencies now have master plans and strategies in place to tackle organised-criminal activity. In particular, the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, a specialised anti-graft agency, has been instrumental.

The commission has succeeded in penetrating criminal activity in Nigeria.

The economic and financial sector in Nigeria is relatively well regulated. A combination of laws, government anti-corruption measures, reforms to processes for doing business, and a series of executive orders to improve the environment for economic investment and productivity reflect a better-than-average **economic regulatory environment** in Nigeria. Furthermore, the country has made significant efforts to improve its capacity to tackle **money laundering** and terrorist financing, including the establishment of a financial intelligence unit.

Civil-society groups that work on drug issues (such as drug prevention, treatment and care) are present, supported by UNODC. There are several active and resilient civil-society organisations working in areas related to the fight against organised crime, in particular drug trafficking and corruption. However, the initiatives lack the funding needed to have a true nationwide impact by reaching communities outside of the main urban centres. Although by no means the worst in Africa, there is significant room for improvement of the media environment in Nigeria. Furthermore, significant improvements are needed when it comes to the **victim support** environment in the country. The National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons, for instance, accommodates only 20 to 30 victims in its shelter. The agency has, nevertheless, been active in enforcing laws against human traffickers and in providing relief to victims of trafficking repatriated home.

