

Nigeria/Lagos



A presentation
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&
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CITY PROFILE

- ❑ Location: South West Nigeria
- ❑ Land Mass : 3,577 km²
- ❑ Africa's most populated city (22m)
- ❑ Population growth rate of 6% per annum
- ❑ Projected Population of 25m by 2025 (U.N)
- ❑ Spatial distribution 70:30 (Urban: Rural)
- ❑ Bounded by 187 Km Coastline(Lagos Lagoon) and Atlantic Ocean



Urban Biodiversity context

- Advocacy to create awareness and buy-in into conservation activities through walk for nature, awareness on wetland conservation etc
- Operation green Lagos is a continuous project handled by Lagos state Parks and Gardens(LASPARK).Over 7m trees have been planted and 300 parks & gardens since inception. This creates urban green infrastructure statewide.
- Ongoing inventory and study on the existing wetlands in the state together with their flora and fauna with a view to prioritize them for conservation and development of management plan as well as review of the state policy on wetland and biodiversity conservation being handled by Ministry of Environment & Water Resources.

Garden in the state/ Advocacy on walk for nature



Urban biodiversity context-contd.

- Inventory of species in the state to be made available in public database.
- ❑ twelve thousand eight hundred and eighty nine (12889) taxa of trees distributed among
- ❑ 27 families encompassing
- ❑ 48 genera and 52 species.

GBIF database housing our species

The screenshot displays the GBIF website interface. At the top, a green navigation bar contains links for 'Get data', 'How-to', 'Tools', 'Community', and 'About', along with a search icon, a language selector, and a 'Login' button. The main content area shows search results for 'DATASETS' with '66 RESULTS'. Three dataset entries are visible, all published by the University of Lagos:

- Trees of Lagos Metropolitan City, Lagos, Nigeria** (Occurrence dataset): This is an occurrence record of Trees growing within the Lagos Metropolis, Lagos, Nigeria. It has 1,033 occurrences.
- Vegetation of Lagos Wetland Ecosystems, Lagos, Nigeria** (Occurrence dataset): This is a vegetation record of Lagos Wetland Ecosystems. It has 54 occurrences.
- Flora of Lagos Coastal Environment, Lagos, Nigeria** (Occurrence dataset): This is an occurrence record of plants around the Lagos Coastal Environments. It has 206 occurrences and 1 citation.

At the bottom, the 'PUBLISHERS' section shows '12 RESULTS'.

Urban biodiversity context..cont.

- The Lagos State Urban Development Policy- development of regional/sub-regional master plan incorporating green corridors)
- Development of wetland and biodiversity policy
- Integration of green infrastructure in urban development policies and practice
- Use of Urban Nature Index(UNI) as an ecological monitoring tool.



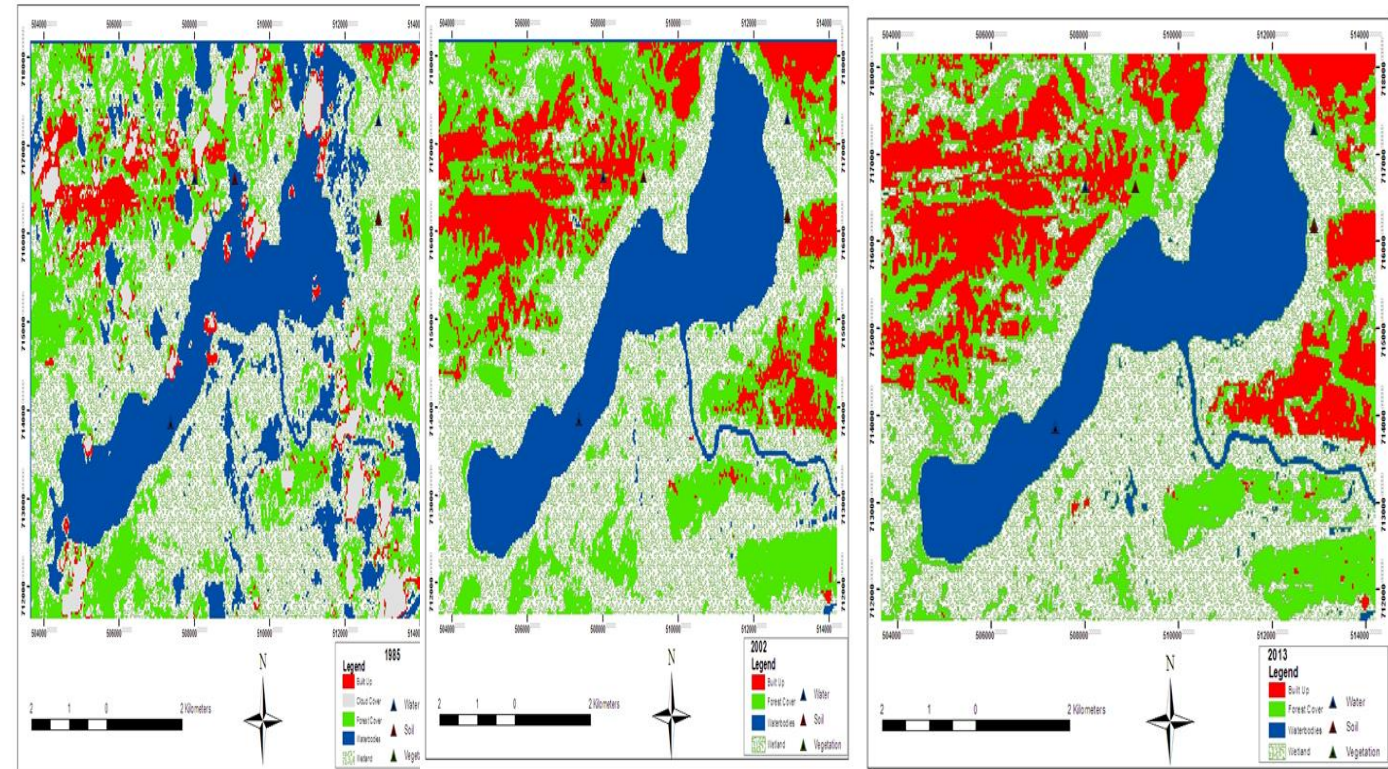
CHALLENGES

- By 2030, half the world's population would be exposed to flooding, storms, tsunamis etc. (climate action news, 2021)
- In Lagos, we have rising sea levels, extreme flooding, unprecedented heat wave, across our cities .
- Unsustainable use and degradation of our wetlands.
- Illegal hunting of wildlife.

1985

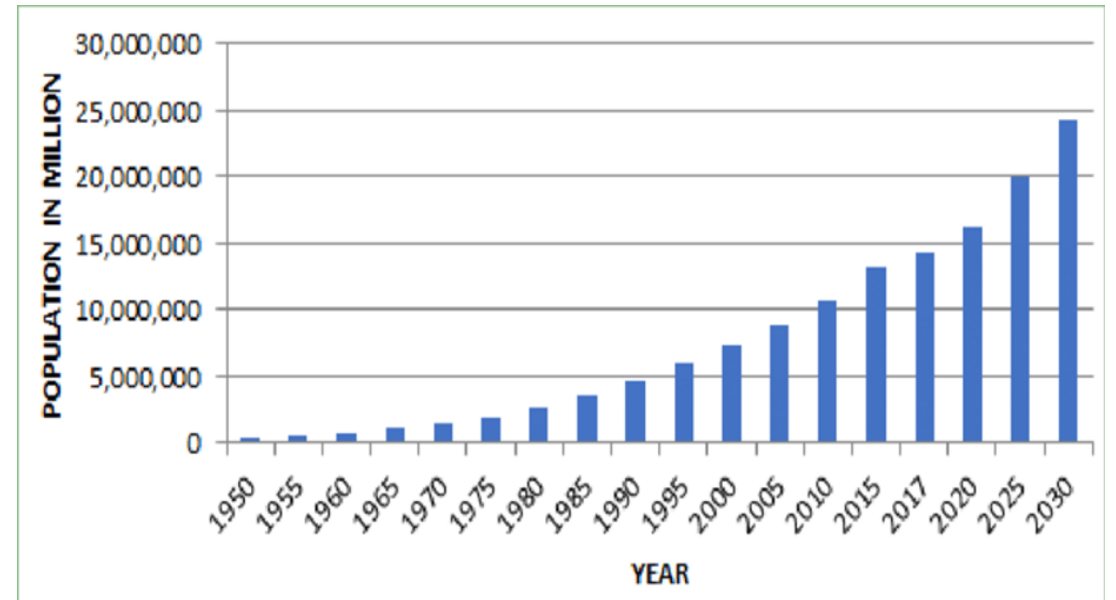
2002

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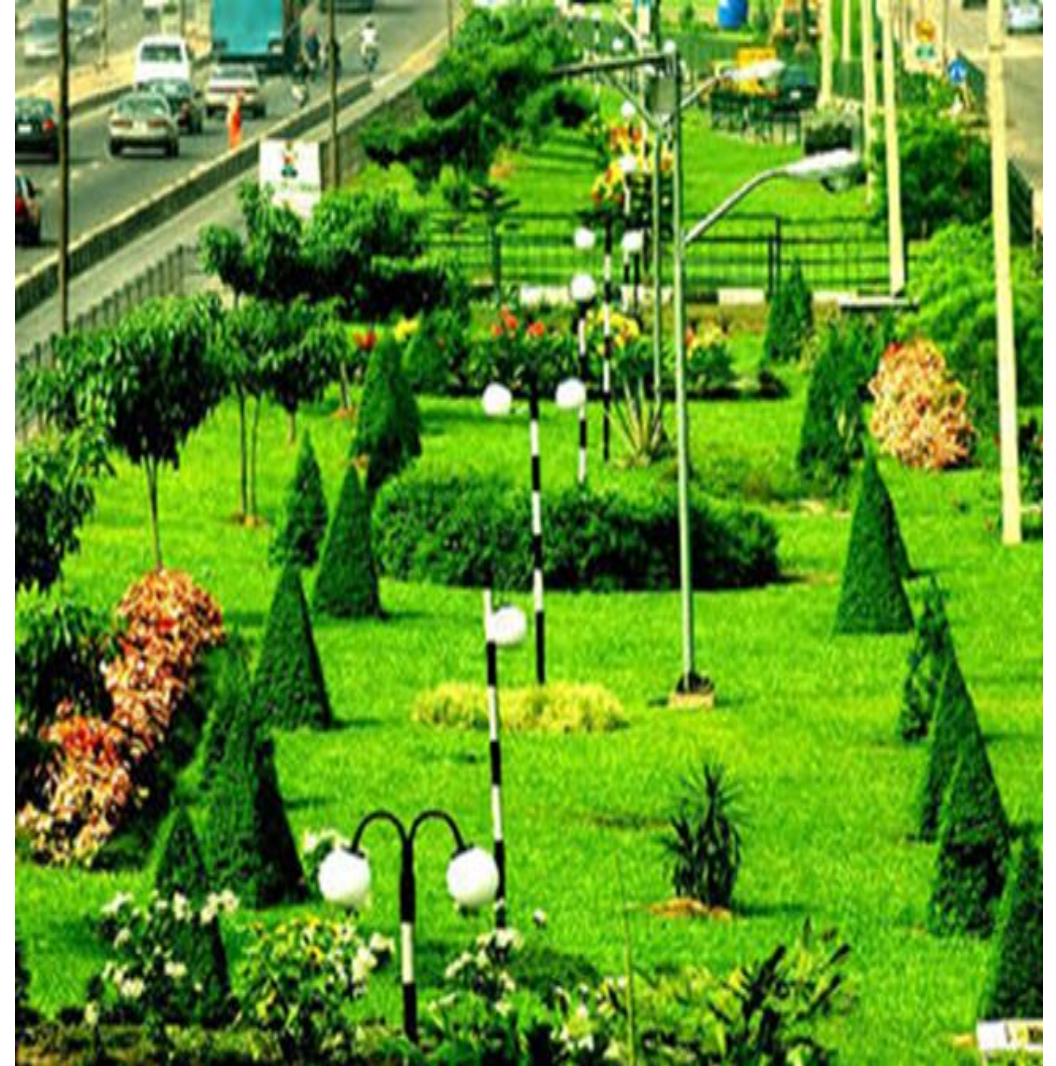
CHALLENGES...contd.

- Lagos state population is huge and growing rapidly.
 - ❖ Population: 23million
 - ❖ Projection: 30million by 2030
- In effect, Lagos is turning into a “Gray city”, where natural green places and wet lands are paving way for concrete faces.
- Population pressure, rapid urbanization and uncontrolled migration result to increase in housing demand, and in turn result to unsustainability, **urban sprawling and slum development**.
- The result makes Lagos vulnerable to climate crisis.



OPPORTUNITIES-integrating nature into urban life

- **Planning network and connection** in such a way that green corridors are large enough and as well planned that they provide opportunities for people and wildlife to utilize their services and reap the benefit.
- Integration of green infrastructure in urban development policies and practice.
- Greenspace, and ecological corridor are our best chance to mitigate pollution and noise, reconnect with nature, beautify our city and encourage a variety of coexisting habitats.
- Our policies and planning **MUST** make **GREENSPACE** a non-negotiable priority



THANK YOU

