NIGERIA WILL BE A WORLD SUPER POWER IN THE NEXT HALF A DECADE

AN ACTIVE VOICE APPROACH

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# INTRODUCTION

What is a world superpower?

A world superpower is a state with a dominant position characterized by its extensive ability to exert influence or project power on a global scale. This is done through the combined means of economic, military, political and cultural strength as well as diplomatic and soft power influence. Basically, it is a state that possesses military or economic might or both, and general influence vastly superior to that of other states.

This article would highlight systems already in place that have the potential to put Nigeria on the path to becoming a world decade in the next half a decade.

# DISCUSSION

## OUR LARGE POPULACE AND LAND MASS

Nigeria, often referred to as the “Giant of Africa” because of its large population and economy, is the most populous country in Africa and the seventh most populous country in the world. It has the third-largest youth population in the world after India and China, with more than 90 million of its population under the age of 20. Nigeria has a total land area of 923,770 square kilometers and a total coastline of 853 kilometers thus making her one of the largest countries in Africa and the thirty second largest in the world.

We have a very large labor force of young and bright minds who are hardworking and underutilized and vast areas of lands lying waste and not being put into the right use. Nigeria’s burgeoning population which by all projections will be approaching something in the neighborhood of 500 million in a couple of decades will constitute the major impetus for our quest to become a world superpower in the nearest future.

Obviously, we do not need a clairvoyant to tell us that this development will propel momentous political and socio-economic paradigm shifts in the country.

## MAXIMIZING CULTURAL IMPACT

In the 1970s Nigeria’s cultural influence was displayed at the Festival of Arts and Culture, where Nigeria played host to 16,000 participants representing 56 African nations and countries of the African Diaspora. FESTAC ’77 was important in promoting intra-African solidarity and establishing Nigeria as a force within the global ‘Black consciousness’ movement. Nigeria is currently experiencing a creative and cultural renaissance, with the Nigerian literature, music, movies, tourism and media industries receiving international acclaim. Unfortunately, the lack of support structures, access to finance, and intellectual property protection continues to put Nigerian creatives at a disadvantage when compared to their foreign counterparts. If Nigeria’s creative industry has made strides thus far without concerted governmental support, then it will flourish with the application of a coherent creative industries strategy. It is time for the Nigerian government to take proactive steps towards shaping the direction of the creative industry and use this as a tool to grow its local tourism and attract foreign investment, while also telling stories that will shape the national Nigerian narrative.

## BREAKTHROUGHS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Companies in the private sector seem to be moving at an incredibly fast rate, bringing up innovations that have the potential to push Nigeria to the international space and bring about economic growth. For instance, Innosons motors and the Dangote group are two very strong companies producing products not only for use here in Nigeria but also for exporting to other countries.

Earlier in 2021, the chairman of IVM said the country is all ready for the world of electric cars and IVM is ready and prepared for that change. With the introduction of electronic cars Innoson is going to be on global market and exportation of cars to highly developed country will make Nigeria a strong competitor in the market and also skyrocket its currency. Five years would be enough time for IVM to trigger the growth of locally made automobile manufacturing companies which would increase our products for usage and exportation.

Nigeria consists of many other businesses of different sizes on different scales doing really good work in many fields and domains.

## THE PRIVITIZATION OF THE NIGERIAN NATIONAL PETROLEUM CORPORATION

The former state-owned company known for its relatively poor leadership and lack of profits for some 45 years, will now be independent of government and operate without state funding, with the new goal of delivering value to its shareholders

NNPC’s shares and assets, including oil blocs and refineries will now be held by the ministries of petroleum and finance. By transitioning from a corporation to a limited liability company, the NNPC becomes Africa’s largest and potentially most profitable company according to NNPC CEO Mele Kyari.

The Nigerian government is confident that the new entity which operates joint production ventures with oil majors including Shell, Total, Chevron and others will attract more foreign investment and operate as a profitable entity that will declare dividends. This most definitely is a step in the right path and at the right time given that refineries in Nigeria are being pushed to be brought back to full working capacity. The privatization of NNPC will foster energy security in Nigeria and also lead to increase in economic activities in the country.

# CONCLUSION

No country becomes a superpower by accident. Necessity, impetus and strategy are the key factors that push a country to become a power in the comity of nations. Nigeria is taking giant strides to claim a seat on the world stage and with the points highlighted above there is enough to be optimistic about that with the right implementations our country is on the right path to becoming a world super power in the next half a decade.