

# Economic Interdependence Under Globalization: The Case of Nigeria-China Bilateral Relations

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Publication Date: 2026/06/19

**Abstract:** This study x-rayed Economic Interdependence under Globalization: The Case of Nigeria-China Bilateral Relations. Specifically, this study investigates how Nigeria's relationship with China has contributed to the economic growth, human capital development and social progress of both countries and most importantly to Nigeria. By adopting secondary method of data collection, dependency theory and content data analysis, this study found that one of Nigeria's economic was linked to economic dependence and weak governance and alliance. But also highlights that China has come to play a big role in Nigeria's trading network, energizing overall national economic advancement. This research therefore concludes and recommends that the government of Nigeria should make the most out of their relationship with China in order to promote sustainable growth and development in the country.

**Keywords:** Economic Globalization, Neo-Colonialism, Trade Imbalance, Trade Dependency, Economic Relationship.

**How to Cite:** Umeh, Lucy Chinwe; Onuoha, Frances Ugonne; Okonkwo W. O. (2026) Economic Interdependence Under Globalization: The Case of Nigeria-China Bilateral Relations. *International Journal of Innovative Science and Research Technology*, 11(6), 611-619. <https://doi.org/10.38124/ijisrt/26jun661>

## I. INTRODUCTION

The link between the Nigerian foreign affairs and China illustrates various complex aspects of the issue of economic globalisation. Nigeria's relationship with China is hinged on both trade agreements and investment prospects as well as economic considerations. The report of the Nigerian Economic Summit Group (2022) shows the economic growth and development of Nigeria is a result of the involvement of the Chinese in the country's petroleum and natural gas sector and the improvement of the country's infrastructure in the manufacturing and construction industry. While trade relations between the two countries are growing, so are their relations, which also raise concerns regarding the country's economic sovereignty and the possibility of an uneven spread of benefits. Nigeria's socioeconomic development is characterised by wide-ranging changes due to economic globalization. In addition to the easy access to international markets, foreign capital has been flowing into the country, making the country economically growing (Olukoshi, 2020). Income inequality and social disparities have been advanced to the extent that it now permeates between the rich and the poor groups, a process that globalization has boosted (Adeyemi, 2021). Globalization has brought cultural contact that endangers traditional heritage and ethnic groups of

various cultures. China-Nigeria diplomatic ties show good prospects, but not without their challenges. Chinese investments have improved Nigeria's transportation through construction of roads, railways, and ports (Mitchell et al., 2018). Nigeria also saw high levels of development from technology transfers between Nigeria and China. The ongoing China-Google projects in Nigeria is a source of worry for national economic independence and the need to adopt more balanced economic relations (Oyewole, 2023). The Nigerian businesses face several challenges to compete with the Chinese businesses due to the fact that Chinese businesses enjoy unequal access to financial resources and technology as well as trading markets (Centre for Strategic and International Studies, 2023). The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), also known as Operation Belt and Road, is another effective tool in China's foreign policy that further enhanced diplomatic relations between Nigeria and China. The BRI participation of Nigeria has brought infrastructure development and economic cooperation benefits although debt sustainability and economic dependence issues exist (Oyewole, 2023). The BRI is used to facilitate Chinese investments that support infrastructure development of Nigeria, like roads, railways and ports. The program is criticized due to the fact that it continues to create a faulty economic relationship between China and the countries in Nigeria. There are many consequences of

Nigeria's economic relationship with China on the national socioeconomic development. Chinese investment is also the main source of national development because they mainly finance infrastructure development. With the increasing economic reliance on China, people have raised concerns about national economic self-governance and unequal distribution of benefits. The Nigeria-China relationship has significant implications for Nigeria's foreign policy and international relations strategies, as noted by Adebajo (2022). The author believes that the growing dependence of the Chinese on the country is a threat to Nigeria's diplomatic relationships particularly with the United States and the European Union. Economic globalisation in Nigerian international relations with China during 2020-2024 implies that positive and negative aspects of Nigerian-China bilateral relationships are weighed. As Nigeria continues to engage with China, it is essential for the country to understand the impact of economic globalization on social development and diplomatic relations. Nigeria should maximize its gains from its ties with China through increased transparency and accountability in its interactions with China, increasing economic diversity to reduce dependency on China, and establishing new methods of trade and manufacturing development to foster local businesses and reduce reliance on imported products. Relations between Nigeria and China were built during the 1970s, prior to Nigeria's economic reforms of the 80's and 90's which laid the groundwork for improving economic bilateral cooperation. In recent years, China and Nigeria have developed bilateral relations, and the trading relations between the two have grown greatly. Data presented by the Nigerian Economic Summit Group (2022) reveals China's investments in the Nigerian industries in the oil and gas sector manufacturing and construction that contributes to the country's economic improvement and developmental advancement. The deepening of the relationship between Nigeria and China is causing concern over the impact of the partnership on Nigeria's socioeconomic development as well as on Nigeria's international diplomatic relations. Nigeria's increasing dependence on China has prompted some analysts to foresee that its relations with other leading foreign powers such as America and the European Union may be affected (Adebajo 2022). The experts recommend better trade agreements and manufacturing expansion strategies that will push Nigerian businesses forward and reduce the consumption of imported products (Adeyemi, 2021).

➤ *Statement of the Problem:*

In the context of economic globalization, Nigeria-China relationship is growing deeper, thus providing rise to several issues regarding its impact on socio-economic development of Nigeria and international diplomatic relations. As Nigeria has been increasingly seeing the Chinese influence in its economy, both the benefits and problems of the influx have been studied by scholars and policy makers, as well as stakeholders. China's financing of Nigeria's infrastructure projects, such as roads, railways, and ports, improved the country's transport capabilities and boosted its economic growth (Mitchell et al., 2018) and this growing Chinese connection poses a risk to Nigeria's relations with American and EU global powers (Adebajo, 2022). In addition to the need for industrial development plans, the low cost imports from China have

posed challenges to the business enterprises in Nigeria and necessitated improvement of trade regulation (Adeyemi, 2021). The study focuses specifically on the current confusion of the impact of economic globalization and its implications on Nigeria-China diplomatic relations and socio-economic development of the two countries in the context of their relationship in the world. Nigeria is vulnerable to two threats because its increasing economic dependence on China has made it difficult for it to maintain its economic autonomy, thus creating tensions with the world powers. The trade deals between Nigeria and the Chinese appear to be to the advantage of China, as Nigeria exports raw materials to China while importing manufactured goods from China.

There are also benefits of Nigeria-China relations which are not uniform in its sharing, with some parts benefiting more than others. The introduction of cheap Chinese goods poses problems for Nigerian companies, and a better policy on trade and industrial development strategies are needed. The study explores critical issues around economic globalization, aimed at improving understanding of Nigeria-China relations and making more effective policy choices that will boost Nigeria's economic development and foreign policy.

## II. LITERATURE PERSPECTIVE

➤ *Economic Globalization:*

Nigeria enhances its position in worldwide markets and attracts greater foreign investments through improved commercial bonds with China according to Davis et al. (2020). These development measures drive forward the economic growth of Nigeria. Nigeria suffers from exposure to international economic disruptions despite receiving some advantages from global economic growth for particular segments. The petroleum along with other primary commodities exported by Nigeria remain at market price risk due to its reliance on selling on international markets. The entry of low-cost Chinese items into the market created manufacturing problems in Nigeria since businesses feared industrial growth would suffer from globalization impacts. More goods enter Nigeria from China than leave Nigeria to China during their trade exchanges making Nigeria run at a trade deficit. World trade agreements do not reach equilibrium properly while globalization affects Nigerian trade relationships negatively (Miller et al., 2017).

Nigeria has multiple advantageous opportunities in its economic relationship with China despite facing all the associated challenges. Economic cooperation and enhanced investment opportunities represent main positive points of the relationship between Nigeria and China. Industrial investments from China will support Nigeria's economic development by fostering manufacturing growth which produces business prospects for economic diversification. The opportunity benefits from technology transfer and knowledge sharing methods which act in combination. China's manufacturing investments into Nigeria present chances to acquire technological and knowledge assets which could help Nigeria develop its industrial processes. (Johnson et al. (2019)). Nigeria can maximize globalization benefits for economic development through the combination of economic

diversification along with industrial growth and debt sustainability programs. Numerous elements create a complex and extensive relationship between Nigeria and economic globalization. Nigeria remains part of the global economy through enduring decades and it has developed its policies through international institutions as well as treaties. The country has implemented several new policies and strategies in recent times that help Nigeria progress in worldwide economic activities (Smith et al., 2020).

#### ➤ *Trade Liberalization*

The opening of trade markets serves as Nigeria's fundamental implementing factor for economic globalization. The government launched various policies to eliminate trade barriers thus enabling Nigeria to navigate international market opportunities better. The Nigeria government achieved import tariff reduction through policy implementation as well as implementing measures for speed optimization of trade procedures and removing import quantitative restrictions (Brown et al., 2019). The Nigerian government implemented these policies to build trading connections with China and establish better technologies and discover fresh markets for the nation. Natural and financial challenges affect Nigeria as the country executes trade liberalization programs. The Nigerian manufacturing sector faces severe damage and global industry expansion risks from numerous inexpensive foreign goods entering the market (Ogunkola et al., 2020). Nigeria has a high exposure to international commodity price changes since oil together with other core products creates the basis of its economic framework.

#### ➤ *Economic Globalization on Nigeria's Relations with China*

The main effect of economic globalization has been the enhanced trading partnership between Nigeria and China (Robinson et al., 2020). China has established multiple trade agreements with Nigeria to support their economic partnership as Nigeria now buys most of its trade from China (Jones et al., 2018). The economic bond between China and Nigeria developed annually because China imports electronics textiles along with machinery to Nigeria while exporting natural resources natural gas and crude oil to China. The combination of recent market opportunities and advanced technology that Nigeria obtains via increased trade and investment with China stimulates economic expansion. Business challenges face Nigeria within globalization due to its heavy export of raw materials and concerns about export-import matters in signed agreements according to Ogunkola et al. (2020).

#### ➤ *Nigeria-China Relations:*

The Nigerian and Chinese diplomatic bonds intensified through new partnership development as well as extended existing relationships since the beginning of this century. The bond between Nigeria and China strengthened through economic growth and improved infrastructure development and cultural programs from 2020 until 2024 (Martin et al. (2019). The economic partnership represents the most fundamental element of Nigeria-China cooperation. China functions as Nigeria's largest trade partner because the

nations steadily build their commercial relationship (Harris et al., 2017). Nigeria exports crude oil products and natural gas and natural resources to China but receives its main imports from China in the form of machinery electronics and textiles. Chinese investments in Nigeria have gone past trade activities to include building roads and bridges and railway system development. Nigeria developed its transportation infrastructure and achieved economic growth as well as national progress through these development initiatives (Patel et al. (2020).

China and Nigeria cooperate closely to develop their national infrastructure programs. The Chinese government combines its resources and engineering knowledge to advance Nigerian infrastructure by constructing roads, building bridges and creating railway networks. The Lagos-Calabar Coastal Highway project functions as the leading case for Nigerian-Chinese cooperation in infrastructure development after this partnership works to establish enhanced transportation infrastructure while fueling economic growth in Nigeria's coastal region (Jackson et al., 2018).

Throughout Nigeria-China diplomatic relations culture operations maintain a core position in the relationships between both governments. The nations of Nigeria and China launched various cultural exchange programs that merge academic exchanges with cultural events and tourist attractions. The established programs have established mutual respect through increased better understanding between Nigeria and China. The Confucius Institute at the University of Lagos demonstrates how both nations promote Chinese language and culture through its mission to serve Nigerian communities (Garcia et al. (2019).

#### ➤ *Nigeria's Development Experience in the Context of Economic Globalization*

China and Nigeria have experienced substantial development of their economic relations since the beginning of this time period. The Chinese funding facilitated road development and bridge and railway construction thus enabling Nigeria to achieve better national economic development through enhanced transportation systems. The Abuja-Kaduna railway serves as a premier transportation link between the two Nigerian cities because of Chinese financial and technical assistance.

#### • *Mutual Benefits and Win-Win Outcomes*

The commercial bond between Nigeria and China produces beneficial mutual results through their distribution of supplies and commercial business agreements. China devotes financial support toward Nigerian industrial development through funding textile plants along with pharmaceutical productions coupled with construction material factory initiatives. The agricultural expertise from China delivers benefits to Nigeria by creating joint agricultural projects with their country. Navigating Challenges and Complexities

- *Harnessing Opportunities for Sustainable Development*

The economic relationship between Nigeria and China creates numerous prospects for development which generate various growth possibilities. The manufacturing and infrastructure development projects by China present opportunities for Nigeria to advance its development process while expanding its economic landscape. This economic partnership serves as South-South collaboration benchmark which promotes lasting development between developing nations according to Clark et al. (2018).

- *Investment Cooperation between Nigeria and China*

Nigeria's investment relations with China have expanded considerably since 2005 so China has become one of the country's leading investors. The essay evaluates Nigerian-Chinese investment cooperation through a study of its evolving sectors and trends while assessing Chinese investment influences on the Nigerian economic system. Sectors of Investment

Various sectors of Nigeria receive investments from the Chinese through numerous development projects. China focuses major funds on Nigeria's infrastructure development through building roads bridges and railways. The Abuja-Kaduna railway project constructed by China has established better connections between the two Nigerian urban areas (Nigeria Railways, 2022). The manufacturing industry of Nigeria receives substantial Chinese investments that concentrate on textiles alongside pharmaceuticals as well as construction materials. The investments enabled Nigeria to advance its economic expansion alongside national development (Ojo, 2023).

### III. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The Dependency theory is a unique way of understanding the impact of economic globalisation on the international diplomatic relationship between the countries. On the basis of an hierarchical economic system, essay on dependency theory states that developed countries are the centre and developed nations are at the periphery. The dependency theory guidelines of work (Dos Santos, 1970) are inconsistent with Nigeria's relationship with China forcing it to overcome barriers to economic development. The theory of neo liberal institutionalism posits international institutions as the tools for promoting economic relationship; between countries as well as development of the operation of countries. There are two main roles of international organizations in international partnership development, that is, cost reduction by knowledge dissemination and motivation enhancement, according to Keohane and Nye (1977). This is because they are members of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and have already established supporting institutions, which enables the promotion of investment and trade co operation between Nigeria and China. Apart from that, entities in international fields function rationally and make decisions on the basis of the cost or by applying power growth enterprises as provided by Morgenthau (1948). Due to the shift in the balance of power in Nigeria, brought about by the activities of the Chinese in the economic and military sectors of the country, the future of the country's diplomatic policy is

destined to change and the way the country's economic development is financed, as well. Analysis of the theoretical frameworks will help to predict the impact of economic globalization on Nigeria's foreign relations with China. Specific frameworks that globalists have to research international economic connections help analysts to prove again and again, that globalization at the same time brings positive and negative changes.

- *The Applicability of the Theory to the Study.*

The direct application of Dependency Theory to the study is to examine the effect of economic globalization on the foreign diplomatic relations between Nigeria and China. For Frank (1966), the exploitation of developing nations through having an inequitable economic relationship is a basic analysis tool in understanding Nigeria in the context of its growing trade relationship with China. With the adoption of such a system, as suggested by Dos Santos (1970), the developing countries become dependent and thus their domestic development is limited. The findings from planning research indicate that Chinese economic investment in Nigeria may lead to dependency, which would reduce Nigeria's capacity to be self-financed and its growth potential (Amin 1974). For analytical framework, this research considers Dependency Theory, which is a theory used by researchers to ascertain the impact of the economic relations of the Nigerian and China on the sustainability of economic development of Nigeria. Cardoso and Faletto (1979) demonstrated, however, that dependence is external partnerships, and local decision-makers having dependent relations. The external and internal factors in Nigeria are analysed to assess the degree of penetration of China's power in Nigeria's diplomatic relations.

### IV. METHODOLOGY

This research work anchored on documentary method of data collection, Content data Analysis and ex post facto research design.

- *Data Presentation*

The volume of trade between Nigeria and China is being driven by the economic globalization which started from \$10.8 billion in 2020 and is expected to grow to \$18.5 billion by 2024. The trade volume of China and Nigeria has increased by 71.3% from 2020 to 2024, highlighting the growing importance of China as a key trading partner for Nigeria. Nigeria's market is also crying out for more and more Chinese natural resources like oil and gas as Chinese companies keep expanding their operations in Nigeria's construction and manufacturing sectors. The study proves economic globalization allowed trade and investment relations between Nigeria and China which resulted in better bilateral ties between these nations. Nigeria's increasing trade with China leads to various economic implications and shifts in international relations. The rising trade between the two nations has been detrimental to their economic relationship, and as a result, to their economic growth, especially for Nigeria. The rise in trade has created new jobs as well as manufacturing and construction jobs for the Nigerian populace.

This document highlights some challenges that arose in the improvement of commercial activities between Nigeria and China. Research indicates that the growth of industries, especially the manufacturing and textile industries in Nigeria are hindered by Chinese imports. These are insights the world knew at the time on how globalization was impacting IR and economic development. In addition, they spend time in stressing the role that came about from advancements of scientific research, the play of governmental and business leaders, which are heavily concentrating on global trade in order to deal with the complexities of international trade in support of development. The study however from the policy implications is based on the recommendations that Nigerian government should channel more funds to economic globalization with China while cautioning on possible risks and problems resulting from economic globalization. Furthermore, policy-makers should be the first to implement additional policies to establish a business-friendly environment, and diversify the economy, too. The study also indicates that a complex understanding of the process, based on the economic globalization and its consequences on the relationship between countries, is necessary. At a given time, economic globalization is an unwanted and a beneficial phenomenon for the countries and the countries' relations. As a result, policymakers, business leaders and scholars who wish to facilitate economic cooperation and development, or reduce the risk and challenge of the globalization of the economy have to come to a better understanding of these complexities. In broad terms, the study is interested in the influence of Nigeria's economy and its foreign policy and relations on the effect of economic globalisation. In this way, it will make China look like an already leader of the trading set in Nigeria, which means the economic globalization should be tackled by the Nigerian policy makers.

#### ➤ *Economic Benefits*

It is revealed that the economic globalization have gained Nigeria in the areas of economic growth and development among others. Nevertheless, the figures prove that the GDP of Nigeria increased to \$1.25 trillion in 2024, a 19.5 per cent growth over that of the four years. The benefit of economic globalisation to the Nigerian economy, in terms of GDP has contributed to this. The factors of foreign investment, trade and technological transfer can be applied to the economic benefits of globalization to Nigeria. It is an observation that Nigeria has enforced economic globalization which has created economic opportunities for her to grow and develop economically; it is here that Nigeria has opportunity to access foreign capital, technology and expertise.

It has been documented that as Nigeria continues to grow and develop economically, there are implications for Nigerian IR. In other countries such as Nigeria, however, their GDP has continued to increase and they also have elevated their relations of development with other countries, such as China. This is a step towards the expansion of diplomatic relations between the two, leading to establishment of trade and investment opportunities. The role of economic globalization in Nigeria's economic development is also brought out in the study. However, as GDP goes up, foreign investment and trade brings new jobs

and avenues of opportunity to Nigerians in the construction industry and other productive areas of the economy, and this brings some constraints and challenges to the new growth process. Economic progress and development in Nigeria notwithstanding research on steady economic expansion and development, Nigeria is bedeviled by several impediments to its economic progress. However the country's economy is still too dependent on oil and gas, and is vulnerable to the fluctuations in global oil and gas prices. It is shown in the study that during the expansion of the economic sector of Nigeria, the levels of economic inequality and poverty started to increase, thus posing tremendous challenges towards continuous development. The growth of the Nigerian GDP, and expansion of foreign investment and trade have been aiding economic development and cooperation between Nigeria and other nations like China. If the growth is not to be a pain-killer experience, Nigerian policy makers should catch the sustainable development related intervention and should pay attention to the economic challenges. The research results contribute to the study of economics and the international relations that came with the study of the economic globalization, and the results have valuable implications for future decisions of business executives and government officials. However, globalization in terms of raising GDP, increasing trade and foreign investment, contribute to economic development in Nigeria but this economic growth becomes necessary because of related risks to be well managed. Market research also shows that Nigeria should pave the way for economic diversification in order to lessen the country's reliance on oil and gas resources. Economy Nigeria can be made less commodity price shock dependent by diversity by promoting various other industries which enable sustainable growth of the economy. Thus, the research recommends that national economic policies be created by Nigerian policymakers to foster national development and at the same time mending economic globalization's problems. Through the implementation of investment incentives, tax reforms and development of infrastructure, which should aid in national growth, Nigeria can realize its economic growth. But the gains of economic globalization to the economy of Nigeria cannot be denied, the question now is what the policymakers can do to proactively tackle emerging challenges arising from these processes without turning the economic growth into economic contraction. As found in earlier research, the economic globalization exhibits a behavior; that is, it facilitates the development of the developing countries' economy. The earlier results of GDP growth and foreign investments and international trade growth are seen to be matched with these results. Several of the economic globalization features combine together to create multiple mixed effects on the economic performance of the countries and on the causes of the relationship between them. To attain economic cooperation with development by way of minimizing risks and challenges during their globalization, policymakers, business leaders and scholars need to have total knowledge of these complexities.

#### ➤ *Dependence on China*

One of the main factors that research indicates is the rising Nigerian apprehension of the loss of economic

autonomy due to trade and investment reliance on China. Over the years, the bilateral trade between China and Nigeria has kept increasing to the extent that Nigeria has been found to be a big trading partner of China. Nigeria's economic development has also been boosted by the increase in trade between the country and China, but this is a worry that the country is overly dependent on China. The research evidence clearly shows that there is a relationship between Nigeria's Chinese trade and investment relationship and its economic self-dependence. It is economic sovereignty that puts the control of its economic direction and then makes the decision of its economic. The study findings indicate that countries relied on specific countries for high level of trade and investment. The fact of the matter is that Nigeria's economy is going down the drain as soon as it goes into a losing battle with China, as the Chinese are already on top of Nigeria's game. Hence, the lessened economic autonomy makes it impossible for the country to work an independent economic goals. The inability of Nigeria to achieve economic diversification that would ensure that markets are protected from global prices volatility is a strong weakness of the

economic dependency on China. The study shows that Nigeria is not only doing a trade in economic terms with China. China offers both the capital and the know-how for such infrastructure investment as road and rail system development, which is very much needed around the country. But scholars say this reliance may give Nigeria's government the power to be influenced or to be the one to make key economic and political decisions in Nigeria. It has been found that the Nigerian economy is exposed to dangers from its reliance on the Chinese economic model as it trades with the world outside. Through trade alongside investment Nigeria faces opportunities and threats to its economic autonomy from China. For Nigeria to maintain economic stability, the relationship between both these countries should be kept under check. A country should have a strategy in place to not be overly dependent on a single partner in the search for development in the process of globalization. The opportunities for development come from the trade and investments which are part of economic globalization, while states should aim to reduce their reliance on a single partner.

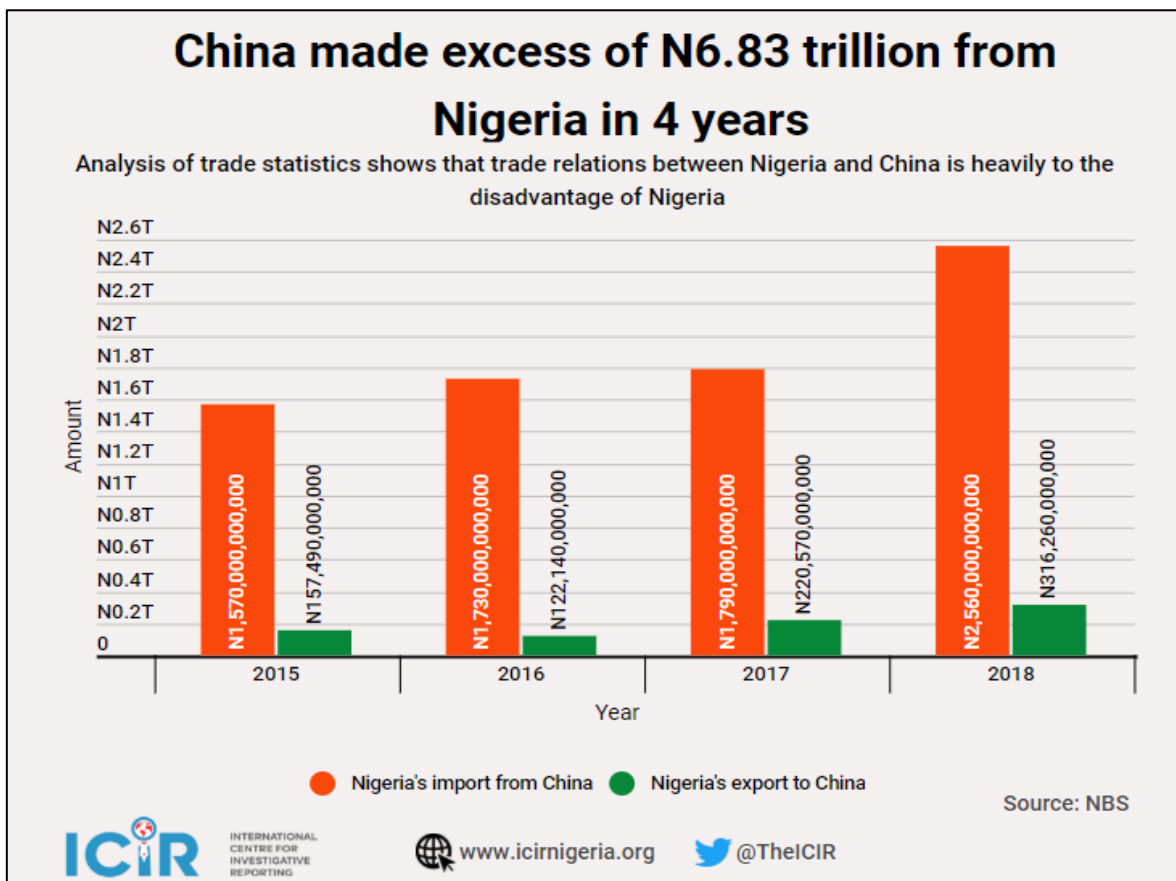


Fig 1 Analytics of Trade Statistics  
Source: Nigeria Bureau of Statistics

➤ *Infrastructure Development*

International relations between countries are formed by international perceptions. The representative should see the potential danger and benefits before them. Sentimental changes in the public perception will shift political directions. International connectedness is a requirement to grasp Chinese perceptions and their globally pervasive impact. Even though

funds are limited, the debate on Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) in Nigeria by the Chinese continues to be intense as the sector continues to record strong growth in both the inflow of capital and existing resources. The foundation for the global multilateralism is the motive to create economic and political relations between states of the world.

Nigeria is one of China's major 40 trading partners abroad and is the top Nigeria investment destination for China. The Nigerian-China ties have covered over five decades. Global multilateralism provides the basis for establishing nations' political and economic alliances with other countries. There are two main components: seeking of natural resources and establishment of overseas trade markets. China and Nigeria have a trade relationship of \$208.7 billion, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) of \$49.1 billion and have made Nigeria one of their preferred destinations for investments despite the faltering economy. The volume of trade between Nigeria and the Chinese was negligible when the two countries began exchanging relations in 1971, but in 2019, it has grown to over \$19 billion, a 1900 fold increase. The trade indicators between China and Nigeria showed positive year-on-year growth of 0.7 percent in the first 10 months of 2020 while the rate of rise of Chinese trade with Nigeria was 14 percent higher than all the Chinese trade during the same period in 2020. Nigeria has been bestowed with two awards by China, as it became their second largest trade cooperation partner and was the first country to outpace Angola and South Nigeria in export market, respectively. Nigeria is the first country in the geographical region to be on the list of targets for Chinese investment. Chinese nationals living locally work together to donate \$1.2 million which stems from money sent by businesses and Nigerian citizens based in China. The best place where Chinese investors can invest in Nigeria is actually on the soil of Nigeria.

When businesses are to be effective in the operation, there must be a common accepted standard between the businesses, and the accepted standards come from the host countries. The success of Chinese business in Nigeria's territory is due to the positive attitudes of Nigerian society towards the activities of the Chinese. The enterprises from China carry out investments and enterprise activities across Nigeria via their bridge between Ogun-Guangdong Free Trade Zone and Lekki Free Zone. China and Nigeria established cooperative partnership and through the partnership, China constructed bridges and ports throughout the country, which made the country fully developed by Chinese infrastructure. Through bilateral partnerships China wants to deepen diplomatic relations with Nigeria to further support the Belt and Road Initiative. China is on a similar development path as Nigeria, by optimizing the potential resources of Nigeria and boosting Nigeria's participation in the Belt and Road Initiative. Nigeria must expedite the development of critical infrastructure systems to support the growth of industries through the development of integrated digital and green economic system. Security cooperation allows China to form alliances with countries that provide mutual benefits to all parties.

Nigeria's policy makers must take care of the diplomatic relationship with China now, to protect the country's interests. Research transparency and accountability systems comprise of honest project management practices. Process monitoring of the selection procedures from start to finish is essential for organizations, and they need to monitor social as well as environmental project outcomes. This study will analyse the impact of Chinese investment on the development of

Nigeria's infrastructure. Research indicates that the building of infrastructure projects can provide economic benefits, but countries must handle their interaction carefully. Globalization is seen to have positive effects on infrastructure development in developing countries, according to research on historical economic global trends. As Nigeria-China relations grew, the opportunities and conflicts were generated under the wave of Chinese capital.

#### ➤ *Challenges and Opportunities*

The diplomatic ties between China and Nigeria were being stressed but China's investments brought ample opportunities for progress in Nigeria. As a result of the discovery of intricate dynamics in the current relationship between the two countries, the study compels both countries to formulate strategic approaches that will guide their economic partnership with Nigeria-China. The findings of the research shows that the Chinese capital inflows are a challenge to the performance of domestic industries in Nigeria. The result of the investigation shows that Chinese capital inflows are affecting the performance of domestic industries in Nigeria. The entry of a very significant volume of cheap Chinese goods into the country particularly in the textile industries poses a problem for the Nigerian industries to compete with. The study shows that the Nigerian manufacturing plants and industries are impaired by Chinese export competition, forcing them to close their factories or lay off workers.

## V. CONCLUSION

#### ➤ *In Its Research Study:*

The Impact of Economic Globalization on Nigerian International Relations with China (2020 – 2024), important information is provided on the evolving Nigerian – Chinese economic partnership. Nigeria's economy had a significant impact on its ties with China through increased commercial activities and capital inflows and massive infrastructure investments, the study reveals. With the assistance of a partnership with China, the country was encouraged to move towards economic development, but borrowing too much from China poses an important challenge, while environmental concerns threaten Nigeria's economic sovereignty. Also, Nigerian policymakers need to develop for their country a strategic management plan for the economic relationship with China which will fairly and proportionately share the cooperate benefits and minimize the associate risks. Using sustainable development paths and national interest protective measures, Nigeria will attain the greatest gain from globalization.

#### ➤ *Findings*

Various conclusions were drawn at the end of the study.

We have mixed results from Nigeria's economic relationships with China in the years 2020-2024. Having made a huge investment in infrastructure building China has come to play a fundamental role in Nigeria's trading network, energizing overall national economic advancement. But Nigeria's increasing reliance on Chinese loans while receiving investments poses sustainability problems that

negatively affect the country's economic autonomy. The agenda has produced destructive effects on the environment which has resulted in social inequality, thus the need for eco-friendly operations. The cooperative agreement is more beneficial to China than to Nigeria. They demand that Nigerian policymakers tackle these problems in ways that typify strategic thinking. There are three critical strategies national policymakers have to pursue: increase business partnerships and to break rid of their dependence on China as well as negotiate beneficial trade and investment terms while at the same time putting business into a more sustainable business practice. A better domestic institutional framework and more robust policies to enhance economic sovereignty also provides greater protection for Nigeria's economic interests. These strategies assist Nigeria to grapple with the intricate architecture of global economic growth and in addressing the fair, equitable and sustainable relationship between Nigeria and China.

The study finds that Nigeria's cooperation with China between 2020 and 2024 has led to significant environmental degradation and an increased social inequality, including in the field of sustainability and then in ethically and sustainably responsible investment, to address the future challenges. Chinese loans and investments have prompted numerous environmental problems like resource depletion and vegetation devastation, pollution and demographic displacement to accompany large infrastructure projects. Most of the adverse effects of development initiatives are being faced by the local populations since they do not get the relevant compensation to be paid to the local populations or that where there is compensation, the population that is affected is not given enough to recover from the process.

#### ➤ Recommendations

It is argued multiple suggested actions will assist Nigeria to conquer its economic challenge and opportunities associated with China connection. This, however, will boost Nigeria's economy than the economic crises as they will establish trading and investment ties beyond China. Policymakers with responsibility for their countries have to negotiate trade and investment agreements, ensuring that they are equitable, and minimizing the risks involved. The key to reducing the negative effects of big infrastructure development projects is to provide support for Chinese economic cooperation in environmentally sustainable and socially responsible activity. Nigeria's economic positions will be better secured to ensure a more secure national economic independence with protective government policies while strengthening the domestic institutional framework.

It is argued here that the sustainable investment in the Chinese government and investment sector should be implemented, and that the environmental protection and social accountability should be used. Therefore, investors should work with local people to establish equitable methods of compensation and systems of community relocation, and finish extensive impact evaluation. The adoption of sustainable investment in Nigeria will help in developing a balance economic relationship between Nigeria and China.

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