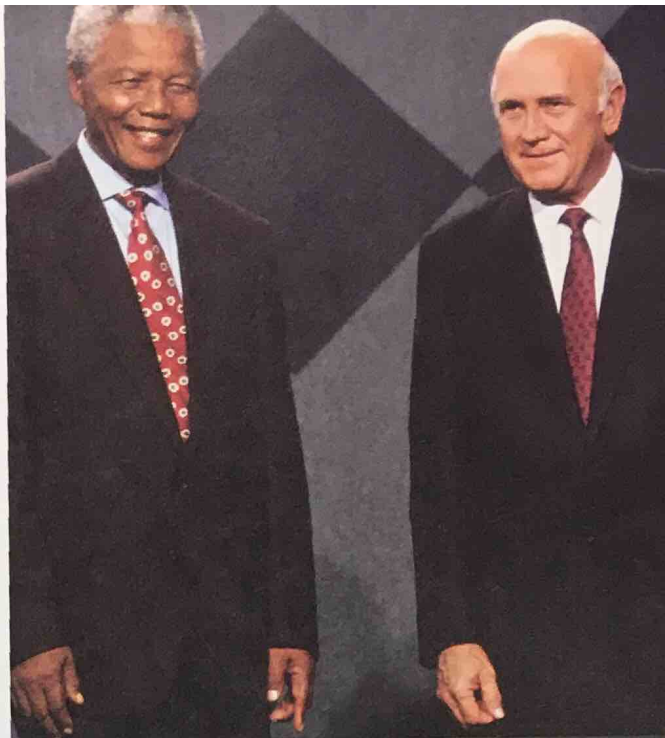


**12.2** In the 1950s and 1960s, almost all African nations won independence. In South Africa, the struggle for freedom was different. South Africa had achieved self-rule from Britain in 1910. Self-rule, however, was limited to white settlers. Whites made up less than 15 percent of the population but controlled the government and the economy. The black majority was denied all political and economic rights in their own land. The white-minority government passed racial laws that severely restricted the black majority.



>> Nelson Mandela and F. W. de Klerk won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1994 for their work to end apartheid.

 **Interactive Flipped Video**

# Challenges for African Nations

## The Struggle for Equality in South Africa

**Apartheid Is Established** In 1948, the government expanded the existing system of racial segregation, and created the policy known as **apartheid**, or the separation of the races. Under apartheid, all South Africans were registered by race: Black, White, Colored (people of mixed ancestry), Asian. Supporters of apartheid claimed it would allow each race to develop its own culture. In fact, the policy was designed to preserve white control over South Africa.

Under apartheid, blacks were treated like foreigners in their own land. By the early 1900's whites had seized rights to 87% of all land, including all of South Africa's huge mineral wealth. Whites held almost all the decent jobs. Although black workers were needed to work in factories, mines, and other jobs, they were paid less than whites for the same job.

Laws restricted where Black people could live and banned marriages between the races. Among the most hated were the Pass Laws enacted in 1952, which required all blacks to carry pass books at all times, wherever they went. Blacks schools received less funding

### >> Objectives

**Summarize** the struggle for equality in South Africa and identify how Nelson Mandela led resistance efforts.

**Describe** how African nations developed their economies.

**Understand** the challenges African nations face.

### >> Key Terms

apartheid  
African National Congress (ANC)  
Sharpeville  
Nelson Mandela  
Desmond Tutu  
F.W. de Klerk  
socialism  
desertification  
urbanization  
endangered species  
Wangari Maathai  
sustainable development

than white schools. Low wages and inferior schooling condemned most blacks to poverty.

**Resistance Against Apartheid** Resistance to white rule began almost as soon as white rule itself was established. The **African National Congress (ANC)** emerged as the main party opposed to apartheid and led the struggle for majority rule. As the government passed ever-harsher laws, the ANC organized larger and larger marches, boycotts, and strikes.

In 1960, police gunned down 69 men, women, and children during a peaceful protest in **Sharpeville**, a black township. The government then outlawed the ANC and cracked down on other groups that opposed apartheid. The Sharpeville massacre was a turning point in the struggle against apartheid, leading some ANC activists to shift from nonviolent protest to armed struggle.

Some leaders, like **Nelson Mandela**, went underground. As an ANC leader, Mandela had first mobilized young South Africans to peacefully resist apartheid laws. As government oppression grew, Mandela joined ANC militants. Mandela was arrested, tried, and, in 1964, condemned to life in prison for treason. He stated at his trial: "I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons

live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die." Even in prison, he remained a powerful symbol of the struggle for freedom and resistance against political oppression.

In 1976, as a shocked world looked on, government forces killed almost 600 people in protests that began in the township of Soweto. International pressure against the regime began to grow. In the 1980s, demands for an end to apartheid and for Mandela's release began to have an effect. Many countries imposed economic sanctions on South Africa, including the United States, which began to impose sanctions in 1986. In 1984, black South African bishop **Desmond Tutu** won the Nobel Peace Prize for his nonviolent opposition to apartheid.

**Majority Rule Is Established** Massive, continuing protests all across South Africa made the country ungovernable. With foreign pressure also mounting, the South African government decided to change. In 1990, South African president **F. W. de Klerk** lifted the ban on the ANC and freed Mandela and other political prisoners. In 1993, Mandela and de Klerk jointly won the Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts in ending apartheid.

Finally in 1994, South Africans of every race were allowed to vote for the first time. Voters chose Nelson Mandela as president in South Africa's first non-racial election. Mandela worked to heal the country's wounds. "Let us build together," he declared. He welcomed old foes into his government, including whites who had supported apartheid. Through his powerful example, he helped shift the political climate in South Africa.

Since 1994, South Africa has faced huge challenges. With majority rule, black South Africans expected a better life. Although South Africa was a rich, industrial country, it had limited resources to spend on housing, education, and other programs. The income and education gap between blacks and whites remained large. Poverty and unemployment were high among blacks. The AIDS epidemic hit South Africa severely.

Although rocked by the 2009 global recession, South Africa recovered and is one of five emerging economic powerhouses, called the BRICS—Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. These economies, taken together, are seen as major force in the world today



>> More than 5,000 people attended the funerals of some of the people killed at Sharpeville. **Analyze Visuals** How does this image convey the impact of the Sharpeville massacre?

 **Interactive Timeline**

**? SUMMARIZE** What factors finally brought about the end of apartheid?

# African Nations Face Economic Choices

African economies are diverse. Each country has a different mix of economic resources. A few have rich farmland. Others have cash crops that the world wants, such as cotton, cocoa, tea and coffee. Some countries have great mineral resources, such as diamonds or oil. After achieving independence, each African nation had to make choices as to how to best develop their resources.

**Economic Models** After independence, many African nations were attracted to **socialism**, an economic system in which major economic decisions are made by the government rather than by individuals, companies, and the market. They hoped to industrialize rapidly and looked to the models of the Soviet Union and China, which had made rapid gains in a short period. Some developed their own form of "African socialism," based on traditions of consensus and shared responsibility.

These early models of development did not succeed. By the 1980s, most African nations moved toward market reforms, which international lenders required before making badly needed loans.

**Cash Crops or Food Crops?** For decades, African governments and multinational corporations worked to boost production of cash crops for export, such as coffee, cocoa, rubber, and cotton. However, the drive to develop cash crops for badly needed income hurt many countries. Land used to grow cash crops could not be used to produce food. Faced with growing populations, some countries had to buy costly imported food. To prevent unrest among the urban poor, many governments then kept food prices artificially low, which was costly.

Today, the demand for both cash crops and food crops remains high. Governments want to produce enough food for their people, and have encouraged small farmers to adopt new practices to increase food output. At same time, they focus on competing in global markets for cash crops.

**Economic Growth in Africa** In the past ten years, economic activity across Africa has increased with some nations experiencing strong economic gains. In fact, parts of the continent have posted growth rates equal to, or greater than, parts of Asia.

Progress is due to many causes. Some countries once torn by conflict have restored political stability and made progress, including Rwanda, Ethiopia,



>> Many industries flourish throughout Africa. In Nigeria, for example, the oil industry is dominant. These men are working on an oil rig in Nigeria's River State.

Angola, and Mozambique. , such as greater political stability and an end to some conflicts.

Trade has driven much economic growth. African nations have increased trade and other economic ties with industrial giants such as China and India. Some nations have benefited from rising prices for oil, minerals, and other commodities. Many have also reduced foreign debt and brought down high rates of inflation.

As African economies expand, more people prosper, producing a growing middle class. These consumers, in turn, help drive still greater economic growth. South Africa, Botswana, Namibia and all of North Africa are classified as "middle income countries."

Despite improvements, African growth could face setbacks. Global prices for export crops and commodities are subject to swings that can affect growth. Wars, natural disasters, and misguided government policies can also hurt individual countries.

Still, the current growth in Africa has attracted outside investment capital needed to build a strong infrastructure, or underlying transportation and other systems.

**Cooperation Furthers Development** African nations have benefited from regional and international

cooperation. In 1963, African nations set up the Organization of African Unity, which later became the 54-nation African Union (AU). Among its chief goals are encouraging cooperation, promoting economic growth, and seeking peaceful settlements of disputes. Through the African Development Bank, it channels investment capital from foreign sources into development programs.

The UN has also promoted development. It has worked with individual countries and regional organizations like the AU to support democratic government, promote economic growth, and protect the environment. UN programs have introduced drought resistant farming methods to Ethiopia and other regions of limited rainfall. Elsewhere, they have helped poor women open small businesses, which helps families out of poverty.

**? GENERATE EXPLANATIONS** Why did some African governments promote cash crops? What problems did this create?

## Continuing Challenges to Development

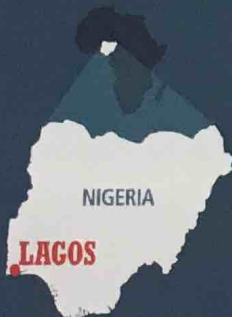
**Effects of Urbanization** African nations experienced rapid **urbanization** as millions of people moved from rural areas into cities. Today, some 40 percent of Africans live in cities or towns. As in other developing regions, the newcomers hoped to find a better life. Instead, many faced unemployment and harsh slum conditions.

City life had an impact on families. While respect for elders and for ancestors continue to be major values, modernization has created strains between traditional and modern family values. In cities—and even in some rural areas—smaller households have replaced the larger extended family. While better health care led to a population boom across Africa, the recent trend has been toward families having fewer children.

**Environmental Concerns** In Africa, as elsewhere, development and urbanization have contributed to environmental issues. Some nations, especially in the Congo Basin region, have vast forests. But millions of acres of forest are cleared each year. Deforestation, or the clearing of forests for wood and farming, has led to soil erosion and other harmful effects.

## LAGOS, NIGERIA: EMERGING MEGACITY

Africa has a growing urban population. Lagos, Nigeria is one example of a new African megacity.



Lagos generates  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the GDP for all of Nigeria.

About 4,000 economic migrants move there each day.

Lagos—a city—has an economy more than twice the size of Kenya—a country.



As much as two-thirds of the population lives in slums

Tax revenues total more than \$92 million per month.

### CITY GROWTH



Sources: [www.pbr.org](http://www.pbr.org), [www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com), [www.theatlantic.com](http://www.theatlantic.com)

\*Projected

>> Lagos, Nigeria, is growing rapidly and is one of the biggest cities in Africa. **Analyze Data** What does the data shown here tell you about the benefits and drawbacks of rapid urban growth?

Deforestation endangers many species of plants and animals. Other animal habitats face destruction through human encroachment and development. The possible loss of these **endangered species** poses a threat to the tourism industries of some countries.

Oil and mining industries create great profits for some countries but also cause widespread pollution. Water pollution is another serious threat, caused by urban and industrial wastes as well as fertilizers, pesticides, and other products used in large scale farming.

Growing awareness of environmental issues has led to national and community efforts to bring change. In Kenya, **Wangari Maathai** challenged government inaction by starting the Green Belt Movement.

Her aim was to restore forest land while opening up opportunities for women in jobs such as planting, marketing, and forestry. Maathai and many other environmentalists want to promote **sustainable development** that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

**Drought and Desertification** Droughts are common in parts of Africa. The Sahel, a semi-desert region south of the Sahara, has suffered frequent droughts, which has led to **desertification**, or the change of habitable land into desert.

In the Sahel, overgrazing, farming, and deforestation led to destruction of plant life and loss of topsoil. During droughts, herds died off, crops withered, and many people faced famine. International relief efforts eased the famines, but wars that raged in several countries in the Sahel added to the suffering.

Today, an ambitious project called the Great Green Wall is underway to reverse desertification in some 20 African countries by reforesting the Sahel.

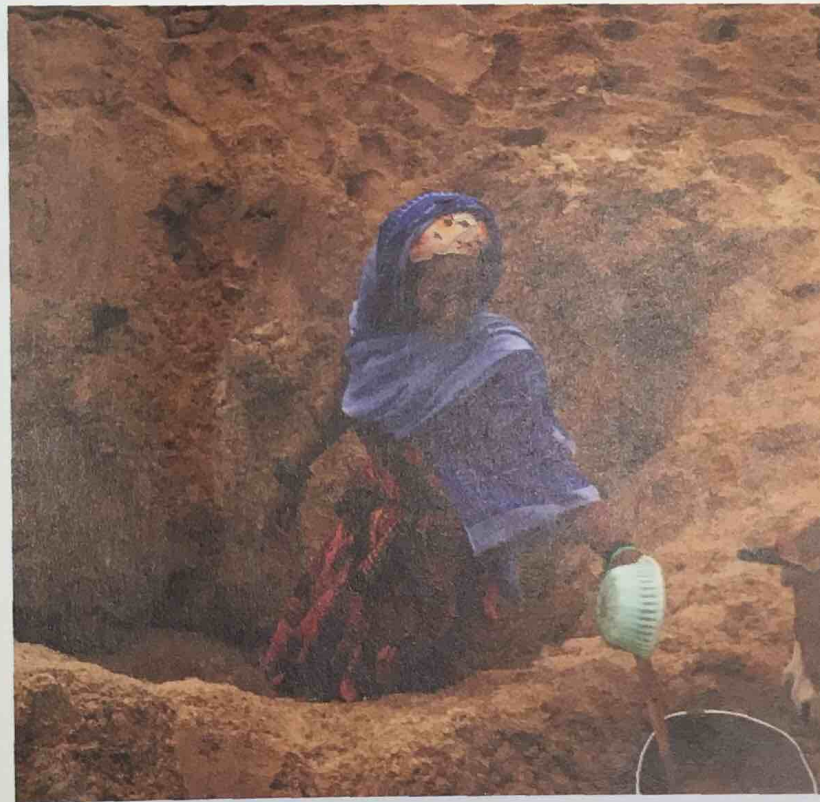
A wall of trees is set to reach from Senegal in the west to Djibouti in the east. Senegal has planted more than 12 million, mostly acacia, trees. The trees can survive in a dry climate and protect the soil from erosion. Acacia trees also produce gum arabic, a substance used in some medicines and other products, which can be exported for profit.

**AIDS and Other Diseases** Today, as in the past, malaria remains a major health threat, especially among children. Efforts to combat malaria, such as providing mosquito netting, have slowed death rates. Still, the World Health Organization estimates that a child in Africa dies of malaria every 30 seconds.

By the 1990s, many Africa nations were reeling from the deadly effects of the AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome). The disease is caused by HIV, a



>> Wangari Maathai of Kenya won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004 for her work in promoting sustainable development.



>> Drought is a problem in many areas of Africa. This woman in Kenya digs for water at the bottom of a dry riverbed.

 **Interactive Gallery**

virus that damages the body's ability to fight infections. In South Africa and Botswana, up to one third of adults were infected with HIV. More than 11 million children in Africa have been orphaned by the AIDS epidemic.

The loss of many skilled and productive workers hurt the economies of some African countries. A global effort to combat AIDS led to the development of drugs to treat people infected with HIV. African nations set up treatment programs and worked hard to stop the spread of AIDS.

**? IDENTIFY CAUSE AND EFFECT** Why has the AIDS epidemic so profoundly affected the economies of Africa?

## ASSESSMENT

- 1. Summarize** How did Nelson Mandela help shift political thought in South Africa?
- 2. Describe** Describe the apartheid regime and the struggle for equality in South Africa.
- 3. Infer** Why did some African leaders believe that "African socialism" would work better than a European model? What problems arose?
- 4. Identify Central Issues** What do you think is the greatest challenge facing developing African countries today? Give reasons for your answer.
- 5. Make Predictions** What effect will urbanization have on Africa? Will it be positive or negative?