

Geography Knowledge Organiser 9.1: Development

KPI Name:

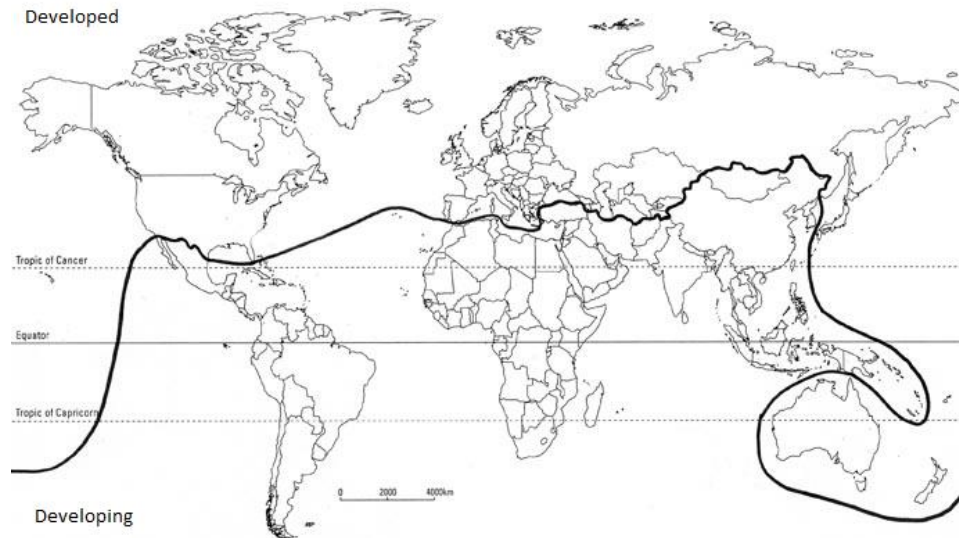
To be able to describe the distribution of developed, developing and newly emerging countries.

1. Development:

- Development in geography is **the continued improvement in quality of life**.
- Quality of life is often defined as “**health, wealth and education**”.
- A country’s development often depends on its wealth. Therefore, in geography we refer to countries as **low income countries (LICs)**, **high income countries (HICs)** and **newly industrialised countries (NICs)**.
- A country may be classed as a HIC, a LIC, or a NIC but there can still be **disparity** within a country or even with a town or city.

2. The Brandt Line:

- Generally, countries in the northern hemisphere are considered developed and countries in the southern hemisphere are considered to be developing.
- In the 1980s, this division was shown using the **Brandt Line**, which separated countries into “the rich north” and “the poor south”.
- The line briefly dips to include Australia and New Zealand as developed countries.
- Some people argue that the Brandt line is **outdated** and shouldn’t be used to determine whether a country is developed or not. This is because:
 - It doesn’t include NICs such as China and Mexico.
 - It labels countries as “developed” or “developing”, without recognising disparity **within countries**.
 - A lot has changed since the 1980s.



Key words and terms:

Development:

The continued improvement in the quality of life of a country.

Quality of life:

The social and economic conditions in a country. This is often defined as “health, wealth and education”.

Social:

Anything which affects people and families.

Economic:

Anything to do with money or which affects the ability of people or a country to make money.

Disparity:

Differences in development between two areas.

LIC:

Low income country

HIC:

High income country

NIC:

Newly industrialised country

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To be able identify how development is measured through single development indicators and HDI.

3. Measuring Development: Single Indicators:

- **There is no single way to measure development.**
- There are a number of different **social and economic development indicators** which can be used to look at different aspects of the quality of life.

| Indicator | S or E? | What is it? |
|---------------------|----------|--|
| GNI per capita | Economic | The total value of the goods and services produced by a country in a year divided by the population. |
| Birth rate | Social | The number of babies born per 1000 people per year. |
| Infant mortality | Social | The number of children under 1 who die per 1000 people per year. |
| Adult literacy rate | Social | The percentage of people over 15 who can read and write. |
| Life expectancy | Social | The average age that people are expected to live until. |
| Doctors per capita | Social | The number of doctors per 1000 people in the country. |
| Vehicles per capita | Economic | The number of cars per 1000 people in the country. |

4. Measuring Development: Composite Indicators:

- The UN has developed a composite indicator, which looks at more than one indicator at once.
- The HDI, the **human development index**, measures development according to three main factors and then ranks the countries from 1 to 188.
- These factors are **life expectancy**, **average number of years in school** and **GNI per capita** (adjusted according to how much a dollar would buy in different countries).
- These measures are designed to look at all three aspects of the **quality of life**.

| 2015 | Life expectancy | GNI per capita | Years in education |
|---|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Norway (1 st) | 81 | \$67,614 | 12.7 |
| Central African Republic (188 th) | 51 | \$587 | 4.2 |

Key words and terms:

Development indicator:

A piece of data which is used to measure part of a country's development.

Social:

Anything which affects people and families.

Economic:

Anything to do with money or which affects the ability of people or a country to make money.

GNI:

Gross National Income (The total value of the goods and services produced by a country.)

Per capita:

Per person

Composite:

Something which is made up of several parts or elements.

Quality of life:

The social and economic conditions in a country. This is often defined as "health, wealth and education".

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To explain the factors that affect development.

5. Factors affecting development:

- There are a number of different factors which can allow countries to develop more quickly or they can slow development.
- Some factors work together and some are more influential than others.

Economic factors:

- The products countries sell
- Businesses which are willing to invest in the country.
- International debt

Environmental factors:

- The climate of a country
- Natural disasters
- Being landlocked
- The availability of natural resources

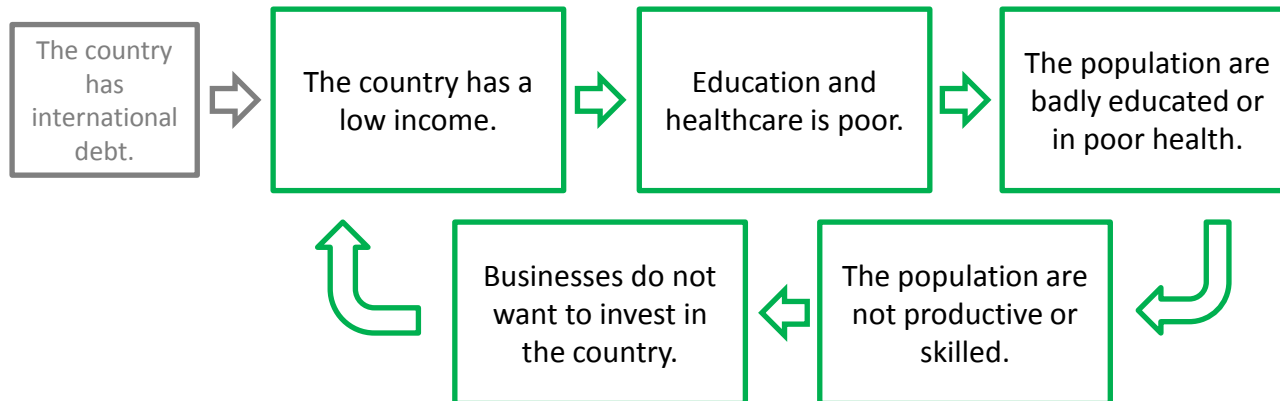
Social factors:

- Lack of investment in education
- Poor access to safe water
- Lack of investment in healthcare
- High dependency ratio

Political factors:

- Conflict or civil war
- A poor or corrupt government
- Countries which used to be colonies for other countries

- All of these factors can either start or help to stop the cycle of poverty.
- This diagram can be helped to use to explain **why** some countries are developed or developing.
- This cycle means that poor countries remain poor, while rich countries get richer.



Key words and terms:

Environmental:

Anything relating to the physical geography of a country.

Political:

Anything to do with who controls the country or how it is run.

Corrupt:

When people or a government act dishonestly.

Colony:

A country which is controlled by another country.

Investment:

Putting money into a business or organisation to help it develop.

Landlocked:

When a country is entirely surrounded by land.

International debt:

Money owed by countries to other countries.

Income:

Money received through work, taxes or investments.

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6. Chad (development case study)

- Chad is a LIC in central Africa.
- According to the HDI, Chad is ranked 186 out of 188 in terms of its development.

| 2015 | HDI ranking | Life expectancy | GNI per capita | Years in education |
|--------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Norway | 1 st | 81 | \$67,614 | 12.7 |
| The UK | 16 th | 80 | \$37,931 | 13.3 |
| Chad | 186 th | 51 | \$1991 | 2.3 |



- There are a variety of reasons why Chad has not been able to improve its quality of life:

Climate:

Roughly one third of Chad is desert. However, a large amount of Chad's population rely on agriculture. Chad is considered one of the countries which is the most at risk from global warming: 90% of Lake Chad has disappeared over the last 50 years due to droughts and taking water for irrigation.

Natural resources:

Although many of Chad's exports are cheap raw materials, such as cotton and fish, it also has oil reserves which it has begun to tap within the last 10 years. Unfortunately, international oil prices have fallen in recent years, which has severely affected Chad's GNI.

Conflict and civil war:

Ever since Chad became independent of France in 1960, several civil wars have been fought within Chad. The most recent civil war was between 2005-2010. This war caused widespread destruction.

Previous French colony:

Chad was a French colony between 1900 and 1960. During this period, France exported a large amount from Chad, taking little interest in properly running the country or helping it to develop.

Key words and terms:

Economic:

Anything to do with money or which affects the ability of people or a country to make money.

Social:

Anything which affects people and families.

Environmental:

Anything relating to the physical geography of a country.

Political:

Anything to do with who controls the country or how it is run.

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Assess a strategy that can be used to improve quality of life in a developing country or region.

7. Improving the quality of life:

There are a number of strategies which countries can use to stop the **cycle of poverty** (see section 5. Factors Affecting Development).

| Method | Explanation | Example |
|------------------------|---|---|
| Investment | Transnational Corporations (TNCs) invest money in LICs to help increase the companies' profits. | Chinese companies helping to fund railways in Sudan (Africa). |
| Industrial development | The building of new industries within a country, often take advantage of natural resources. | Malaysia producing the Proton brand of car |
| Tourism | Countries can take advantage of their landscape or wildlife to attract tourists and income. | Tourism in the Bahamas |
| Aid | When a country or non-governmental organisation (NGO) donates resources to another country. | In 2013 Ethiopia (Africa) received £329 million in aid from the UK. |

8. Aid

- Aid can be **bilateral** (from one country to another) or **multilateral** (money from multiple countries which is given to other countries).
- Aid can also have **conditions** tied to it.
- Long term aid without any conditions attached can help countries to improve their quality of life.
- However, there are some possible **disadvantages of aid**:
 - LICs can become **dependent** on countries who give them aid.
 - Aid may not reach those who need it most because of **corruption**.
 - Sometimes aid is a **loan** rather than a gift. LICs often find this loan difficult to repay.
 - Sometimes aid projects are so large that they benefit employers than than employees.
- Many countries and NGOs are trying to make sure that the aid they give is **sustainable**.
- A good example of sustainable aid is **Practical Action**. This charity helps people who live in **shanty towns** and **squatter settlements** to build houses uses local resources and their own labour.
- Even when Practical Action stops giving aid, people can continue to build good quality houses.

Key words and terms:

Investment:

Putting money into a business or organisation to help it develop.

Transnational Corporation (TNC):

Companies which are in more than one country (e.g. Coca Cola).

Industry:

Making a certain product or providing a service.

Non-governmental organisation (NGO):

An organisation or charity which is not a government.

Dependent:

When a country relies on another country or NGO.

Sustainable:

Doing something in a way protects the area or traditions for future generations.

Squatter Settlement:

A illegal settlement built on land which people do not own using materials which don't belong to them.