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# Partner country of the month October - Nigeria

We are pleased to present Godfrey Okoye University, our first Nigerian partner university. To give you insights into the country, the city and the university, we have put together some information below.

## General facts and figures:

**Capital:** Abuja

**Population:** 214 million (the most populous country in Africa)

**National holiday:** 1 October (celebrating independence from the United Kingdom)

**Currency**<sup>1</sup>: Naira (₦, NGN), €1 = 453 Naira and 38 Kobo

**Time zone:** UTC+1

**Official languages:** English, Hausa, Yoruba, Igbo

A brief **language lesson**<sup>2</sup>:

Hallo	Hello	Sannu	Bawo ni	Kedu
Tschüß	Bye	Sai an juma	Odabo	Bye
Danke	Thanks	Naa gode	Ose	Dalu
Bitte	Please	Don Allah	Jowo	Biko
Ja	Yes	I/Eh	Oda	Eeh
Nein	No	A'a	Koda	Mba

<sup>1</sup> <https://bankenverband.de/service/waehrungsrechner/> (as of 15.09.20)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.kas.de/en/web/nigeria/kleines-woerterbuch-nigerianischer-sprachen>

Alongside South Africa, Nigeria is one of the most important economic powers in Africa. Its significance is in large part thanks to its chief export, crude oil, which the country has been producing for over 50 years.

One key feature of Nigeria is its cultural diversity, as it is home to many ethnic groups, religions and languages. The three largest groups are the Hausa, Yoruba and Igbo, which is why their languages are recognized as official languages alongside English. A total of 514 different languages are used in Nigeria.



## Enugu

Godfrey Okoye University is located in Enugu's capital, Enugu City, in southeastern Nigeria. Covering around 7,000 km<sup>2</sup>, Enugu is relatively small compared to the other 35 states in Nigeria. However, with Enugu City as its urban centre, Enugu is one of Africa's most densely populated states. In national comparison, Enugu City is considered a safe and clean place to live, as the city has invested heavily in security and patrols.<sup>3,4</sup> "We will work to maintain the official ranking of Enugu State as the safest state in Nigeria," said Enugu's Governor Ifeanyi Ugwuanyi.<sup>5</sup>

The name of the city comes from the language of the Igbo (enu Ugwu) and means "hill top". This refers to the Udi Hills, a mountainous area with mountains several hundred metres high stretching along the edge of the city. It became an important location when coal was discovered here in 1909 and was mined commercially for the first time in Nigeria's history, earning it the nickname "the Coal-City State". The Igbo language provides another informal name of the city - "the Wawa State" - as the negation (wa) is different from the actual word used by Igbo in other regions (mba)<sup>6</sup>.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.enugustate.gov.ng/index.php/elements-devices/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://thenationonlineng.net/enugu-safest-state-in-nigeria/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.enugustate.gov.ng/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.britannica.com/place/Enugu-Nigeria>



## Godfrey Okoye University

Our new partner university is located in northern Enugu, Thinker's Corner, only 20 minutes from the international airport. The new main campus of GOU is located in nearby Ugwuomo Nike, with an impressive size of 120 hectares (almost 170 football fields). It contains two rivers, a lake, football fields, a small university clinic and a farm.



*The entrance gate of GOU*



*The lake on the 120 hectare campus*

Students can experience GOU's vision of high quality education and personal development at the following five faculties: Management and social sciences, natural and applied sciences, law and pedagogical training. Courses in all degree programmes are held in English.

The private Catholic university was founded in 2009 by Reverend Prof. Dr. Christian Anieke, but is very open to students of all nations, religions and worldviews. According to Meggy from the International Liaison Office in Düsseldorf, who is considered the first point of contact, "Visiting students are very warmly welcomed, quickly integrated and well supervised. In addition, each visiting student is assigned an experienced mentor from among the younger lecturers." An intercultural preparation programme and local excursions are also offered.

Apart from the excursions, life on campus is rich in culture, sports and other activities. Accommodations on campus can be selected according to one's budget. Those who are interested have the opportunity to get involved with kindergartens, primary or secondary schools, the farm or even an internship in their field at the university.



*The entrance to the Faculty of Law*



*The motto of GOU - Unity of Knowledge*

If you are interested, please have a look at the [promotional video](#) of Godfrey Okoye University. More information can be found [here](#) and the following [link](#) will take you directly to the website of GOU.

The application deadline for bachelor's and master's students for stays in the following academic year is always **1 December**. In addition to covering tuition fees, there is also the option of a [PROMOS scholarship](#).