



Fall 2012

Facts & Figures

Equatorial Guinea



A small country on the west coast of central Africa, Equatorial Guinea comprises the mainland territory of Río Muni (where most people live) and five volcanic islands. The largest island is Bioko on which the country's capital, Malabo, is located. After independence from Spain in 1968, Equatorial Guinea fell under the rule of Francisco Macías Nguema, who plunged the nation into ruin. He was overthrown and executed in 1979. President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo continues the dictatorship, and there is widespread civil unrest over flawed elections. New oil wealth masks stagnation in the rest of the economy and widespread poverty.

-- Text From *National Geographic Atlas of the World, Eighth Edition* --

2012 Quick Facts:

- Country Name:** República de Guinea Ecuatorial
- Population:** 720,200 (est. 2011 – UN)
- Area:** 10,830 sq. mi (28,050 sq. km)
- Capital:** Malabo
- Language(s):** Spanish, French (both official)
- Currency:** CFA Franc
- Religion:** Christianity, pagan practices
- Ethnic Groups:** Fang 85.7%, Bubi 6.5%, Mdowe 3.6%, Annobon 1.6%, Bujeba 1.1%, other 1.4% (1994 census)
- Life Expectancy:** 50 years (men), 53 (women) (UN)
- Main Exports:** Petroleum, Timber, Cocoa
- GNI Per Capita:** US \$14,540 (World Bank - 2011)
- HDI Rank:** 136 (out of 187)
- Trafficking in Persons Rank:** Tier 3 (1 = Best; 3 = Worst)

