

5 die in Cross River landslide

FIVE persons, including four children, have died after landslides triggered by 48 hours of heavy rainfall devastated Ikot Anwatim Community in Calabar Municipality, Cross River State.

The landslides also destroyed two houses and injured two other residents, according to the Cross River State Emergency Management Agency (CR-SEMA).

The agency confirmed the casualties during a rapid assessment of the affected community conducted on Saturday by a team led by its Director-General, Mr. Efa Nyong, alongside officials of the Nigerian Red Cross Society.

Addressing bereaved families and survivors, Nyong conveyed the state government's condolences and described the deaths, particularly those of the children, as heartbreaking.

"This assessment will document the disaster's impact to

guide government decisions on emergency assistance and long-term disaster risk reduction," he said.

He urged residents of landslide- and erosion-prone communities to report signs of land movement, remain vigilant and comply with evacuation directives when necessary.

Nyong noted that climate-related disasters were becoming more frequent, stressing the need for greater public awareness and stronger collaboration between government and communities.

The assessment team recommended immediate humanitarian assistance for affected families, continued medical care for the injured and a comprehensive geotechnical study of the area to determine long-term safety measures.

It also called for intensified public sensitisation on landslide risks and the possible relocation of residents living in high-risk areas as heavy rain