

Floods: 11 lives lost, 6,865 households affected in Niger

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The Niger State
Emergency Management
Agency (NSEMA) has
disclosed that a total of
11 people died due to
flooding in about five

local governments of the state.

It stated that five lives were lost in Mokwa LGA, two each in Shiroro and Munya LGAs, and one each in Katcha and Rijau LGAs

NSEMA in a statement jointly released with the National Emergency Management Agency, NEMA, Minna Operations Office, signed by its Director General, Abdullahi Baba Arah, said so far flood has affected 529 communities in 19 out of the 25 local governments areas in the state.

The councils include
Mokwa, Katcha Lavun,
Lapai-, Agaie, Shiroro,
Munya, Gbako and
Kontagora.

Others are Bosso, Edati,
Agwara Magama, Bida,
Mashegu, Borgu Gurara,
Suleja and Rijau.

Arah explained that a
total of 41,192 people
and 6865 households
were affected by the
floods.

“About 34 communities
have been displaced and
are now in Internally
Displaced Peoples camp
created by the Niger
State Government with
most of them staying with
neighbouring
communities.

“In addition, 246 school
infrastructure have been
washed away, creating

accommodation
problems for pupils and
students and their
teachers.

“We can also report that
as of September, this
year, 18 bridges and 80
culverts have been
destroyed by floods,
causing communication
problems for people in
the affected areas,” he
added.

The DG stated that the
state may also be facing
serious food shortages
because the floods
affected about 11,8692
hectares of farmlands,
some of which had crops
ready for harvests. “Over
1600 fish ponds were also
washed away,” he stated.

The statement added, “In
line with the NIMET
predictions, we are still

expecting more rains,
and therefore, flooding
may still be with us,
which is why we should
not let down our guards
especially with the
overflowing of the various
dams in the state and
blocking of the
waterways with refuse
dumps”.

The statement equally
disclosed that the Niger
State Government has
approved immediate
procurement of food and
other items for
distribution to affected
persons in the various
councils.