

25-year-old man drowns in pond

A 25 year-old employee of Kusada local government of Katsina state, Malam Abdulhamid Mati, drowned in a pond in Kusada town on Wednesday, sources said.

An eyewitness told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN), yesterday that the incident occurred at about 11am.

The witness said Mati and some community workers had completed constructing drains in Yara Rimi area of the town and decided to bath in a nearby pond.

The witness said Mati slipped from the banks and fell into the pond and disappeared, following which his colleagues and sympathisers fruitlessly tried to rescue him.

Expert swimmers from

neighbouring Dutsi local government area were invited to help in the recovery, 12 hours after the incident, the witness said.

Mati, a health worker with the council, was buried yesterday, according to Islamic rites.

The Kusada local government caretaker committee chairman, Alhaji Kabir Abubakar, has sent condolences to the family of the deceased.

He assured the people of Yara Rimi that the council will reclaim the ponds to forestall further deaths.

The Divisional Police Officer of the area (DPO), Nasiru Shatima, a Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) confirmed the incident, describing it as "very unfortunate".