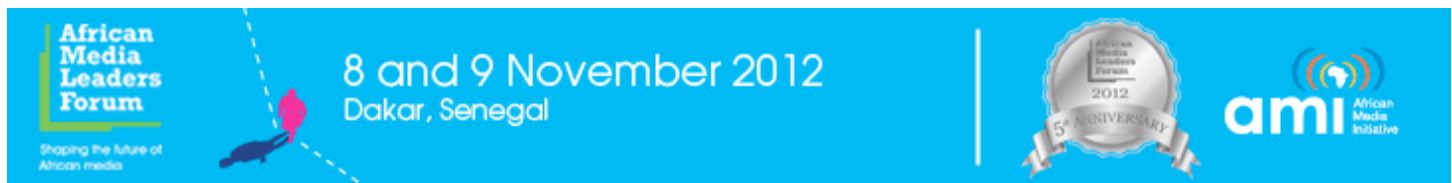


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Nigeria: Benue Flood - Woman, Baby Found Dead In Water

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BY HOPE ABAH, 14 SEPTEMBER 2012

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Makurdi — A woman and a baby strapped to her back were yesterday found dead afloat the bank of River Benue in the Angwa-Jukun settlement in Makurdi.

Witnesses said the woman may have been a victim of the flood in parts of the state. Zakari Mohammed, one of those who saw the corpse on water before it was removed said the incident could have occurred elsewhere.

Our correspondent reports that flood has displaced many families in the state, especially in the rural areas where houses, farms, and property worth millions of naira have been washed away. The most affected areas are Agatu villages in Agatu Local Government Area where over 10,000 persons were said to have been displaced.

Other areas affected include, Angwa Jukun in Wurukum, University of Agriculture in the North bank area of Makurdi town, rice farms in Buruku area, Otukpo and its environs, rice mill settlement, and Hausa quarters in Wadata as well as Kucha Utebe, Gyado villa near Judges quarters along Gboko road.

Daily Trust gathered that the state government has intervened and opened some camps for displaced persons at the LGEA primary school, Wurukum and NKST primary school at Wadata.

The state's Commissioner for Water Resources and Environment, John Ngbede, told journalists that the entire state is almost overtaken by flood, just as he added that Agatu Local Government Area is the worst hit.

Ngbede appealed for calm, saying the state government is doing everything possible to assist displaced persons.

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