

Flood sweeps away okada rider, displaces residents in Lagos

From Eugene Agha, Lagos with agency report

Tragedy struck in the Ile-Epo area of Alimosho Local Government Area of Lagos yesterday as a motorcycle rider was swept into a canal by flood resulting from a morning downpour,

Territorial Coordinator, National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Ibrahim Farinloye disclosed this in an interview in Lagos.

Farinloye said that the rider, simply called Abe, was swept off after refusing to heed to warnings from his colleagues not to ride during the rain, close to the Ile Epo Bus-stop canals in the area.

He said that the incident happened around 10.30a.m and the victim had yet to be recovered as of the time he was speaking.

Meanwhile, the rainfall, which started early in the day and lasted

for hours, also led to floods affecting residents in Papa Ashafa and Fashola communities, in Orile-Agege Local Council Development Area (LCDA).

Farinloye said that some people displaced were taking refuge in four churches in the area.

"Some vulnerable groups have moved to temporary safe facilities, while the adults are salvaging their water-impacted properties.

"NEMA is assisting the owner of a building where the fence collapsed," he said.

He said that there was the need to salvage the building by reconstructing the fence to solidify the base, to prevent it from collapsing on a nearby bungalow.

Farinloye said that the Director-General of NEMA, Alhaji Mustapha Ahmed, had directed the immediate release of relief materials to the affected flood victims in Lagos.