

Communal crisis: Eight killed, thousands displaced in Cross River - NEMA

THE National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) has confirmed that eight persons died in a communal clash between Alesi community in Ikom Local Government Area and their neighbours, Ochon community in Obubra Local Government Area.

According to a report by the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN), Mr Godwin Tepikor, South-South Zonal Coordinator of NEMA, made the confir-

mation during an on-the-spot assessment of the communal crisis in both communities on Saturday.

Tepikor said that the crisis which occurred on March 7, 2022, broke out as a result of a land dispute between the two neighbouring communities.

He said no fewer than 2,008 persons were affected and had

been displaced from their ancestral homes.

"The crisis that erupted between Ochon and Alesi communities in Obubra and Ikom local government areas claimed the lives of eight persons; four were injured on both sides and over 2,008 displaced.

"Several buildings and household property were de-

stroyed in the process.

"The affected persons were scattered amongst neighbouring communities within the local government areas of the state," he said.

According to NAN, officials from the Nigerian Army and members of the affected communities were also in the team during the assessment.