

Early downpour leaves Lagos roads flooded

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"This also applies to when you are coming from Barracks down to Trade Fair, so the water coming from Abule-Ado and Barracks will gather at Trade Fair and block the movement of vehicles and passengers.

"Government should work on this and also ensure clearing of drainage around this place all the time.

"I have been trapped here, I have to go back to Agbara and sleep," he said.

A motorcyclist was reportedly swept away by the flood at Ile Epo Bus area along Lagos/Abeokuta expressway. The victim, simply identified as Mr Abe, was swept away after he reportedly failed to listen to warnings from his colleagues not to ride along canals in the area.

Major and inner roads around Aboru, in Alimosho area were said to be flooded, making it impossible for the residents to go out.

The situation was the same at Igando area. Mrs Violet Obeto, a resident of Oko Filling area said: "The rainfall caused serious flooding in our neighbourhood. My child who was supposed to go and join her colleagues going back to school outside the state couldn't go. The driver who wanted to come and pick us couldn't even leave his house because everywhere was flooded. It wasn't a palatable experience for many people in this area."

Meanwhile, the Lagos State Government said it has postponed the planned two Sundays palliative works on the failed sections of the Third Mainland Bridge "due to the heavy downpour experienced in all parts of the metropolis today."

The palliative works were scheduled for today, (Sunday 17th) and Sunday, 24th September, 2023. A release signed by the Lagos State Commissioner for Transportation, Mr. Oluwaseun Osiyemi said the rain had affected the preliminaries of the

planned palliative works on the asphalt pavement of the bridge by the Lagos State Public Works Corporation. Assuring that a later date which will be subject to weather conditions will be duly communicated for the palliative works, the Transport Commissioner urged "motorists to continue to access the bridge with observance of safety measures."

South West Zonal Coordinator of NEMA, Mr Ibrahim Farinloye, appealed to Lagos residents to take utmost precautions.

Farinloye said, "The National Emergency Management Agency, NEMA, and other emergency agencies are on assessment exercise at some flashpoints, discussing with affected populations and proffering immediate solutions in handling the situations.

"Officials of NEMA along with the Disaster Management Unit of the Nigeria Police, Lagos State Neighbourhood Security Corps in conjunction with the Community Development Associations of Papa Ashafa, Fashola and others have distributed emergency relief aid to the flood-impacted communities.

"Some vulnerable groups have been 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. There is the need to salvage the building by reconstructing the fence to solidify the base to prevent it from collapsing on the next bungalow.

"In addition, we are sending children's clothes, women's clothes, mattresses, antiseptic and other immediate assistance to the impacted population at Orile Agege Local Government Area to provide immediate succour to about 200 people this afternoon."

Similarly, the Director General of NEMA, Alhaji Mustapha Ahmed, has ordered the immediate release of relief materials