Two expatriates, others trapped in collapsed Anambra building

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Collapsed building at Okpuno, in the Nnewi North Local Government Area of Anambra State...on Thursday. Photo: Anthony Okafor

Tony Okafor, Awka

No fewer than two expatriates have been trapped in a collapsed building in Okpuno, in the Nnewi North Local Government Area of Anambra State.

Our correspondent gathered that the incident happened on Wednesday.

According to a source, the expatriates were masons from Ghana and Togo.

The Police Public Relations Officer in the state, Haruna Mohammed, said nine expatriates had been rescued alive, adding that efforts were on to save other workers trapped in the building.

He said, "A distress call was received from the vigilance group in Okpuno that a three-storeyed building, belonging to one Mr Avoyi Collins, collapsed in Okpuno Otolo, in the Nnewi LGA of Anambra State.

"Police patrol teams cordoned off the area to prevent looters from taking advantage of the situation.

"Volunteers were also mobilised for the rescue of the trapped victims, which included 11 foreign masons from the Republic of Togo.

"So far, nine of them have been rescued alive, while efforts are ongoing to rescue two others who are still trapped in the rubble."

However, around 5.30pm on Thursday, it was learnt that one of the survivors had died.

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