

Flood kills 14, NSEMA cautions riverside communities

THE Niger State Emergency Management Agency says 14 persons have lost their lives due to flooding in various communities in the state.

The agency's Director-General, Ahmed Inga, in a statement on Monday, said the communities where the victims died included Magama, Kontagora,

Agwara, Rafi, Lavun, Bosso and Paikoro areas, and cautioned residents in the flood-prone areas to limit activities around river banks.

He said the warning became necessary after the directives by the Nigerian Hydrological Services for communities around the River Niger in Kwara, Niger and Kogi States to relocate.

Inga added that the



• Niger Gov., Abubakar Bello
agency's warning was coming

as a result of discharge of water from Kainji and Jeba hydro dams located in the state.

He urged people living in riverine areas to relocate to safer grounds already identified by the authorities.

According to him, dams are releasing gallons of water per minute that could

lead to the overflow of River Niger.

He said that the state was already experiencing negative impacts of the flooding with houses, farmlands, bridges and linked roads being washed away in some local government areas.

He noted that the incident had rendered many homeless and had affected the socio-economic activities of the

affected communities.

Inga also noted that assessments on the impact of flood were still ongoing and a periodic update would be provided.

He called on all the stakeholders, the traditional institutions, well to do individuals and the media, to help in propagating information on the impending flooding.