

Flood kills four, sacks scores in Anambra, Delta

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File photo: A flooded community

The National Emergency Management Agency has confirmed the death of one Ginikanwa Izuoba in the Enugu-Otu, Aguleri flood.

The acting state coordinator of the agency in Anambra, Mr Thickman Tanimu, confirmed the incident to the News Agency of Nigeria in Awka on Saturday.

Tanimu said Izuoba died when his house collapsed due to the impact of the flood.

He also said at least 651,053 persons in six local government areas of the state had so far been displaced by flooding.

Tanimu said the agency had assessed flooding in different parts of the state.

He stated that Ogbaru had the highest number of victims with 286,000 persons.

Anambra West and East Local Government Areas, according to Tanimu, followed with 237,000 and 103,000 victims, respectively.

He said Awka North LGA had 10,345 victims, while Ayamelum had 9,240 flood cases with 5,468 displaced persons.

Tanimu said NEMA, accompanied by officials of the State Emergency Management Agency, had visited Umueze-Anam, Mkpunando, Umunteze, Igbede, Inoma Ifite-Ogwari in Anambra East and Anyamelum LGAs.

“We did the assessment tour with a boat because the access roads to the communities had been submerged by flood water,” he said.

Also, not less than 12 communities mostly in Etsako Central Local Government Area of Edo North Senatorial district had been submerged by flood as a result of torrential rain in the last few days that resulted in the River Niger overflowing its banks.

Some of the communities mostly hit are Udaba-Ekphei, Anegbette, Ukpeko Orle, Ofukpo, Agbabu, Osomegbe, Udochi, Yelwa, Ake Island and Ifeku Islay.

Many of the residents had to flee because the water level in most of the communities is above the window level of their houses while those who managed to move around go in canoes. Churches, mosques, markets, and schools have all been taken over by flood.

Agricultural produce like rice, cassava, vegetables, potatoes, ground nuts and others have been completely submerged by the devastating floods.

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The people are calling on all governments at all levels to come to their aid before they start to lose their lives due to the devastating effects of the flood.

When contacted on Sunday, the Edo State Commissioner for Special Duties, Osasere Eybounwan, said, “I was in Etsako Central last Friday with NEMA, SEMA, the Head of Local Government Administration, World Health Organisation and others. We are sending our report now to see how we can provide relief for them.”