

Three feared dead, 17 rescued in Borno boat crash

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| By Isah Ojo

Three farmers conveying yams from a river bank in Kubo ward of Shani Local Government area of Borno State on Monday lost their lives after their boat capsized as a result of overloading

An electronic message obtained by *PUNCH Metro* on Monday evening from the North-East office of the National Emergency Management Agency said out of the 20 farmers on the boat that capsized, 17 were rescued.

The NEMA office, while quoting the Chairman of the local government Area, Abdu Labaki, said, “The Chairman of Shani LGA said the incident occurred in the early hours of today, Monday, August 25, 2025, involving 20 farmers in their effort to be conveyed to their farms located on the river site.

“The boat capsized due to overloading. Seventeen people were rescued, but three died and their bodies were recovered,” it said.

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Meanwhile, a resident in the area, Audu Abu, who also confirmed the development to *PUNCH Metro* via a telephone call, said search efforts were still underway to locate and determine if there were still missing persons as of the time of filing this report

Abu said, “The tragic canoe crash occurred at River Kubo in Shani Local Government Area, specifically in Kubo Ward. The canoe, which was carrying over 27 people, met with an unfortunate accident, leaving three people dead.

“Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of those affected by this incident, and may Allah grant protection and safety to all,” he said

PUNCH Metro had recently reported heavy flooding across the state and the destruction of homes and private property in the process.