

11 Killed, 41,192 Displaced As Flood Wreaks Havoc In Niger

The Niger State Emergency Management Agency (NSEMA) has disclosed that 11 persons have lost their lives as flood destroyed at least 271 houses and 171 hectares of land in two LGAs of the state.

In a statement issued on Thursday and made available to newsmen in Minna, the Director General, NSEMA, Abdullahi Arah, said 41,192 persons in 19 LGAs out of the 25 LGAs have so far been affected by the flood.

Arah noted that 6,865 households in 34 communities have been displaced and are currently in the Internally Displaced person's (IDP) camp following the September 21 flood.

Arah noted that five of the deceased were from Mokwa LGA, two each from Shiroro and Munya LGAs, and one each from Katcha and Rijau LGAs of the state.

He added that 246 school infrastructure have been washed away, creating accommodation problems for pupils, students and their teachers.

According to him, "We can also report that as of September this year, 18 bridges and 80 culverts have been destroyed by floods, causing communication problems for people in the affected areas.

"The state may also be facing serious food shortages because the flood has affected 118,692 hectares of farmlands, some of which had crops ready for harvests. Over 1,600 fish ponds were also washed.

“Niger state government has approved the immediate procurement of food and non items. NSEMA, in addition, has reached out to stakeholders, donor institutions, and international partners for interventions in favour of the affected persons.”

The affected LGAs according to the DG include Mokwa, Katcha, Lavun, Lapai, Agaie, Shiroro, Munya, Gbako, and Kontagora.

Others are Bosso, Edati, Agwara, Magama, Bida, Mashegu, Borgu, Gurara, Suleja, and Rijau.