

Weekend TRIUMPH

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Flood: Plateau records highest casualties - AVM Bida
From Christiana Gokyo, Jos

The Director General of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Air Vice Marshal Audu Bida, says Plateau state recorded the highest casualties following the floods that washed away 60 villages in the southern parts of the state.

AVM Bida stated this while briefing the state governor, Jonah Jang, after an assessment visit to the affected local government areas.

He said though there were floods in several parts of the country, Plateau state's was more severe as over 36 persons died and 60 communities washed away.

The DG said based on geological studies, the areas affected are located on low land and as such settlements should not have been erected there.

Bida also identified 229 settlements around flood-prone areas which he suggested should be relocated permanently to avoid future occurrence.

He said the army would be brought in to construct bridges and boats would be provided in some of the affected areas to aid the movement of people, while the agency will commence its first phase of intervention.

Responding, Governor Jang commended the effort of NEMA and called on corporate bodies and groups for more support as the situation, he said, is more than what the government can handle.

In a similar vein, the United Nations Children Education Fund (UNICEF), led by the Zone D, Bauchi Field Officer has presented relief materials to the Plateau state government for onward distribution to affected victims.

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