



Effects of Flooding on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in a Flood Prone Area: A Case Study of Muye Town in Lapai Local Government Area, Niger State, Nigeria

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Abstract. In the event of an approaching disaster, people either do not get information on time or do not receive adequate information that helps them to make informed decisions on the appropriate action to take. The aim of an early warning system is to empower individuals, groups of individuals or businesses to respond timely and in an appropriate manner to hazards. Early warnings are broadcast to all the people in an area, even those that are outside the danger area. This may also lead to panic. The recurring and high frequency of floods in Muye/Egba ward of Lapai local government area has continuously destroyed infrastructure, crops, properties, livestock's and in some cases displacement and deaths . Therefore this study seeks to examine the effects of flooding on internally displaced persons (IDPs) in a flood prone area. Both qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection were adopted using questionnaire and qualitative research methods in analyzing data obtained scientifically through coding using STATA special edition and Microsoft Excel. The findings from the data gathered during the study show that, backflow effects, heavy rainfall, were the major nature in which flooding took place in Muye town. The research further finds that there were more than thirty communities which are always the worst hit during flooding more than muye that require urgent attention and intervention from all quarters and the urge to avert such crisis. Information and communication technologies can contribute to the lessening of risk of flooding disaster and displacement, effective linking of the existence of institutions that allow for the effective mobilization.

Keywords: Effects, flooding, internally displaced persons, displacement, mobilization

1. Introduction

Among all observed natural and anthropogenic adversities, water-related disasters are the most recurrent with recorded number of fatalities highest in Africa, accounting for more than 46% of the world total in 2006 (Adikari and Yoshitani, 2009). The water-related disasters like floods increase the vulnerability of rural households that mainly depend on rain fed agriculture and livestock production for their livelihoods (Smucker and Wisner, 2008). Floods all over the world have caused considerable loss of property, destruction of crop land, roads and utilities and even loss of life. More far-reaching consequences can include loss of income, disruption of services and environmental devastation. For example, from 1983 to 1993, annual flood losses in the United States averaged \$3 billion dollars and Continue to rise (Cartwright, 2005). These floods destroy agricultural products, personal Property, businesses, and disrupt livelihoods. Yet, despite the risk, people choose to remain located in the floodplains.

This presents a challenge for local, state, and federal governments, floodplain managers, and the people who live there. There is convincing evidence that the frequency and magnitude of disasters is increasing, and that poor countries and poor communities are disproportionately affected. More than half of disaster deaths occur in less developed countries even though only 11% of people exposed to hazards live there. These countries also suffer far greater economic losses relative to their Gross Domestic Product (GDP) than richer countries (DFID, 2004:1). One of the contemporary challenges facing the Nigerian state is how to provide succour to the plights of the internally displaced persons (IDPs),

occasioned by floods and incessant violent attacks. Internal Displacement remains one of the most significant challenges facing the humanitarian community. For instance, Kofi Annan notes that, "Internal displacement has emerged as one of the great human tragedies of our time. It has also created an unprecedented challenge for the international community: to find ways to respond to what is essentially an internal crisis, protection should be central to the international response and [with] assistance should be provided in a comprehensive way that brings together the humanitarian, human rights, and development components of the United Nations" (Annan, 1998:3).

Protection is defined as all activities aimed at obtaining full respect for the rights of the individual in accordance with the letter and spirit of the relevant bodies of law, namely Human Rights Law, International Humanitarian Law and Refugee Law. Hence, protection can also be perceived as, an objective, a legal responsibility and an activity international committee of red cross (ICRC, 2001). Thus, this article concentrates on the Effects of flooding on internally displaced persons (IDPs) in a Flood Prone Area a Case Study of Muye Town in Lapai Local Government Area of Niger State, Nigeria. Therefore it is a legal responsibility, principally of the State and its agents.

Furthermore, there is no legal definition of who constitutes an "internally displaced person" in International Law. However, the notion of IDPs set out in the introduction to the Guiding Principles is meant to be descriptive rather than normative, drawing attention to the characteristics of IDPs that make them inherently vulnerable.

For the purposes of these Principles and for this article, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPS) are persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights, or natural or human-made disasters and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border (UNOCHA, 2008). Note that two elements are decisive in identifying who is an IDP: firstly, the coercive or otherwise involuntary character of movement that is, movement caused by armed conflict, violence, disasters, and the like; and secondly, the fact that such movement takes place within national borders (Mooney, 2003b).

The first element distinguishes IDPs from individuals who left their homes out of choice and could have otherwise safely remained where they lived. The second element explains why IDPs are not refugees. Refugees, by definition, are outside their country of nationality or habitual residence. In other respects, however, both categories of displaced persons often face similar risks and deprivations (UNHCR, 2006). Unlike refugees, IDPs remain citizens or habitual residents of their country and are entitled to protection and assistance on that basis alone (UNHCR, 2006).

Likewise, the former UN Secretary- General late Kofi Annan drew attention to "the growing problem of internally displaced persons" (IDPs) in his 2005 report on UN reform in larger freedom. Unlike refugees, IDPs do not cross international borders and thus have no well-established system of international assistance or protection. IDP's, Annan argued, "often fall into the cracks between different humanitarian bodies. Hence, UN reform must encourage greater national and international involvement with IDPs by promoting the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, giving the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) a broader role with IDPs, and strengthening institutional and military arrangements to defend their physical safety (Cohen, 2006).

The Guiding Principles underscore this "national authorities that have the primary duty and responsibility to provide protection and Humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction. "The UN Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) policy paper also affirms that the protection role of international agencies and NGOs should involve "reinforcing national responsibility and supporting, not substituting for, the protection responsibilities of competent authorities (Bagshaw and Paul, 2004:29).

2. Statement of the Problem

Over the past years, providing protection and assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs) has become a major concern for states, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations. Refugees, outside of their own state and unable to count on its protection, are provided protection through an international refugee regime based in law particularly the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol and organizations particularly the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) (UNHCR, 1951).

By contrast, IDPs, though displaced for similar reasons, do not have the same protections since they remain within their own state. Primary responsibility for their protection continues to rest with the territorial state (Cohen and Deng, 1998). It is also on record that in 2013 alone, 470,500 persons were displaced across communities in some parts of Nigeria due to Boko Haram insurgency and other humanitarian emergencies (HRW, 2014). Besides, available statistics shows that Nigeria has the highest number of displaced persons in Africa which is estimated at 3.3 million people as at the year 2014 (IDMS, 2014 and NRC, 2014).

The figure includes those displaced as a result of Boko Haram insurgency, communal conflicts, floods disaster and incessant clashes between farmers and Fulani herdsmen in the northeast. On a global scale, Nigeria is ranked behind Syria, with 6.5 million IDPS and Colombia with 5.7 million (IDMS, 2014 and NRC, 2014). Statistics from HRW (2014) asserts that the IDPs figures have risen unprecedentedly in the preceding years due largely to increasing number of Boko Haram attacks, heavy-handed counter-insurgency and ongoing inter-communal violent conflicts in some communities across the country. For instance, the clashes between farmers and Fulani herdsmen in states of Benue, Taraba, Zamfara and Kaduna displaced 100,000 persons in 2014 (NEMA, 2015). Over the years, the growth of IDPs figure in Nigeria is quite alarming. As at April, 2015, IDMC estimates that 1,538,982 people were forced to flee their homes in Nigeria. This figure include people displaced in as result of brutal attacks by Boko Haram insurgency, the government led counter-insurgency operations against the group, ongoing inter-communal clashes. The biggest rise in the number of IDPs was recorded in Borno state, one of the Northeastern states ravaged by Boko Haram insurgency, followed by Adamawa, and Yobe states. As at April 2015, Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) assessment, set up by the Internal Migration Organization (IOM) identified 1,491,706 IDPs in states of Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba and Yobe with about six percent of this figure attributed to inter communal clashes while the remaining ninety four percent of these figure is caused by Boko Haram insurgency. Obviously, time is ripe to provide modalities for addressing the plights of the IDPs, with a view to ameliorating their sufferings and repositioning them to contribute meaningfully to socio-economic development of the country.

Global IDP Database of the Norwegian Refugee Council has now updated its country profile on

internal displacement in Nigeria. Internal displacement already occurred in Nigeria 30 years ago, when during the Biafran war (1967-1970) some two million people died and ten million people became internally displaced.

However, across the globe, floods have posed tremendous danger to people's lives and properties. Floods cause about one third of all deaths, one third of all injuries and one third of all damage from natural disasters (Askew, 1999 cited in Angela, 2011). In Nigeria, the pattern is similar with the rest of world. Flooding in various parts of Nigeria have forced millions of people from their homes, destroyed businesses, polluted water sources and increased the risk of diseases.

Whereas flooding itself is a situation that results when land that is usually dry is covered with water of a river overflowing or heavy rain, flooding occurs naturally on the flood plains which are prone to disaster. It occurs when water in the river overflows its banks, or sometimes results from a constructed dam. Thus, according to Daily Trust online News report of September 10, 2018, the flood situation has worsen in Lapai local government of Niger state with residents lamenting that over 8, 000 persons have been displaced, while four persons were said to have died.

The National President of Kakanda Development Association, Alhaji Ismaila Abdullahi Sokun, had told Daily Trust on phone that Lapai is witnessing immense humanitarian crisis, while calling for urgent interventions. He said 35 communities are currently submerged, adding that natives who flee to uplands for safety slept in the open without shelter and food.

The Director General of Niger State Emergency Management (NSEMA) Alhaji Ahmed Ibrahim Inga said the figure of displaced persons could be more as the water level kept increasing by the day. It was observed that the recent release of water from both Jebba and Kainji dams further exacerbated the crisis in the local government which serves as confluence of many rivers (Daily Trust, 2018).

The Lapai Emirate, is a traditional society that lies near the Gurara River, a tributary to River Niger. Lapai is a Local Government Area Headquarters in Niger State, Nigeria, adjoining the Federal Capital Territory, on the A124 highway in the west of the area at 9°03'00"N 6°34'00"E. It has an area of 3,051 km² and a population of 110,127 at the 2006 census. It is also an Emirate and a town in Niger state. It is located in the southern part of Niger state and shares borders with Paikoro and Agaie local government areas.

3. Objectives

- To determine the effects of early warning and empowering individuals, groups of individuals or businesses to respond timely and in an appropriate manner to hazards.
- To guard against the destruction of infrastructure, crops, properties, livestock's and deaths of victims.
- To examine the effects of flooding on internally displaced persons (IDPs) in flood prone areas of Niger State.

4. Methodology

Descriptive survey research design was adopted since data elicited focused on the narration of facts and characteristics of a particular situation. Both quantitative and qualitative approaches were used. Questionnaires were used to collect both quantitative data. It was also adopted to capture data on people's opinions or perceptions on the state of the households' response. There was use of closed and open ended questions to streamline responses for easy analysis and probing independent views respectively. Wilson (2006) defines the qualitative approach as an unstructured research methodology that is carried out using a small number of carefully selected individuals to produce non quantifiable insights into behaviour, motivations and attitudes. A case study research design was then adopted for the research. The case study design provided the researcher with a rigorous, holistic description and analysis.

4.1 Location

Muye town is located in the Lapai emirate, today in Niger state of Nigeria and it is a traditional state that lies near the Gurara River, a tributary to the Niger River, Lapai is a Local Government Area in Niger State, Nigeria, adjoining the Federal Capital Territory. Its headquarters are in the town of Lapai on the A124 highway in the west of the area at 9°03'00"N 6°34'00"E. It has an area of 3,051 km² and a population of 110,127 at the 2006 census. It is located in the southern part of Niger state and shares borders with Paikoro, Gurara and Agaie local government areas and Abaji Area council in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja and Koton Karffe Local Government Area of Kogi State respectively.

The study was conducted in Muye town of Lapai Local Government Area of Niger State, Nigeria. The major economic activity practiced in the area is

peasant farming. The area is worst affected by floods because it is located along river Gurara.

4.2 Sample Size and Sampling Techniques.

The sample size of this study is eighty seven (87). A systematic method was employed to arrive at the sample size but due to time limit for this study and insufficient resources. To achieve this, probability and non-probability sampling methods were adopted. For probability sampling method, a multi stage cluster sampling technique was used to elicit information from the respondents in the field. Multi stage cluster sampling was considered because it is a probability sampling technique that guarantees every member of the population an equal chance of being selected into the sample.

4.3 Methods of Data Collection

This study adopted both quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection. For the quantitative method, survey technique, was used to source information from the respondents. The questionnaire was a mixture of close and open ended questions. The closed ended questions provided the respondents with options from which they were expected to select the most appropriate option. On the other hand, open ended questions were used to allow the respondents express themselves freely.

4.4 Methods of Data Analysis

The research work made use of two methods of data collection that are complementary and therefore, two methods of data analysis were also employed. Qualitative and quantitative research methods were adopted in analyzing data. Some of the data obtained in the research was analyzed scientifically using STATA Special edition and MS Excel.

Observations, semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions require the use of qualitative data analysis techniques. Bearing in mind that qualitative data analysis starts in the field, for example, through attaching people's actions in tandem to their words. These will allow the researcher to understand social reality in a subjective but scientific manner. Due to the open nature of many of the questions, respondents frequently provided responses to questions that had not yet been asked.

4.5 Data Presentation, Analysis and Discussion of Findings.

4.5.1 The Socio-Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents.

The socio demographic characteristics of the respondents is thus; that 58.62% with 51 times frequency were male and the majority of the respondents while 40.38% with 36 times frequency of female and that 13.80% with 12 times frequency represent age category of 18-25 years, 28.73% with 25 times frequency represent age 26-30 years, 27.58% with 24 times frequency represent age grade between 31-40 years, 29.89% with 26 times frequency were of age 40 years and above respectively, marital status shows the respondents categories that, 19.55% with 17 times frequency were single, 72.41% with 63 times frequency were married and the majority of the respondents, 3.44% with 3 times frequency constitute widowed category and 4.60% with 4 times frequency represent the divorced respondents. Level of education of the respondents affirmed that, 33.33% with 29 times frequency

represent those who attended primary school, 18.39% with 16 times frequency represent those who have attended secondary school, 9.19% with 8 times frequency represent those who have attained ‘A’ level, while 39.08% with 34 times frequency represent those who have attained tertiary education, Occupational category of the respondents indicates that, 14.95% with 13 times frequency represent those working as civil servants, 50.58% with 44 times frequency represent those working as peasant farmers, 8.04% with 7 times frequency represent those who are into building construction, 26.43% with 23 times frequency represent who are into other services as their career. Respondents classification based on a number of persons per household confirm that, 4.65% with 4 times frequency represents a house with less than persons, 23.25% with 20 times frequency represent those with person of 4-6 occupants, 15.12% with 13 times frequency represent a household of 6-10 and 56.98% with 49 times frequency represent a household of 10 persons and above and one of the respondent did not attempt nor answer this question.

5. Results

Main causes of floods in the area

Variables	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
a. Heavy rainfall	1	27	31.03
b. Backflow effects of deforestation	2	6	6.90
c. Dam overflow	3	50	57.47
d. Others specify	4	4	4.60
Total	87	100.00	

Table 1 shows respondents’ responses as follows, 31.03% with 27 times frequency represents causes of flood as a result of heavy rainfall, 6.90% with 6 times frequency represent those who responded that it is as a result of backflow effects of deforestation, 57.47% with 50 times frequency represent those who agreed that flood is caused as a result of dam overflow and 4.60% with 4 times frequency represent those who said flooding is caused as a result of other effects other than those identified in the questionnaire.

Floods Occurrence in the Muye

Variables	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
a. Every year	1	82	94.25
b. 2 – 5 years	2	5	5.75
Total	87	100.00	

Table 2 shows that, 94.25% with 82 times frequency represent those who responded that flooding occurs every year, while 5.75% with 5 times frequency said flood occurs every 2-5 years.

Proximity to the River

Variables		Freq.	Percent	Cum.
a. 0 – 2km	1	82	94.25	93.18
b. 3 – 4km	2	5	5.75	98.86
Total		87	100.00	

Table 3 shows that 94.25% with 82 times frequency represent those who responded that they live in a house distance from the river between 0-2 kilometers, while 5.75% with 5 times frequency represent those who live a distance between 3-5 kilometers from the river.

Impact of Early Warning Signals

Variables		Freq.	Percent	Cum.
Yes	1	26	29.89	29.55
No	2	61	70.11	98.86
Total		87	100.00	

Table 4 shows that 29.89% with 26 times frequency responded yes while 70.11% with 61 times frequency responded No to the question.

Need for relocating because of Flooding

Variable		Freq.	Percent	Cum.
Yes	1	80	91.95	90.91
No	2	7	8.05	98.86
Total		87	100.00	

Table 5 Shows that 91.95% with 80 times frequency responded yes and 8.05 with 7 times frequency responded No to the question.

Medium of Communicating Information

Variable		Freq.	Percent	Cum.
Yes	1	20	25.31	25.00
No	2	59	74.69	98.75
Total		79	100.00	

Table 6 Shows that 25.31% with 20 times frequency respondents said yes while 74.69% with 59 times frequency said No and 9.19% with 8 times frequency did not respond to the question from the sample population adopted.

Need for Government to Provide Assistance when Flooding Occurs

Variable		Freq.	Percent	Cum.
Yes	1	65	83.33	82.28
No	2	13	16.67	98.73
Total		78	100.00	

Table 7 Shows that 83.33% with 65 times frequency responded yes while 16.67% with 13 times frequency responded No and 16.67% with 9 times frequency did not attempt the question from the study population.

Medium of Receiving Information about Flood

Variables		Freq.	Percent	Cum.
a.Siren/alarm	2	1	1.26	1.25
b.Animal signals	3	10	12.65	13.75
c.Smelling the river	4	25	31.64	45.00
d.Others	5	43	54.45	98.75
Total		79	100.00	

Table 8 Shows that 1.26% with 1 times frequency received information through SMS, 12.65% w4ith10 times frequency said they receive warning through animal signals, 31.64% with 25 times frequency receive warning through smelling the river, 54.45% with 43 times frequency received warning about flooding through other mediums and 9.19% with 8 times frequency respondents did not respond at all to the question from the study population.

Are there any Benefits Brought about by Flooding?

Variables		Freq.	Percent	Cum.
Yes	1	7	9.21	9.09
No	2	69	90.79	98.70
Total		76	100.00	

Table 9 Shows that 9.21% with 7 times frequency responded yes while 90.79% with 69 times frequency responded No and 12.64% with 11 times frequency respondents did not attempt the question from population of the study.

Measures to Combat Flooding and Displacement in Muye

Variables		Freq.	Percent	Cum.	-----
Proper drainage system	1	3	4.55	4.48	
Relocation to a better place	2	18	27.27	31.34	
Tree planting/a forestation	3	31	46.97	77.61	
Constructing concrete walls at the river to avoid overflowing	4	9	13.63	91.04	
Dam construction	6	1	1.51	92.54	
Government should empower people on dry season farming	7	4	6.07	98.51	
Total		66	100.00		

Table 10 Shows that 4.55% respondents with 3 times frequency suggested construction of proper drainage system, 27.27% with 18 times frequency recommended relocation to a safer place, 46.97% with 31 times frequency suggested planting of trees and forestations, 13.63% with 9 times frequency suggested government intervention by way of constructing concrete walls to overflowing of the river, 1.51% with 1 times frequency recommended dam construction, 6.07% with 4 times frequency suggested government empowerment on dry season farming and 24.13% with 21 times frequency respondents did not attempt the question from the total sample population.

Effect of Floods on Livelihood

Variable	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
Yes	1 75	86.20	85.23
No	2 12	13.80	98.86

Total | 87 100.00

Table 11 Shows that 86.20% with 75 times frequency represent those who responded that flood have affected their livelihoods, while 13.80% with 12 times frequency represent those who said flood does not affect their livelihoods.

Those who have Experienced Displacement by Floods

Variable	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
Yes	1 77	88.50	87.50
No	2 10	11.50	98.86
Total	87	100.00	

Table 12 Shows that 88.50% with 77 times frequency responded yes to the above question, while 11.50% with 10 times frequency responded No

Livelihood activities of the inhabitants

Variables	Freq.	%	Cum.
Farming	1 52	67.54	66.67
Farming/fishing	2 9	11.68	78.21
Teaching	3 1	1.30	79.49
Building/building	4 1	1.30	80.77
Building/bricklaying	5 2	2.60	83.33
Trading	6 2	2.60	85.90
Fishing	7 2	2.60	88.46
Farming/business	8 8	10.38	98.72
Total	77	100.00	

Table 13 Shows that 67.54% with 52 times frequency represent respondents who are farmers, 11.68% with 9 times frequency represent those who combine both farming and fishing, 1.30% with 1 times frequency represent the one who is into teaching, another 1.30% with 1 times frequency who represent the one who combine farming and building, 2.60% with 2 times frequency represent those who are into building and bricklaying, another 2.60% with 2 times frequency represent those that into trading, also again 2.60% with 2 times frequency represent those who are into fishing, while 10.38% with 8 times frequency represent those who are into both farming and business respectively and the suppose 11.49% with 10 times frequency of the research population of the respondents did not respond to the question.

Resources Lost Due to Flooding

Variables	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
₹1000 - ₹3,000,000.00	1 30	42.25	41.67
Huge amount/plenty money	2 34	47.90	88.89
None	4 6	8.45	97.22
50 bags of rice	5 1	1.40	98.61
Total	71	100.00	

Table 14 Shows the respondent response as follows, 42.25% with 30 times frequency represent who had experienced lost of resources due to flooding with the estimated cost of between one thousand naira to three million naira only, 47.90% with 34 times frequency this is category of those have lost resources but could estimate how but said huge/plenty money, 8.45% with 6 times frequency represent those who said they have not lost anything to flooding, 1.40% with 1 times frequency represent the respondent who have lost fifty bag of rice and 18.39% with 16 times frequency of the research population of the respondents did not attempt the question.

Hectares of Crops Lost Due to Flooding

Variables			Freq.	Percent	Cum.
30 hectares		1	1	1.28	1.28
23 hectares	10	3	3.85	5.13	
20 hectares	11	7	8.97	14.10	
16 hectares	12	1	1.28	15.38	
15 hectares	13	8	10.26	25.64	
12 hectares	14	1	1.28	26.92	
10 hectares	15	5	6.41	33.33	
08 hectares		3	3	3.85	37.18
06 hectares		4	1	1.28	38.46
05 hectares		5	3	3.85	42.31
04 hectares		6	4	5.13	47.44
03 hectares		7	23	29.49	76.92
02 hectares		8	12	15.38	92.31
Less than one hectares		9	5	6.41	98.72
Total			78	100.00	

Table 15 Shows that 1.28% with 1 times frequency represent a loss of 30 hectares of crops, 3.85% with 3 times frequency represent loss of 23 hectares crops, 8.97% with 7 times frequency represent loss of 20 hectares of crops, another 1.28% with 1 times frequency represent a loss of 16 hectares of crops, 10.26% with 8 times frequency represent those who have loss 15 hectares to crops, another 1.28% with 1 times frequency represent a loss of 12 hectares of crops, 6.41% with 5 times frequency represent a loss of 10 hectares of crops, also 3.85% with 3 times frequency represent a loss of 8 hectares of crops, another 1.28% with 1 times frequency represent a loss hectares of crops, another 3.85% with 3 times frequency represent a loss of 6 hectares of crops, 5.13% with 4 times frequency represent a loss of 5 hectares of crops, 29.49% with 23 times frequency represent a loss of 4 hectares of crops, 15.38% with 12 times frequency represent a loss of 3 hectares of crops, 6.41% with 5 times frequency represent a loss of 2 hectares of crops due to floods, and 8.07% with 10 times frequency respondents did not attempt to answer the question.

How much Warnings have you Received before Flooding

Variables			Freq.	Percent	Cum.
Yes	1	27	31.03	30.68	
No	2	60	68.97	98.86	
Total			87	100.00	

Table 16 Shows that 31.03% with 27 times frequency responded yes while 68.97% with 60 times frequency responded no

Number of Times being Displaced

Variables		Freq.	Percent	Cum.
More than 10 times	1	1	1.31	1.30
10 times	10	5	6.58	7.79
8 times	12	15	19.73	27.27
6 times	2	1	1.31	28.57
5 times	3	3	3.95	32.47
4 times	4	23	30.27	62.34
3 times	5	3	3.95	66.23
2 times	6	18	23.69	89.61
1 times	7	1	1.31	90.91
None	8	4	5.27	96.10
Most of the flooding	9	2	2.63	98.70
Total		76	100.00	

Table 17 Shows that 1.31% with 1 times frequency represent the respondents with more than 10 times experience of displacement on flooding, 6.58% with 5 times frequency are those who have been displaced 10 times, 19.73% with 15 times frequency are those with 8 times displacement experience, another 1.31% with 1 times frequency represent those with 2 times experience, 3.95% with 3 times frequency are those with 3 times experience, 30.27% with 23 times frequency are those that have been displaced 4 times due to floods, 3.95% with 3 times frequency are those with 5 times experience, 23.69% with 18 times frequency are those with 6 times experience, another 1.31% with 1 times frequency are those with 7 times experience, 5.27% with 4 times frequency has one time experience and 2.63% with 2 times frequency represent those that have experience flooding most of the time, while 12.64% with 11 times frequency respondents did not respond to the question at all.

6. Discussion of the Major Findings

Presentation of the findings from the data gathered during the study shows that, backflow effects, heavy rainfall, were the major nature in which flooding took place in Muye town. The impact of flooding disaster on the security of lives and properties was influenced by the vulnerability, mainly the root causes which drives people to live in unsafe conditions, is some economic benefits, as most of the inhabitants are into peasant farming and fishing activities due the fertility of the land. Thus, the effects of floods have always been disastrous. The research further proved that flooding affects the people negatively. Only few positives were discovered. The people in the town proposed measures that could be put in place to reduce the negative impacts of floods.

Furthermore, it was discovered that there are more than thirty communities which are always the worst hit during flooding more than muye that require urgent attention and intervention from all quarters. However the people might notice through some early warning signs or signal mostly from animals but has no capacity to forecast flash floods hence there is no official early warning. These flash floods cannot be dictated, mainly because of the time factor.

7. Summary and Conclusion

Given this background, there is the urge to avert such crisis. There is much that information and communication technologies can contribute to the lessening of risk of flooding disaster. ICTs enable the linking of the physical world within which hazards occur and the symbolic worlds of the humans likely to be harmed by those hazards, so that they may take life-saving action. But effective linking of these worlds requires not only the use of ICTs, but also the existence of institutions that allow for the effective mobilization of their potential. On the whole, despite floods being experienced yearly evidence showed that the level of disaster preparedness in terms of proper utilization of the early warning signals to reduce the risk of flooding in this part of the country is still very low, like other developing countries facing political, economic, cultural, financial, geographical and technological challenges in terms of managing disaster situations. There is need for NGOs and other private organizations to cheap in and help in the areas prone to flooding to come up with flood management system, even though they have learnt and adjusted to living with floods over the years.

8. Recommendations

The study recommended a number of measures to the local communities, local and national government, private sector, NGOs as well as the media service providers and even students. These recommendations may help improve the application of effective flood risk reduction strategies and management. The media such as community radios and local newspapers can also be incorporated as they help in improving the disaster consciousness of the general population and in disseminating early warnings.

Thus the government should assist and empower community structures such as community radio stations or community information centers where people can get an update on what is happening in their local environments. There is also need to improve the road network in the area. There is also need to improve on accessibility to proper communications.

Responsible authorities should ensure that donations from volunteer groups reach the desired population. This can be achieved by giving these groups direct access to the victims and not passing through government storehouses where they could be redirected for other uses. Resource distribution by governmental organizations should be done according to the needs of the affected population and not on the same scale level as affected areas.

The community should be encouraged to use their own Indigenous Knowledge to try and reduce negative impacts of floods on livelihoods. From the findings a higher percentage of the populations rely only on crop farming. However, the government and non-governmental should encourage and sponsor the people to diversify and venture into other livelihood activities such as small businesses.

Flood control strategies should be regularly updated by the different tiers of government. There is a need to utilize multiple methods of warning. The warning methods that could be selected in future could include voicemail, automated direct phone calls, radio, town crier and also gauge and alert systems.

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