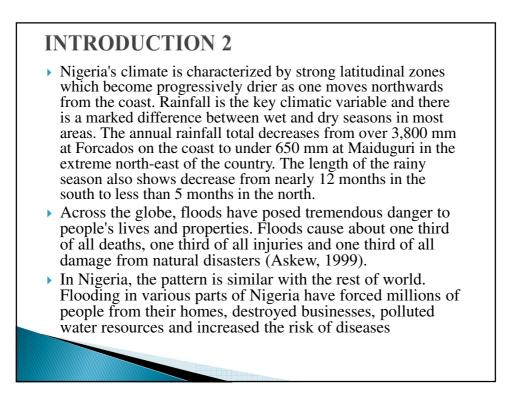
## THE DEVASTATING EFFECT OF FLOODING IN NIGERIA

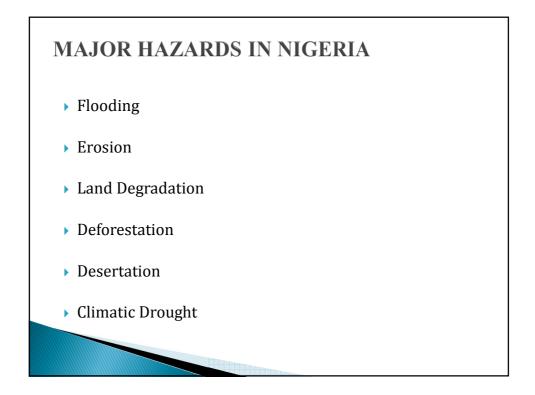
Angela Kesiena ETUONOVBE, Nigeria

## **INTRODUCTION**

- Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa with about 140 million people (2006 census figure)
- Nigeria is located between latitude 4° N to 14° N; and longitude 3° E to 15° E. It has a land extent of about 923,769 km<sup>2</sup>; a north-south length of about 1,450-km and a west-east breadth of about 800 km. It is a country with diverse biophysical characteristics ethnic nationalities, agro-ecological zones and socio-economy. The country has 36 states with 774 LGAs.







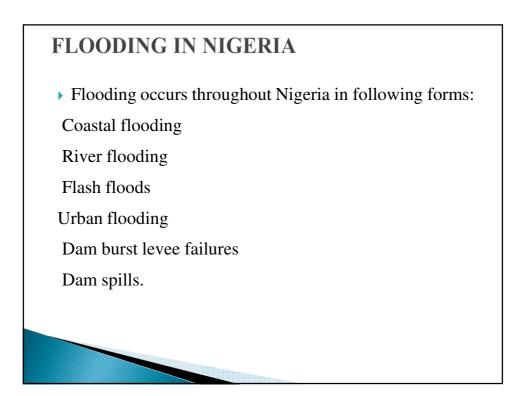
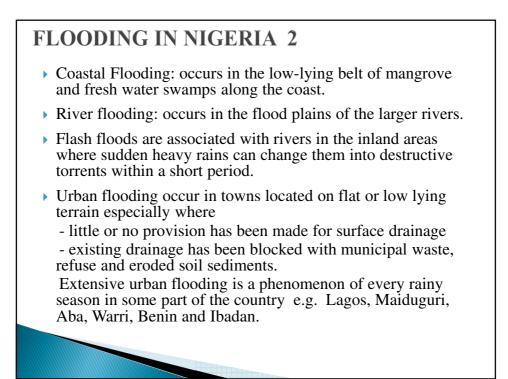
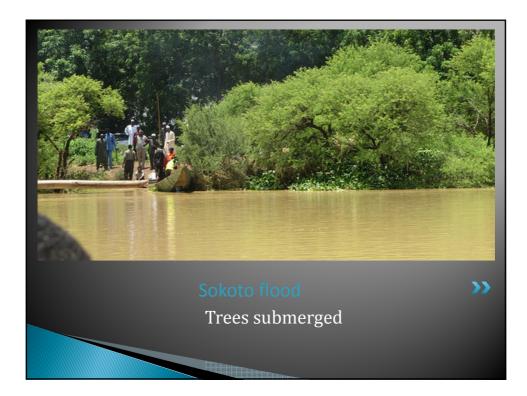


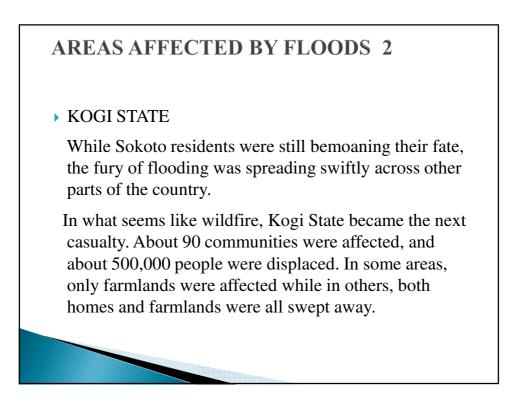
FIG Working Week 2011 Bridging the Gap between Cultures Marrakech, Morocco, 18-22 May 2011



#### AREAS AFFECTED BY FLOODS

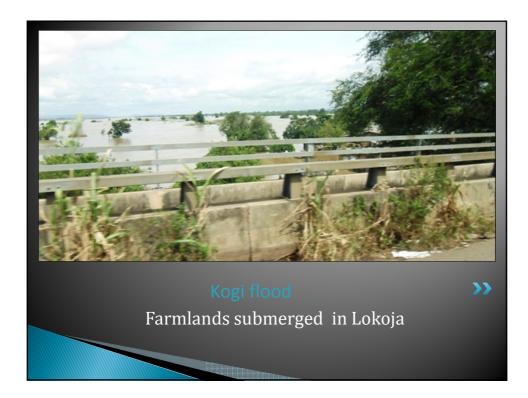
- **KAGARA (SOKOTO STATE, NORTHERN NIGERIA)** 
  - This is a small village near Goronyo town in Sokoto State. The inhabitants of the village had had their village, all their homes, all their crops and all their storage of food completely destroyed. The reason for the flood was that people had opened the gates on the dam to release the pressure so that the dam didn't fail, but the spillway from the dam had completely failed and so the consequences of was that;
    - Tens of thousands of people were displaced
    - Roads, trees, buildings etc were submerged
  - Farmland in 11 local Government areas of the State were affected.
  - Reports put the death toll at 49, while about 50 villages were submerged and more than 130,000 people displaced.











## AREAS AFFECTED BY FLOODS 3

#### **LAGOS STATE**

For residents of Lagos and most Nigerian towns and villages, the rainy season is undoubtedly not the best time of the year.

This period comes with the perennial problems of flooding which leaves many homes swamped with the resultant loss of property and sometimes human lives. Property estimated at several millions of Naira was destroyed in many communities in the Ikorodu axis of the State.







# THE DEVASTATING EFFECTS OF FLOODS IN NIGERIA

S/NO	STATE	DISASTER	ASSOCIATED HAZARD	NO OF PEOPLE AFFECTED	DATE & YEAR
1	Abia	Rainstorm	Houses	500	July 2001
2	Adamawa	Flood	Houses & Farmlands destroyed	500	April 2001
3	Akwa - Ibom	Flood & Rainstorm	367 houses washed away	4000	March 2001
4	Bauchi	Flood	750 Houses washed away, Farmlands destroyed	Not available	August 1988
5	Bayelsa	Flood	Houses, Schools, Markets & Farmlands submerged	2/3 of the population	1999 & March 2001
6	Borno	Flood	Houses & Farmlands destroyed	Not available	August 1988, June/July 2001
7	Delta	Flood & Rainstorm	Houses, Schools, Markets & Farmlands submerged	Half of the population	1999, March/April 2001, March,2009
8	Edo	Flood & Rainstorm	560 Houses destroyed	820	March 2001

THE DEVASTATING EFFECTS OF FLOODS IN NIGERIA							
S/NO	STATE	DISASTER	ASSOCIATED HAZARD	NO OF PEOPLE AFFECTED	DATE & YEAR		
9	Ekiti	Flood & Rainstorm	Public Schools & 890 houses destroyed	2100	April 2001		
10	Imo	Rain & Windstorm	1000 houses, 150 electric poles & 40,000,oil palm destroyed	Over 10,000 displaced	April 2001		
11	Jigawa	Flood & Windstorm	Houses, farmlands & animals destroyed	35,500 displaced in 1988; 450,150 displaced in 2001,and 17,000 in 2010.	1988, March April & August 2001 Sept. 2010		
12	Kano	Flood & Windstorm	Schools, Houses, Farmlands & animals destroyed	300,000 displaced in 1988, 20,445 in 2001	1988, 2001		
13	Kogi	Flood & Rainstorm	Houses, Schools & Farmland destroyed	1500 displaced in 2001, 500,000 displaced in 2010	March, May 2001, Sept. 2010		
14	Lagos	Flood	Buildings collapsed, markets submerged, properties destroyed.	Over 1,000,000 affected	Early 1970's Till Date		
15	Niger	Flood & Rainstorm	Houses, Schools,	200,000 displaced	1999 & 2000		

THE DEVASTATING EFFECTS OF FLOODS IN NIGERIA						
S/NO	STATE	DISASTER	ASSOCIATED HAZARD	NO OF PEOPLE AFFECTED	DATE & YEAR	
16	Ondo	Rainstorm	Houses & schools destroyed	800 affected	April 2001	
17	Osun	Rainstorm	Houses & schools destroyed	1700 affected	April 2001	
18	Оуо	Ogunpa Flood	500 Houses demolished, properties destroyed & bridges collapsed.	50,000 affected	1948,1963,197 8,1980,1985,1 987 & 1990	
19	Taraba	Flood	80 Houses totally swept off. 410 houses extensively destroyed	More than 50,000 displaced	August 2005	
20	Sokoto	Flood, Fire, Windstorm	Houses & Farmlands destroyed	16,000 were affected in 2001, 130,000 in 2010	July 2001 / Sept. 2010	
21	Yobe	Flood, Fire & Drought	Houses & Farmlands submerged, Houses razed, animals affected	100,000 affected	April & Sptember, 2001	
22	Zamfara	Flood	Building submerged, Farmlands destroyed, properties damaged	12,398 affected	July 2001	

#### **BENEFITS OF FLOOD**

- From the above table, it is obvious that irreparable havocs have been sustained by the citizen of Nigeria due to what has become perennial natural disasters in our cities.
- As many residents in Nigeria are displaced as a result of flooding, hunters, fishermen and hawkers are cashing in on the disaster to make money. The flood had a positive effect on their business.
- Hunters: they claim that their traps caught more animals than it used to. Reason was that animals chased by the floods, were relocating to dry land, all they need to do is to relocate their traps, and concentrate on the limited areas that had not been affected by the floods.
- Fishermen: they claim that they do not need to paddle their canoes to the far end of the river before cashing fishes. According to them, when the water level of a river increased more fishes tried to swim ashore. They said this natural phenomenon explained why fishes were always abundant during the rainy season.

