Managing Flood Disaster in Nigerian Cities: Issues and Strategies Toward Meeting the Challenges in the Modern World– a Case Study of Owerri Metropolis Imo State, Nigeria

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SUMMARY
Reports on flood disaster resulting in loss of lives and properties in Nigeria is on the increase. More often, Sovereign States and National Governments adopt remedial reaction, that is, a post disaster reaction where relief materials are supplied to the affected victims. This paper emphasizes on prevention/mitigation than post-disaster measures. Causes and effects of flooding in Nigeria and by extension Owerri Metropolis are discussed. Strategies to avoid or mitigate the effect of flooding in Owerri Capital city of Imo State, Nigeria are highlighted. Government should not wait until there is flood disaster in Owerri before necessary action is taken. Planning and policy enforcement are discussed to bear with mitigation of flood disaster to achieve an enabling environment for development.