

PERCEIVED IMPACTS OF FLOOD AND ADAPTATION STRATEGIES IN SOME SELECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS OF JIGAWA STATE, NIGERIA

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Abstract

This study is aimed at assessing socioeconomic impacts of flood and adaptation strategies in the vulnerable communities of Auyo and Miga LGAs, Jigawa State of Nigeria. A sample size of 666 respondents were drawn for self-administered questionnaires, 601 were fully completed. Data collected were analyzed descriptively for Relative importance, frequency, severity and preparedness indices. Findings revealed that, prior to flood, renovation of old-mud houses (RII of 4.602), and construction of new drainages and ditches or embankments (RII of 4.316) were the only adaptation strategies employed. However, most adapted strategies during and after floods were reliance on government and stakeholders for relief items (with RII of 5.000). Most effects posed by floods were 'always' the destruction of farmland (with FI of 90.807%) and damages to root crops (90.432% of FI). The 'great impact' was severe on economic (with SI of 95.9%), transport (SI of 95.4%) and housing (SI of 90.8%) sectors. From the findings, also, majority (77.7%) were aware of flood risks. There was also provision of neighborhood directory (97.8%), local shelter (75.9%) and emergency contacts (55.4%) during floods. The PI (92.6%, 98.6% 84.1% and 85.1%), were ranked above 65% threshold and hence considered 'prepared'; but, 'somewhat prepared' (PI of 61.7%) in terms of awareness of flood disaster risk management strategies; 'and unprepared' (PI of 55.5%, 50.5%, 50.5%, 50.8% and 54.3% respectively) in terms of community organization of public education and training of flood risk reduction (66.6%); engagement in rehearsals/emergency drills (51.6%); good community-based warning system (51.4%); and a standalone system for property protection measures during floods (52.4%); as well as an active recovery plan (62.9%). There is need for increase in awareness at all levels (community, local, state, and national) on the risk of flood and appropriate response technique in mitigating its multi-dimensional effects.

Keywords: Adaptation, Flood, Impacts, Preparedness, Socio-economy