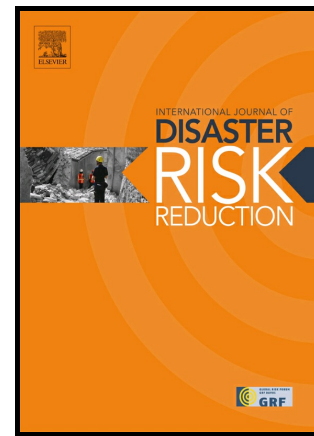


Author's Accepted Manuscript

EFFECTS OF NATURAL DISASTERS ON SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC WELL BEING: A STUDY IN NIGERIA

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www.elsevier.com/locate/ijdr

PII: S2212-4209(15)30137-0
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ijdr.2016.03.006>
Reference: IJDRR330

To appear in: *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*

Received date: 3 November 2015
Revised date: 10 March 2016
Accepted date: 17 March 2016

Cite this article as: Adeagbo Ademola, Daramola. Adebukola, Carim-Sanni Adeola, Akujobi Cajetan and Ukpong Christiana, EFFECTS OF NATURAL DISASTERS ON SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC WELL BEING: A STUDY IN NIGERIA, *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ijdr.2016.03.006>

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**EFFECTS OF NATURAL DISASTERS ON SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC WELL BEING:
A STUDY IN NIGERIA.**

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The study set out to assess the effects of natural disasters on households' livelihoods, their assets and other aspects of well being in Nigeria. As expected, there were differential impacts on respondents from natural disaster occurrences.

Abstract

Floods were found to be the most common natural disaster type in a study carried out in six states of the country. Findings from the survey conducted on 1,116 respondents show that a significant proportion of respondents' experienced severe negative effects on their dwelling units (47%), household assets (41%) and on children's schooling (45%). Others suffered severe health related impacts, while access to utilities such as electricity and water supply was also severely constrained for some. About half of the respondents from rural areas were displaced as a result of natural disaster events. Children formed the highest number among those displaced.

The Damage/loss/replacement assessment shows that respondents spent a little above N200,000 on the average to replace losses and fix damages incurred from natural disaster impacts. Urban/rural differentials show that mean spending to replace losses was higher for rural respondents, although these also had lower average earnings. Male/female analysis of natural disaster impacts show that males had a higher proportion of spending. The chi-square test to analyse significant differences in level of spending to fix damages show significant differences for urban/rural groups, as well as for male/female groups ($P < 0.05$).

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