

CLIMATE CHANGE & REFUGEE CRISIS IN THE NIGER DELTA; CAN COMMUNITIES HELP?



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n pictures: Nigeria under water



Here traditional healer Joseph Edem, his wife Endurance and children Godfreedom, aged 10, and Josephine, 12, stand in front of their Igobeni house. The family says the floods were sudden. "I thought we were going to die," says Josephine. "I don't know where many of my friends are because water also entered their house."

Nigeria Demographics

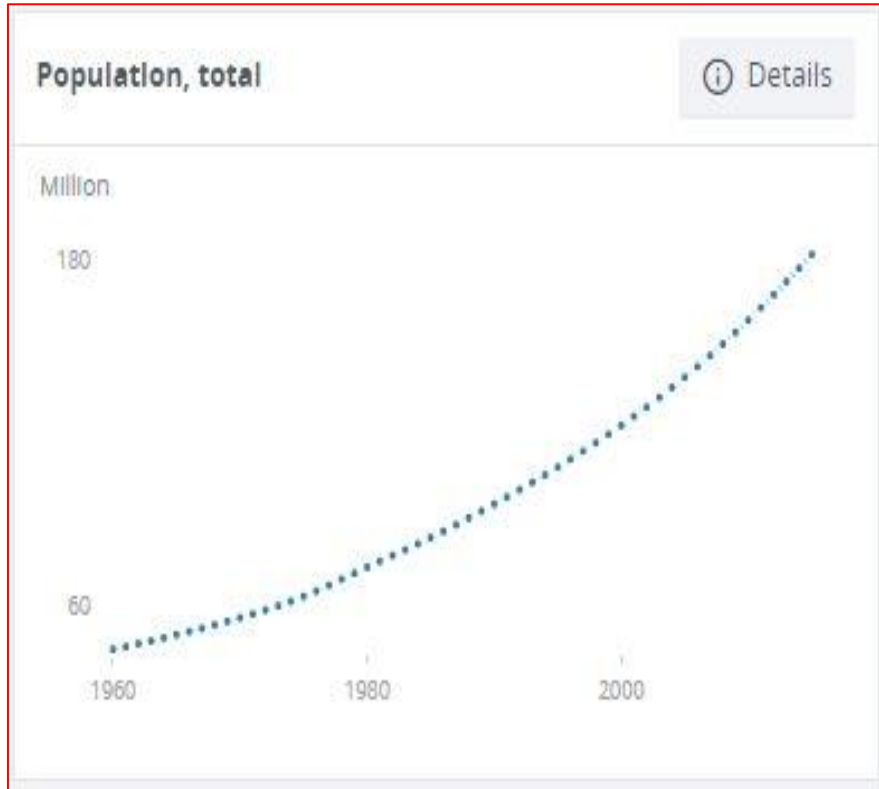


Bounded to the North by Niger Republic, East by Cameroon, West by Benin Republic and to the south by **the Atlantic Ocean**

Nigeria has dense rainforest (South), Sudan savanna (Middle belt) and savanna (North).

This population is spread across the country with 36 states and the FCT.

Economic activities in the Niger Delta attracts populated to **riverine** areas



- Population: 182, 201,962 ([World Bank 2015](#)).
- About 23% in the N.Delta
- And spread over flood prone areas
- 3.8 times the size of UK (242, 495 km²)

The Impact of climate change is spread across the length and breath of Nigeria;

- The Chad basin (**reducing r.fall, drought**)
- River trough (**flooding**)
- S.South & S.West (**Heavy/frequent r.fall, storms, rising Atlantic tides**)

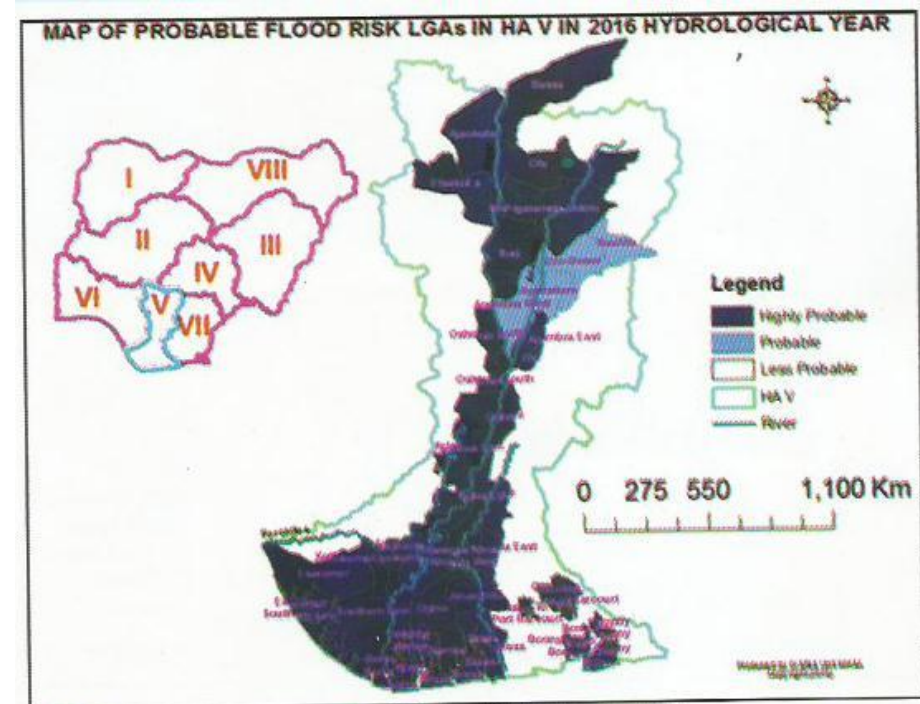
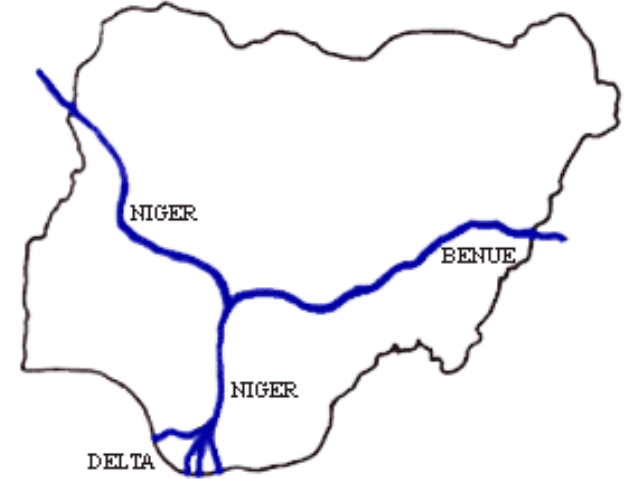
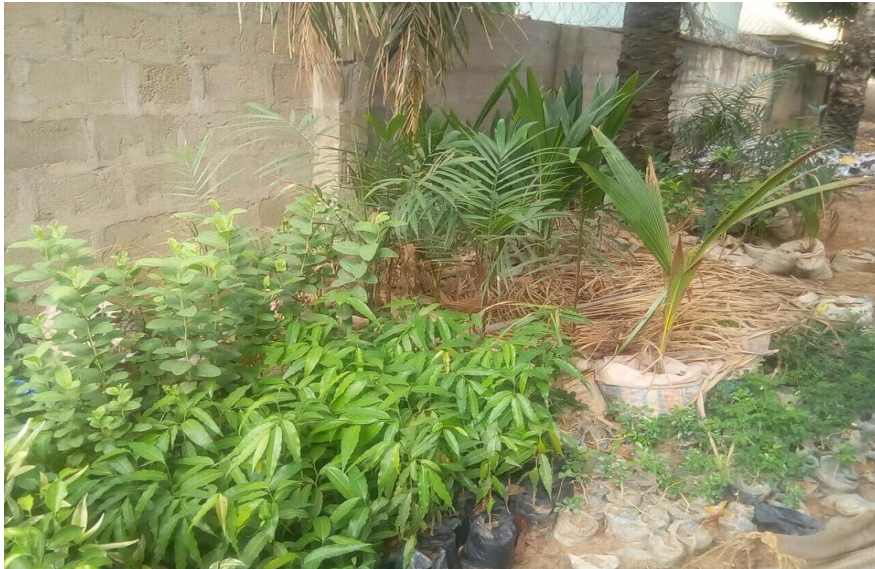


Fig. 13: Probable Flood Risk LGAs in HA V



Displaced by flood in the N.Delta and Kogi





Tree planting & Awareness (waste disposal mgt), strategic regular sanitation exercise, etc

Conclusion...

The impact of climate is critical in the Nigerian Niger Delta (at least 23% of the entire population is threatened with flood warnings each year; making the likelihood of forceful displacement from ancestral homes highly probable.

As population continue to increase, there is need for both adaptation and mitigation strategies to be planned and established across the country.

Local Communities including the LG, SG and business organisations require to partner and fund local adaptation and mitigation measures.

International partnerships, support and knowledge sharing is crucial especially in dealing with climate refugee policy, technology acquisition and implementation.



Team work is highly encouraged as the impact of climate change on any region could escalate easily...



