

Stories of Impact

A series highlighting achievements in disaster risk management initiatives

Assessing Post-Disaster Needs in Nigeria



RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- The PDNA utilized extensive partnerships—such as the United Nations, the European Union, and others—to deliver a final report on a relatively rapid timescale.
- After comprehensive analysis of damages and losses across a wide spectrum of sectors, teams identified the need for more than \$7 billion in necessary recovery funding.
- The PDNA's findings played an important role in incorporating disaster risk management into Nigeria's 2015–2017 Country Partnership Strategy.
- This initial PDNA helped establish national capacity and a model to conduct future assessments, and has become a model to reduce timelines and enable government agencies and other organizations to respond more rapidly to the next disaster.

REGION: AFRICA
COUNTRY: NIGERIA
FOCUS AREA: RESILIENT RECOVERY

Mid-2012 saw record rainfall and widespread flooding within the Federal Republic of Nigeria, with unprecedented losses in human life and productivity. By the time the waters fully receded, more than 360 people had perished and nearly 4 million had been displaced, with economic damages and losses close to \$17 billion in the 12 most affected states. Because of the scale and severity of the destruction, the Government of Nigeria mobilized the World Bank, the European Union (EU), the United Nations and other key partners, to conduct a comprehensive Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA).

The PDNA thoroughly analyzed the social and economic impact of the flooding, and provided the crucial framework for rapid response and recovery efforts. It was completed with financial support from the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, and the EU in the framework of the Africa Caribbean Pacific (ACP)–EU Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Program, an initiative of the ACP Group managed by GFDRR.



GFDRR
 Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery

ACP-EU Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Program
 An initiative of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group, funded by the European Union and managed by GFDRR



THE WORLD BANK

Context

Nigeria often experiences heavy flooding. However, the size and frequency of these disasters and the resulting effects on residents and infrastructure are intensifying. Between July and October 2012, an unusually large burst of rainfall led to severe flooding over nearly the entire country, causing heavy casualties and massive displacement along with more than \$9 billion in damages, and further economic losses in excess of \$7 billion.

Approach

In the aftermath, there was an urgent need for a comprehensive assessment of both the immediate damages to communities and the long-term impact on the economy. The PDNA team undertook an in-depth analysis of the repercussions of the floods for the most affected states, which revealed an impact of 1.4% on gross domestic product (GDP). The PDNA ultimately consolidated losses and impact into an actionable final report, which:

- Relied heavily on GFDRR's Guidance Notes for Conducting Post Disaster Needs Assessment.
- Provided recommendations for recovery funding and guidelines for reducing the impact of future events.
- Gave comprehensive, sector-by-sector breakdowns of losses and impact, including over 2,500 affected schools and a nearly 30% loss in rice crop production.
- Enabled the Government of Nigeria to analyze and target specific needs in health, housing, energy, livelihoods and more, and helped put in place a robust framework for recovery and reconstruction efforts.

LESSONS LEARNED

Focused data enables rapid, effective response. The PDNA following the 2012 floods made clear the value of in-depth, sector-specific analysis of disaster impacts, which speeded targeted response and recovery efforts. These included consultations and surveys covering 4,000 households in over 300 settlements to assess social and livelihood impacts.

Sustainable economic growth requires disaster risk management. The PDNA was one of several projects that highlighted the importance of disaster risk reduction in sustaining economic growth in Nigeria, and played a central role in making disaster risk management integral to the World Bank's proposed 2013–2017 Country Partnership Strategy for development.

Partnerships are key to rapid, accurate assessments. The success of the PDNA resulted from effective collaboration among the many actors, including the UNDP, EU, UNICEF, the UN Human Settlements Programme, the International Labour Organization and others—highlighting the importance of technical and logistical partnerships.

Next Steps

The resources and information gathered by the PDNA showed the true extent of the devastation caused by the 2012 floods, increasing awareness that considerable regional investments will be needed to achieve long-term flood resilience.

“The increase in extreme floods throughout West Africa is a call for countries to refocus efforts on flood prevention and preparedness, not just response. The recovery and reconstruction process is an opportunity for governments to develop stronger preparedness planning and to build long-term disaster resilience.”

— Jamal Saghir, World Bank Director of Sustainable Development for the Africa Region

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*All figures in US Dollars