

IDENTIFICATION AND MAPPING IN KONTAGORA NIGER STATE, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

Lack of adequate planning of many Nigerian cities and urban areas is creating safety challenges in the identification and management of several hazards in these cities. Fire is one of those hazards emanating from unplanned cities and frequency of occurrence of fire disasters across various cities in Nigeria have become a major cause for concern for all stakeholders. It is in view of this that hazard identifying and mapping in Kontagora was embarked upon with the aim of identifying and mapping neighborhoods prone to fire hazard. In a bid to achieve set objectives, three hundred and ninety eight (398) structured questionnaires were administered. The systematically to heads of households of the affected community were also conducted. The study showed that over 89% of the sampled population was between the ages of 35 years. Furthermore, the study revealed that Kontagora metropolis has a high level of literacy (41 %) and a corresponding high level of literacy (33%). The income level of the respondents is generally low as 87% of earn between #1,000 - #40,000:00 per month. Only 2% earn between #61,000:00 - #81,000:00. The study also revealed that all the neighborhood in Kontagora are vulnerable to fire disaster as fire hazards such as identified in all the neighborhoods and occur mostly during dry season of the year. Electrical faults accounted for most cases of fire and carelessness by women during cooking. The main reasons for vulnerability are poverty, location of buildings or business close to areas prone to fire hazards. Proper building layouts be made within the study area and all prospective' developers should comply strictly with building and electrical materials.