

Space technology and Nigerian national challenges in disaster management

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Abstract:

One of the sustainable development challenges of any nation is the nation's capacity and capabilities to manage its environment and disaster. According to Abiodun (2002) the fundamental life support systems are air, clean water and food or agricultural resources. It also includes wholesome environment, shelter and access to energy, health and education. All of these constitute the basic necessities of life whose provision and preservation should be a pre-occupation of the visionary leaders (executive, legislative and judiciary) of any nation and its people in order to completely eradicate ignorance, unemployment, poverty and disease and also increase life expectancy. Accordingly, many societies around the globe including Nigeria are embarking on initiatives and developing agenda that could address/redress the threats to the life supporting systems. Disaster prevention, management and reduction therefore present major challenges that require prompt attention locally, nationally, regionally and globally.

Responses to disasters vary from the application of space-derived data for disaster management to the disbursement of relief to the victims and the emplacement of recovery measures.

The role of space technology in particular in all the phases of disaster management: planning against disaster ,disaster early warning, risk reduction, preparedness, crises and damage assessment response and relief disbursement and recovery and reconstruction cannot be overemphasized (Akinyede, 2005).

Therefore, this paper seeks to focus on space technology and Nigeria National challenges in disaster management.

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