



## **Evaluation of Drought Rainfall Data for Lokoja, A Confluence of Two Major Rivers in Nigeria**

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Drought, a natural component of the climatic system is a complex phenomenon with its attendant consequences. A vast area of Nigeria experiences drought thus this study was carried out to evaluate the occurrence of drought from rainfall data for Lokoja, a confluence of two major rivers in Nigeria. Rainfall data for upward of 73 years (1931-2003) were obtained for Lokoja and four different evaluation techniques; namely: Stochastic Component Time Series, Rainfall Anomaly Index, Cumulative Rainfall Information and Quartile Range Analysis were used for the analysis. It was found that the most appropriate technique for assessing drought from rainfall data in the area is the Rainfall Anomaly Index while the impacts of drought on the agricultural production and hydro electric power generation sectors of the Nigeria economy were also highlighted.

### **KEYWORD**

Drought, major rivers, rainfall data, techniques and impacts