

Workshop Report

Organised by the International Rescue Committee (IRC)

Date: 30th June – 1st July, 2026

Venue: Yobi Event Centre, Barracks Road, Yola, Adamawa State

Introduction

The workshop was convened to review and update the Anticipatory Action Protocol (AAP) contingency plan for 2026, with a focus on enhancing flood preparedness and ensuring timely responses to flood risks in Adamawa State. The AAP serves as a contingency framework for the state government, outlining agreed triggers, roles and responsibilities, coordination mechanisms, and pre-planned actions to be implemented before forecasted floods escalate into humanitarian emergencies.

According to the Nigeria Hydrological Services Agency (NIHSA) annual flood outlook, seven Local Government Areas (LGAs) are expected to be affected: Yola South, Yola North, Fufere, Girei, Numan, Lamurde, and Demsa. In response, the Nigerian Red Cross deployed volunteers to these LGAs for community sensitization.

Objective

The primary objective of the workshop was to strengthen the use of the AAP as a tool for reducing community vulnerability, particularly in fragile and conflict-affected areas.

Participants

Representatives were drawn from key Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs), including: Adamawa State Emergency Management Agency (ADSEMA), National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC), Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet), Nigeria Hydrological Services Agency (NIHSA), Upper Benue River Basin Development Authority (UBRBDA), Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Ministry of Reconstruction, Rehabilitation, Reintegration and Humanitarian Services (MRRR&HS), State Planning Commission (SPC), Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education,

Ministry of Information, Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Livestock, Security Agencies (Marine Police), State Fire Service and Nigerian Red Cross Society.

Discussions

Presentations were delivered by various MDAs on their roles and responsibilities in flood management.

- The Chairperson of the State Planning Commission highlighted the Commission's role in coordinating state policies and programs, serving as a data repository, and collaborating with ADSEMA, the Ministry of Budget, and MRRR&HS to ensure the effectiveness of the AAP.
- The Chairperson also showcased the Commission's digital platform, which tracks activities and service records of donor partners registered with the state government. Many participants noted that donor partners were not fully aware of this platform and commended the initiative.
- On the second day, presentations continued, though some MDAs were absent.

Challenges

Key challenges identified during the workshop included:

- Insufficient funding, limiting coverage across LGAs and communities
- Limited access to reliable data
- Insecurity in certain areas
- Poor or inaccessible road networks hindering community outreach

Recommendations

Participants proposed the following measures:

- Establish a contingency fund
- Create a dedicated state budget line for flood preparedness

- Standardize data collection and management
- Adopt real-time monitoring systems
- Strengthen security coordination between the Police and Military

Conclusion

The workshop concluded with a reminder to all participants of their roles and responsibilities during flood events or other disasters. The importance of collaboration, preparedness, and proactive action was emphasized as critical to safeguarding vulnerable communities in Adamawa State.