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December 19th, 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SocioAfrica Warns Nigeria Again on Climate Change: 2026 Risks to Lives, Food, Health, and Peace

Abuja, Nigeria — SocioAfrica has issued a renewed and urgent warning to Nigeria on the escalating dangers of climate change, cautioning that **2026 could mark a major humanitarian, economic, and security crisis** if decisive action is not taken.

In a statement released today, the pan-African socio-economic development platform highlighted growing threats including **severe flooding, food insecurity, public health emergencies, deepening poverty, loss of livelihoods, and rising conflict**—particularly **farmer–herder clashes** driven by environmental stress.

“Climate change is no longer a future risk. It is already disrupting lives and livelihoods across Nigeria,” SocioAfrica stated. “Without urgent, coordinated national action, the combined effects of flooding, hunger, disease, and insecurity could overwhelm communities and institutions by 2026.”

Flooding and Environmental Destruction

SocioAfrica warned that Nigeria faces increasing flood risks due to rising rainfall intensity, weak drainage infrastructure, and environmental degradation. Recent flooding has

displaced millions and destroyed critical infrastructure, and projections suggest **far greater devastation by 2026** if flood control and preparedness measures are not scaled up.

Food Insecurity and Hunger

The organization stressed that climate instability is undermining Nigeria's agricultural productivity. Irregular rainfall, droughts, floods, and land degradation are reducing crop yields and driving food prices upward. By 2026, millions more Nigerians could face hunger and malnutrition, increasing pressure on households and the national economy.

Public Health Crises

According to SocioAfrica, climate change is intensifying disease outbreaks and placing severe strain on Nigeria's health system. Flood-related diseases such as cholera and typhoid, alongside rising malaria and heat-related illnesses, are expected to increase, particularly among vulnerable populations.

Poverty, Livelihoods, and Social Stability

The statement noted that climate shocks are accelerating poverty by destroying farms, businesses, and informal livelihoods. Without intervention, climate impacts could reverse years of development gains, deepen inequality, and fuel social frustration.

Conflict and Security Risks

SocioAfrica emphasized that environmental stress is a growing driver of insecurity. Desertification, shrinking water sources, and loss of grazing land are worsening farmer-herder conflicts, with the potential to escalate communal violence and displacement by 2026.

Call for Urgent National Action

SocioAfrica called on the **Federal Government of Nigeria**, state governments, security agencies, emergency responders, traditional and religious leaders, the private sector, and civil society to treat climate change as a **national emergency**.

Key recommendations include:

- Large-scale investment in flood control, drainage, and climate-resilient infrastructure
- Strengthened early-warning systems and disaster preparedness
- Support for climate-smart agriculture and food security programs
- Improved resilience of healthcare systems
- Sustainable, inclusive solutions to farmer-herder conflicts

“2026 is closer than it seems,” SocioAfrica warned. “The choices made today will determine whether Nigeria faces deepening crisis or builds resilience, stability, and sustainable growth.”

About SocioAfrica

SocioAfrica is a pan-African platform committed to promoting socio-economic development, climate justice, peacebuilding, and sustainable growth across Africa through advocacy, policy engagement, and community action.

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