



Comparative Assessments of Wetland Losses and Degradation in Nigeria and Lesotho: Impact of Climate Change and Anthropogenic Pressures

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There is sparse information on the comparative impact of climate change and anthropogenic pressures wetlands of Nigeria and Lesotho. Evidence abound that there is increasing utilization of these wetlands mainly for household utilities and agriculture (livestock watering, irrigation, fishing etc) in view of global climate change. Most of these wetlands have been degraded and large proportions have been completely destroyed beyond recovery. The main objectives of this investigation will be to assess the effect of the current land-use on the up and downstreams section of the wetland ecosystems, evaluate the effect of climate change (rainfall, temperature etc) on the wetlands, assess and characterize the physical, chemical and hydrological properties of the wetland soils and analyse the livelihood patterns, activities and outcomes around the wetland ecosystems in both countries. Comparable wetland site (one each) will be selected in both Nigeria and Lesotho. Water from these wetlands and being used for different uses such as domestic consumption and agriculture (livestock watering, fishing, and irrigation etc). These wetlands will be mapped, and characterized with regards to climate, soil, vegetation and hydrology and socio-economically. Data collected will be subjected to both quantitative and qualitative (mean, range, standard deviation, standard errors, kurtosis, CUSUM, ANOVA, Cluster analysis and Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and logistic regression.