

Nigeria government unveils smartphone app for flood prediction

The Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in Nigeria has launched a smartphone application, which has been dubbed 'Wetin App' for flood forecasting, especially along the Niger and Benue rivers, according to a report via agricnation.com.



Source: IT News Africa

The app will be available on the Google App Store, and is a collaborative project of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the International Water Management Institute (IWMI).

Speaking at the launch event in Abuja, the Permanent Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Dr Shehu Ahmed, represented by the director of Agricultural Businesses, Processing and Marketing, Azeez M. Olumuyiwa, said Nigeria sought the help of the international agency to develop the app following the devastating flood of 2012 which led to the destruction and loss of farms, houses and human lives.

According to the report, the Ahmed added that the country had decided to turn that bitter experience into a blessing by looking at the various ways farmers and government could take advantage of the technology.

The regional director for Africa at the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Professor Timothy Olalekan Williams, said the application was developed using data from the Nigerian Hydrological Service Agency, the Nigerian

Meteorological Agency, and satellites.

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