

Sediment Sources, Redistribution, and Management in Ekpoma, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT Ekpoma is a town in which there is a great deal of construction work currently taking place. Vast amount of sand and gravel are transported from the suburbs into the town daily. Lack of planning has led to misuse of the land, the consequent of which is sediment redistribution. Road surfaces and drains have become buried and blocked with sediment. There appears to be a fundamental conflict between the natural drainage network and the artificial drainage system as well. Over 90 percent of Ekpoma populace are aware of the sediment problem, but they have not, as yet, urged any action, probably because the consequences of sediment and deposition are comparatively less disastrous than other natural hazards. However, general street maintenance is increasingly becoming impossible and there is a general deterioration of the town environment leading to serious traffic accidents, especially at T-junctions. This paper examines some of the sources and causes of the sediment and proposes possible solutions to the problem.