

JOURNAL OF HUMAN ECOLOGY

International Interdisciplinary Journal of Man-Environment Relationship

© Kamla-Raj 2010

PRINT: ISSN 0970-9274 ONLINE: 2456-6608

J Hum Ecol, 32(3): 149-160 (2010)

DOI: 10.31901/24566608.2010/32.03.02

Climate Variability and Food Production Nexus in Lesotho, 2001 - 2007

Emeka E. Obioha

*Department of Safety and Security Management, Tshwane University of Technology,
Soshanguve South Campus, Private Bag X680 Pretoria 0001, South Africa
E-mail: eeobioha@yahoo.com*

KEYWORDS Food Security. Climate Change. Rain Reduction. Food Production. Lesotho

ABSTRACT In the recent times, due to the increasing rate of global warming, the Southern African region, especially, Lesotho has been experiencing continuous climatic change characterized by drastic reduction in rainfall, increase in the rate of dryness and heat, with depletion of the amount of water, flora and fauna resources. The situation has been so for years without many questions and answers with regard to how it affects food production and security in the country. Against this background, this paper investigates the chain of interactions between climatic change, expressed in the rate of rainfall and drought condition, the indigenous adaptation mechanisms and food production in Lesotho. The paper addresses the estimate of drought condition in Lesotho, Southern Africa, the nature of food production activities in the area and the extent to which continuous climatic change has affected the state of food production.