

## **Water resources challenges in Nigeria: pathways to water security and sustainability**

**IFEYINWA C. OKEKE & LEKAN OYEBANDE**

*Department of Geography, University of Lagos, Lagos, Nigeria*  
[ifychristabelokeke@hotmail.com](mailto:ifychristabelokeke@hotmail.com); [lekanoye@hotmail.com](mailto:lekanoye@hotmail.com)

**Abstract** The challenges to water resources in Nigeria of scarcity or shortages, flooding and poor quality, have become very complex, especially in the rural areas. These challenges are triggered by rapid population growth, changes in climate (especially in rainfall patterns) and pollution of different sorts with the end effects borne mostly by the rural people. The study on the rural communities of the southwestern parts of Anambra State of Nigeria illustrates the need for integrated management of water resources through advanced data collection and monitoring techniques, as well as local participation because the food security, health and well being of the people are at great risk.

**Key words** changes; water protection; data; Nigeria