



NIGER DELTA ? ENVIRONMENTAL ED KASHI

These images show the environmental impact of the oil industry, and the conditions of the laborers who are forced to work in these conditions.

IMAGE 1

An oil spill from an abandoned Shell Petroleum Development Company well in Oloibiri, Niger Delta. Wellhead 14 was closed in 1977 but has been leaking for years, and in June of 2004 it finally released an oil spill of over 20,000 barrels of crude. Workers subcontracted by Shell Oil Company clean it up.

IMAGE 2

Oil-soaked workers take a break from cleaning up a spill in the swamps near Oloibiri.

IMAGE 3

Workers subcontracted by Shell Petroleum Development Company clean up an oil spill from an abandoned well in Oloibiri, Niger Delta.

IMAGE 4

A Shell worker holds a machete during a cleanup operation of an oil spill in Oloibiri, while disgruntled locals watch.

IMAGE 5

The pollution and environmental degradation of the Niger Delta is striking, particularly in the towns, where the absence of sanitation is evident.

IMAGE 6

With a Shell pipeline running through its little harbour, small fishing enclaves have seen their waters polluted and fish stocks depleted.

IMAGE 7

In the village of Odiemereyi, an oil spill from an old Total pipeline dating back to 1968 spoils a swamp near lands belonging to the community. People must pass through the polluted waters to get to their fields and farms. Since his property was affected by the spill, Chief Sunday Ugwu, 53, must wade through the oil muck.

IMAGE 8

In the village of Kalabilema, a felled mangrove forest bears the scars of a fire that killed four people in March 2004. An oil spill from a leaking Shell Petroleum pipeline was accidentally ignited one night by a lantern in a passing canoe.

IMAGE 9

Three locals sit in a boat in front of a Nembe fishing village in Bayelsa state with a Shell pipeline running through its little harbor.

IMAGE 10

In the Ogoniland village of Kpean, an oil wellhead that had been leaking for weeks has turned into a raging inferno. The local youths keep watch, waiting for Shell to come and put out the fire. Affecting the crops, water, and air, this is an environmental disaster for the local people.

IMAGE 11

In the Ogoniland village of Kpean, an oil wellhead that had been leaking for weeks has turned into a raging inferno.

IMAGE 12

A gas flare blasts heat and pollution into the Niger Delta environment at the Etelebou Flow Station.

IMAGE 13

In the oil town of Afiesere, local Urohobo people bake "krokpo-garri", or tapioca in the heat of a gas flare. Since 1961, when Shell Petroleum Development Company first opened this flow station, residents of the local community have worked in this way. Life span is short for the Urohobo people, as pollutants from the flare cause serious health problems.

IMAGE 14

In the oil town of Afiesere, local Urhobo people bake "krokpo-garri", or tapioca, in the heat of a gas flare. Since 1961, when the Shell Petroleum Development Company first opened this flow station, residents of the local community have worked this way. Life expectancy is short for the Urhobo people, as pollutants from the flares cause serious health problems.

IMAGE 15

The Agip Obama flow station in Okoroma.

IMAGE 16

A disgruntled worker tries to board the oil rig "Auntie Julie the Martyr," run by the Nigerian company Conoil. There have been numerous attempts by locals to take over oil rigs as a form of protest.

IMAGE 17

Tank drivers wait for work in the Tanker Park of PTD (Petroleum Tanker Drivers) in Warri. Due to crisis in the Niger Delta, the refinery in Warri has been shut down for production. Many of these drivers have been waiting for three months at this park to get oil products to deliver around Nigeria.

Cluster: Black Gold

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