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[Action title]

Oil in the Niger Delta: threatens lives

[Action extract]

The Nigerian government's failure to protect human rights is turning communities to oil companies for jobs and services, but these companies often do not keep their promises. Act to stop the injustice and violence.

[Action text]

Ten years ago, Ken Saro-Wiwa fought against those damaging the environment creating a "wasteland" that endangers people's health and livelihoods. Ken and eight others were executed for their activism on 10 November 1995. Today, the exploitation of oil in the Niger Delta continues to result in injustice, violence and deprivation.

The Nigerian government's failure to protect human rights is turning communities to oil companies for jobs and essential services.

Some company-funded projects work well, but others are run poorly and are accessible to a few communities only. Often, companies do not deliver what they promise, causing resentment and community protests, which result in security forces razing communities and killing people.

[Quote]

"It is like paradise and hell. They have everything. We have nothing... If we protest, they send soldiers. They sign agreements with us and then ignore us. We have graduates going hungry, without jobs. And they bring people from Lagos to work here."

Eghare W.O. Ojhogar, chief of the Ugborodo community in Delta State

[Read full story]

Read the full story [\[link to http://web.amnesty.org/wire/november2005/nigeria\]](http://web.amnesty.org/wire/november2005/nigeria)

[Call to action]

Act Now!

[Sample letter]

Act now to support the human rights claims of the Niger Delta people

[Sample letter 1a]

On 4 February 2005, during a protest at Chevron Nigeria's Escravos oil terminal, soldiers fired on protesters. One man was killed and at least 30 others were injured. The protest was over the company's failure to fulfil an agreement to provide jobs and development projects to the local Ugborodo community.

Take action on Chevron

[Sample letter 2a]

Two weeks later, at least 17 people were reported to have been killed and two women raped when soldiers raided the town of Odioma, ostensibly to arrest members of an armed vigilante group. The suspects were not captured but 80 per cent of homes in Odioma were razed. There are serious concerns that Shell Nigeria's plan for oil exploration in the area did not undergo adequately consultation with local communities and its choice of sub-contractors caused resentment leading to the killings in Odioma.

Take action on Shell

[Sample letter 1b]

Call on Chevron to:

- Commission an independent and impartial investigation into Chevron Nigeria's role, responsibility and conduct in relation to incidents on 4 February 2005 at Escravos terminal in which the security forces allegedly killed, injured and attacked civilians
- Suspend all security arrangements with individuals who have allegedly abused human rights and terminate the arrangements if the individuals are found after investigation to be responsible for such abuses; and make public the findings of such investigation

[Sample letter 2b]

Call on Shell to:

- Investigate allegations of a security arrangement between Shell Nigeria subcontractor and a criminal group in Odioma
- Make public the findings of such investigations
- Halt immediately any subcontractual relationship that is found to benefit criminals either directly or indirectly

[Target contact details 1]

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[Further Information]

Remember Ken Saro-Wiwa (external link in English) **[link to <http://www.remembersarowiwa.com/>]**

Nigeria : Ten years on: injustice and violence haunt the oil Delta

[Image caption and copyright]



Two months after an attack by the security forces, the town of Odioma reveals few signs of the humanitarian assistance promised, April 2005.

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