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Content presentation

- Amnesty research on Shell
- Human rights at stake
- Decoding Shell’s oil spills database
- Responsibility to respect human rights
- Shell & climate change
Overview Amnesty research Shell Nigeria

1990s – Publications/Actions Ken Saro-Wiwa and extrajudicial killings Ogoni

Main reports:

- 2009 - Petroleum, pollution and poverty in the Niger Delta
- 2010 - The True Tragedy: Delays and failures in tackling oil spills in the ND
- 2013 - Bad Information: Oil spill investigations in the Niger Delta
- 2014 – No progress: An evaluation of the implementation of UNEP-report
- 2015 - Clean it up: Shell’s false claims about oil spill response in the Niger Delta
- 2017 - A criminal enterprise? (involvement hr violations 1990s)
- 2018 - Negligence in the Niger Delta (decoding databases Shell & Eni)

Publications as part of international NGO coalition (re UNEP)
Crimes 1990s & current Kiobel court case

- Protest of the Ogoni people against pollution Shell
- Military campaign to end protests led to widespread and serious human rights violations – amounting to criminal offences
- Campaign culminated in execution Ken Saro-Wiwa/Ogoni 9
- Extensive research points to Shell’s involvement
- Widows of Ogoni 9 fight for justice (civil cases in US and NL)
Shell’s role in violations 1990s

- Urged Nigerian government to stop Ogoni protests
- Encouraged intervention by security and military forces
- Supported the armed forces
- Complicit in execution of Ogoni nine
- Parent company in UK and Netherlands was culpable
- Aware of its environmental impact
- ‘Inextricably linked’ to Nigerian government
- Knew about human rights violations in Ogoniland
- Knew risks of calling for military intervention
Ongoing pollution & impact human rights

- Pollution: oil spills, waste dumping, gas flaring
- Human rights at stake:
  - Right to adequate standard of living (including right to food)
  - Right to water
  - Right to health (including healthy environment)
  - Right to ensure access to effective remedy
  - Right to information
- Exacerbates poverty, contributes to conflict
- Inadequate clean-up and compensation
Violations/abuses of right to water
There is an urgent need for the government and multinational oil company Shell to ensure a regular supply of safe water to people in the oil-producing Niger Delta region of Nigeria. Their right to water continues to be violated as they are forced to drink dangerously polluted water or buy water at unaffordable prices.

The multinational oil company Shell and the government of Rivers State, in southern Nigeria, have failed to provide residents in Ogale, (...) with a regular source of safe water. Most people must either buy water or drink groundwater, which a United Nations study published in 2011 found to be dangerously contaminated. (…)
Since 2011: Shell 1,010 spills (110,535 barrels or 17.5 million litres)

Handful of spill “hotspots” were repeatedly affected

Long delays to spill response – average Shell 7 days

89 spills claimed as caused by sabotage, photo’s indicate otherwise
Nigeria’s duty to protect HR

- Laws and regulations are poorly enforced
- Enforcement agencies ineffective, conflicts of interest

Source: The UNEP Environmental Assessment of Ogoniland (2011)
Shell’s responsibility to respect HR

- Corporations are responsible for their own actions
- Shell fails to abide by international standards and good practice (oil industry operations, environment, human rights)
- UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and OECD Guidelines not implemented
- Failures re assessment, prevention, remediation, reporting of abuses
Shell & Climate Change

- Responsibility to respect human rights extends to harms resulting from climate change
- Shell should:
  - implement due diligence processes to assess the climate change-related human rights impacts of its products and activities
  - put measures in place to minimise greenhouse emissions
  - make relevant information about its emissions and mitigation efforts public
- By not minimising emissions, Shell contributes to human rights abuses resulting from climate change