



Niger Delta Oil Spill's Economic Fallout and Community Resilience Dynamics

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Abstract

The Niger Delta region of Nigeria has been plagued by oil spills, significantly impacting local communities' economic stability and resilience. A mixed-method approach combining interviews with focus groups and secondary data analysis was employed to understand the socio-economic impacts and community coping mechanisms. Findings indicate that over 60% of households have experienced reduced income due to contaminated land and water sources, affecting agricultural productivity and fishing activities. Community resilience efforts include informal safety nets like barter systems and reliance on government subsidies for essential services. The study underscores the urgent need for sustainable economic interventions targeting both immediate recovery measures and long-term community development strategies in the Niger Delta region. Policy recommendations focus on enhancing access to formal financial markets, developing green energy projects, and strengthening environmental regulations to prevent future spills.

Keywords: *Niger Delta, oil spills, resilience, livelihoods, mixed methods, economic recovery, sustainability*

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