

# **Sustainable Development Goals and Post-2015: proposals for Inequalities and Environmental Sustainability targets and indicators**

**By Amb. Caroline Usikpedo**

Niger Delta is the home of 20 million people and 40 ethnic groups.

It is the largest wetland in Africa.

The Niger Delta environment has four ecological zones

1. Coastal barrier Islands
2. Mangrove swamp forest
3. Freshwater swamps
4. Lowland rainforest

This ecosystem has the highest concentration of biodiversity on the planet.

Extensive construction of Dams has made the region to experience loss of its inhabitable terrain and research has shown that it could last for more than 30 years.

The carelessness of the oil industry has precipitated this situation. The slow poisoning of the waters and the destruction of vegetation and Agricultural land by frequent oil spills which occur during the petroleum operations are key problems facing the environment in the Niger Delta.

## **Indicators**

Some of the causes of pollution and their causes are

1. Corrosion of pipelines and Accidents by oil tankers which accounts for 50% of total spills.
2. Oil production operations which account for 21%
3. Sabotage 28%
4. And 1% of spills which account for inadequate or non-functional production equipment

## **Consequences / Impact**

Oil spillage has a major impact on the ecosystem in which it is released and may constitute ECOCIDE

## **POST 2015 PROPOSAL FOR ENVIRONMENTAL INEQUALITIES**

We envision the need to prioritize inclusive growth, infrastructure development and job creation, while

1. Addressing poverty and inequalities: There is need to reverse the situation where there is economic growth and increased poverty.
2. Addressing the insecurity/poverty nexus: The need to create a peaceful environment to tackle poverty, Climate Change and its attendant effects on livelihood. The post 2015 should put in place a comprehensive adaptation programme for floods, erosion and other environmental challenges with reference to the Niger Delta Situation.
3. Increase the productivity of small farmers in unfavourable environments- that is, the majority of the world's hungry people. A reliable estimate is that 70 percent of the world's poorest people live in rural areas and depend on agriculture.
4. Improve basic infrastructure- such as ports, roads, power and communications- to reduce the costs of doing business and overcome geographic barriers.
5. Develop an industrial development policy that nurtures entrepreneurial activity and helps diversify the economy away from dependence on primary commodity exports- with an active role for small scale and medium size enterprises.
6. Promote democratic governance and human rights to remove discrimination, secure social justice and promote well-being of all people.
7. Ensure environmental sustainability and sound urban management so that development improvements are long term and initiate policies that will avoid future spills and damages to our environment.

Thank you!.

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