

Environmental Policy in Nigeria: Paradox of Niger Delta Sustainable Development

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KEYWORDS Pollution. Poverty. Restiveness. Marginalization. Development

ABSTRACT Recently, there has been growing public awareness of the importance of preserving and protecting the environment in Nigeria. In the case of Niger Delta, the environmental degradation has resulted in untold hardship for the people of the region. Their sources of livelihood have been destroyed as a result of pollution and the region is currently one of the most deprived and poverty stricken areas in the country. The neglect has angered the people, resulting in militant youth venting their anger on staff and installations of oil companies. The objective of the paper therefore is to examine the failure of environmental policy in the Niger Delta and its disastrous consequences on the people. The paper concludes that the restiveness in the region could only be brought under control when the people began to see a pragmatic approach or the seriousness of purpose by the government in the development of the area.