

Transcending Gender Norms: Women and the Dynamics of Petro-Conflict in Nigeria's Niger Delta

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This study will explore how gendered power relations intersect with cultural, environmental, socioeconomic, and political factors in shaping women's experience in the Niger Delta oil conflict. I will demonstrate that women's active roles in the oil conflict is a response to the negative impacts of oil-induced environmental changes. This impacts their sociocultural, economic, and political livelihoods and excludes them from the benefits of oil wealth. My study will address how women's active roles in the oil conflict worsen the oil-induced environmental changes, sustain the lingering security challenges in the Niger Delta, and undermine the peacebuilding process. I will propose gender-inclusive approaches to peacebuilding as a means of dealing with the intractable conflict and facilitating durable peace in the region.