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ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION: 6 Killed, 23 Houses Destroyed In Delta Communities

Kola Eke Ogiugo

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The environmental menace currently rattling the Niger Delta region last weekend took its toll on Warri metropolis, affecting six other communities, where it left six persons dead and 23 houses destroyed.

Investigation revealed that Agbor communities are the worst hit as rain water prevents residents from even moving out of their houses while major roads are destroyed by deep gully erosion.

In Isoko communities, the situation is just as bad as hundreds of persons have been displaced by environmental pollution while those affected by the pandemic are currently receiving treatment in various hospitals.

But the Centre for Peace and Environmental Justice (CEPE), a Niger Delta-based NGO, has urged President Muhammadu Buhari to tackle the menace with all seriousness, saying that successive governments have played lip service to issues of government, especially in the oil-rich Niger Delta region.

Speaking to our correspondent, National Co-ordinator of CEPEJ, Comrade Sheriff Mulade, called on Buhari to collapse all the various environmental agencies in the country into one, saying that the various agencies and their different environmental policies had not helped to curb the continuous degradation and pollution of the environment In Niger Delta.

He said, "There are too many agencies handling one particular area of environment with their own policies in terms of oil spill, clean-up and other areas. We also have NOSDRA, NESREA, that also have different environmental policies and procedures." He explained that the continuous exploration of oil in the Niger Delta region had subjected the people of the region to untold hardship as their only means of livelihood which is fishing and farming had been destroyed by massive pollution by the oil companies.



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