

Communicating Domains of Change in Nigeria's Niger Delta

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ABSTRACT For a region that has witnessed criminality, wars and other forms of violence as well as deprivation, environmental degradation and general lack of development, the Niger Delta appears to be on the threshold of a new lease of life following the grant of presidential amnesty which has been accepted by the warring militants. The amnesty has come with a declaration by government to address the myriad of problems in the Niger Delta so that the seeming peace in the region can endure. This article is of the view that for the intervention by government to be successful, the benefiting communities should be involved in the decision-making, that is, should be involved in setting the priorities of intervention, since the prevailing conditions of each community are different. In effect, the prevailing conditions of each community should play a major role in the nature of intervention by government. The paper argues that change(s) in the lives of the people should be as attested to by the beneficiaries, and not government, and that such change(s) should cut across political, cultural, social, economic and ecological well being.