

Reference Number: UK01

Information Sheet for Participants

I am a Ph. D student of the University of Reading, United Kingdom. I am conducting a research study aimed at: *"Investigating the Impact of the Oil and Gas Industry on the People and Natural Environment of the Niger Delta Region of Southern Nigeria"*.

You have been selected because you live within the oil producing area; where the oil companies operate and have knowledge of the oil and gas industry.

Your participation in this study is voluntary under anonymous conditions and your identity will not be revealed to anyone other than the interviewer collecting your form. You are free to withdraw from the questionnaire at any time you feel uncomfortable or unwilling to participate, and you do not have to specify a reason. If you wish to withdraw, please contact me using the contact detail provided below, quoting the reference at the top of this page. The reference will only be used to identify your questionnaire and will not reveal any other information about you. If at any stage you wish to receive any information about the questionnaire, please do not hesitate to contact me using the contact details below.

By completing this questionnaire, you are acknowledging that you understand the terms of participation and that you consent to these terms.

This application has been reviewed according to the procedures specified by the University Research Ethics Committee and has been given a favourable ethical opinion for conduct.

Thank you for taking time to go through the terms of participation.

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Appendix 1

Survey Questionnaire

Introduction

The Federal Government of Nigeria intends to formulate a policy to regulate the operations of the oil and gas industry. This policy will ensure reduction in environmental hazards and economic hardship caused by the industry in the Niger Delta region. As a result of this policy, the oil and gas companies will be compelled to implement changes that will mitigate environmental hazards, and promote improvement in environmental quality and human livelihood. It is expected that the companies will incur additional costs that will affect their revenue and the amount of tax normally paid to the government by the companies. Hence, the government intends to impose a tax on every individual living within the region including you.

The tax will be collected by a special task force/Committee on environmental protection which will be made up of selected members of the oil producing communities. This task force will ensure proper implementation of government policies and compliance by the oil and gas companies.

Note that this is a hypothetical scenario proposed for the purpose of this research, but we will like to know your honest opinion on this issue.

Thank You.

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Section A

1. Which of the following do you consider a major concern when you think about oil and gas extraction in your area? Please, rate them on the scale below:					
	1 Not concerned	2 Less concerned	3 Slightly concerned	4 very concerned	5 Extremely concerned
Oil spills	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Land occupied by oil and gas pipelines	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Unemployment Rate	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Land pollution	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Water pollution	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Air pollution	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Loss of forest	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Gas flaring	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Poverty	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Food safety	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Pipeline explosions	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Community development	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]

2. How would you describe the effect of oil and gas production on the following? Please, rate them on the scale below:					
	1 No impact	2 Low Impact	3 Moderate impact	4 High impact	5 Very high impact
Amount of land available for agriculture	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Food safety	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Food prices	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Crop yield (Farm output)	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Animal production	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Forest	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Water quality	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Air quality					

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Cover Sheet: Description of Attributes

S/N	Attribute	Description
1	Tax/Compulsory payment 	This will be a compulsory levy on each person living within the oil bearing area; to help promote government policies proposed to regulate the operations of the oil and gas industry. The payment will be collected by the local government special task force on environment.
2	Land occupied by oil and gas pipelines 	There is about 4,500km of oil and gas pipelines across the Niger Delta region, occupying about 4,500 hectares of land and water in the region.
3	Unemployment	Currently Nigeria faces an unemployment rate of about 20%

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4	Land and water pollution by oil spills 	There is on average 100 oil spill cases every year. In 2007, SPDC reported upto 320 oil spill cases. Between 1979 and 2009, Nigeria has recorded 3200 oil spill cases; with about 69% affecting water. The level of land and water polluted may increase following continuous oil production.
5	Amount of gas flare- 	Gas flaring is a major cause of environmental pollution in oil producing areas, including air and noise pollution, with effects on human health, crops, animals and vegetation. Currently, Nigeria flares about 75% of its gas, about 2.5billion cubic feet/day, which is the largest in the world.
6	Population below Poverty line	This describes the proportion of the population living below \$1 (₦155.00) per day in Nigeria. Given the current economic situation, about 62.8% of Nigerians are said to live below the poverty line
7	Food Safety 	Oil and gas production may cause contamination of traditional food items including seafood and cultivable crops. During oil spills, a proportion of food items and drinking water may get contaminated.

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8	Oil and gas pipeline explosions 	Nigeria experiences an average of 15 oil and gas pipeline explosions per year
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Section B

3. [Approximate position of 8 Choice Sets]

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Section C

Feedback form

4. Which of the attributes (in question 3-choice sets) were clear to you? Please rate the attributes on the scale below:					
Attribute	1 Not clear	2 Not very clear	3 Slightly clear	4 Very clear	5 Absolutely clear
Tax/Compulsory payment	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Land occupied by oil and gas pipelines	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Unemployment Rate	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Land and water pollution by oil spills	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Amount of gas flared per year	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Population below Poverty line	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Food safety	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Pipeline explosions per year	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]

5. Which of the attributes were important to you (the attributes you considered important for your choices in question 3-choice sets)? Please rate the attributes on the scale below:					
Attribute	1 Not important	2 Less important	3 Slightly important	4 High important	5 Very high important
Tax/Compulsory payment	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Land occupied by oil and gas pipelines	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Unemployment Rate	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Land and water pollution by oil spills	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Amount of gas flared per year	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Population below Poverty line	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Food safety	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Pipeline explosions per year	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]

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6. If you rated Tax/compulsory payment less than 4 when you answered question 5, please, state why you do not consider Tax/compulsory payment very important.

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7. What attribute (s) do you think is missing; which would be important for this experiment? (Please, specify):

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8. To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statements? Please, tick one option for each statement.						
S/N	Statement	1 Strongly disagree	2 Disagree	3 Neither agree nor disagree	4 Agree	5 Strongly agree
1	The oil and gas industry has caused environmental problems in my community					
2	Environmental problems in my area (community) do not affect me and my family					
3	I object to the payment of tax for a change to mitigate the effects of the oil and gas industry					
4	I would like to pay tax for the change to mitigate the impact of the oil and gas industry if the amount is affordable					
5	I would like to pay tax, but I fear that the tax would not be used to implement the proposed change					
6	I will not benefit from any change that will mitigate the impacts of the oil and gas industry					
7	Activities of the oil and gas industry affect agriculture in my community					
8	The oil and gas industry has brought improvement in people's wellbeing					

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Section D

9. Socio-Demographic Characteristics (Please, indicate as appropriate)		
S/N	Socio-Demographic Characteristic	Response
1	Gender Male = 1 Female = 2	
2	Marital Status Single = 1 Married = 2 Separated = 3 Widowed = 4	
3	Educational Level No formal education = 1 Primary school = 2 Secondary school = 3 Tertiary education = 4 Others, please, specify	
4	Family Size: Please, specify your family size..... Please, specify your family size.....	
5	Occupation Farming = 1 Civil Servant (Government employee) = 2 Oil Company worker = 3 Other company = 4 Self Employed (Business) = 5 Unemployed = 6 Student = 7 Fishing = 8 Others, Specify	
6	Community Please, Specify:	
7	State Akwa Ibom = 1 Bayelsa = 2 Rivers = 3	
8	Please, specify your age in years	
9	Please, specify your monthly income (in Naira)	

----- End of Questionnaire -----

Thank you for your cooperation and time.