EFFECTS OF OIL SPILLAGE ON FISH PRODUCTION IN THE NIGER DELTA OF NIGERIA

BY

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DECLARATION

I ESEOGHENE OLAIFA hereby declare that this dissertation is my original work and that no portion of this work has been or will be submitted in support of an application for another degree or qualification of this or any other Universities or other institution of learning.

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CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research work, written by OLAIFA ESEOGHENE SUZIE was supervised and approved in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of Master of Science (MSc) Degree in Economics of the Department of Economics and Development Studies, Covenant University, Ota, Ogun State, Nigeria.

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I dedicated this research work to God Almighty, my helper.

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LIST OF ABREVIATIONS

ADF:	Augmented Dickey Fuller 7
ACGSF:	Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme Funds
ANEEJ	African Network for Environment and Economic Justice
Bpa:	Barrels per annum
CBN:	Central Bank of Nigeria
DPR:	Department of Petroleum resources
ERA:	Environment Right Action
FAO:	Food and Agricultural Organisation
FDF:	Federal Department of Fisheries
FDI:	Foreign Direct Investment
FEPA:	Federal Environmental Protection Agency
FMOLS:	Fully modified ordinary least squares
GESAMP:	Group of Experts for the scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection
Mt:	Metric Tons
UNDP:	United Nations Development Programe
UNEP:	United Nations Environment Programme
TFP	Total Factor Productivity

ABSTRACT

The oil producing area of Nigeria, known as the Niger delta region consist of highly diverse ecosystems that is supportive of numerous species of terrestrial and aquatic fauna and flora. The region is the largest wetland in Africa and it is among the ten most important wetlands and marine ecosystems in the world. Incident of oil spill raises concern about seafood safety. Crude oil endangers fish hatcheries in coastal water and also contaminates commercially valuable fish flesh. Hence, this study examines the effects of oil spills on fish production in Niger Delta of Nigeria from 1981-2015 by using an estimable production function based on a Cobb Douglas production function model. The variables included in the model are captured fish production, number of fishers, loan to fishery, oil spills data and oil production data sourced from FAOSTAT, CBN and Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) respectively. The findings established that oil spills and oil production negatively affect fish production, while labour positively affects fish production. On the other hand, fishery loan exerts a negative effect on fish production and this can be ascribed to the bottlenecks in trying to access these loans. Looking at the Pairwise Granger Causality test result, it was established that the number of times oil is spilled on the environment affect the level of fish production negatively.

Keywords: oil spills, fish production, aquatic life, fishery, Niger Delta,