



Pictures: Max Mader

Location 15 situated within the Yorla oil field where the spill of oil and explosion which occurred on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2001 destroyed a vast area of farmland, economic trees and crops.

and is decaying.<sup>32</sup>

3.5 Besides the dismantling of underground pipelines, many surface pipelines still operate.<sup>33</sup> Surface pipelines are smaller and more exposed to damage by incidents. This danger is high as surface pipelines parallel roads (above surface) or cross them (below surface). Surface pipelines are therefore highly exposed to passing vehicles. All pipelines are freely accessible. This allows hired agents as well as black traders to tap the pipelines and draw crude oil (see 2.6, 6.10).



Pictures: Max Mader

Surface pipelines near Eleme, Eleme kingdom, crossing the road below surface and paralleling it.

3.6 The maintenance standard lies far below international levels due to the enumerated factors. Also, the age of the operating facilities exceeds the security limits by ten to twenty years. Poor maintenance and high output of pollutants are commonplace, as well as the lack of compensation to landowners whose land has been rendered barren. The Ebubu oil-flowstation and the Aleto stream in Eleme kingdom are two instances.<sup>34</sup>

3.7 Infrastructure is poorly developed and maintained. Degradation of infrastructure by pollution is common. Nutrition, health, electricity, transport, education, information services, employment, and financial services are considered in the following.