

3.8 No pipe-borne water system has been established in Ogoni land. Existing sanitary facilities in houses are fuelled by reservoirs filled by a pump and located above the roof. However, it is more common e. g. to flush the toilet by pouring water from a bucket. There is no drinking water system. Wells that had been used formerly are polluted.³⁵ Streams which were used as a source of drinking water and as fishponds have been destroyed or are inaccessible.³⁶ The rain water that used to be collected for drinking is black and undrinkable.³⁷ Drinking water has to be bought. Still water in bottles of one litre is sold at 100 Naira which is unaffordable for most Ogonis. Even the use of “jelly cans”, i. e. water in plastic bags of half a litre that is sold for 10 Naira is not common. Unsafe well water is used.³⁸



Picture: Max Mader
A shop near Eleme. Water tanks are the most common source of water for the sanitary facilities.

3.9 The Cassava root is the main source of income for most Ogonis. However the oil pollution has had an adverse effect on its growth. Today, the soil yields Cassava roots of a severely reduced size.³⁹ The honey production has been lost as a source of food and income. All bees have died because of the gas flaring.⁴⁰

3.10 Health facilities in Port Harcourt and Bori are unaffordable for people without employment. No local health facilities exist. Stagnant water is a major source of various diseases that are transmitted by parasites. However, holes that have been dug to provide material for street building have been left open. Once filled with rain water, they are used by children for bathing. Another issue of Ogoni parents' concern are the abandoned well-head areas that are used as playgrounds. The polluted soil of these areas excludes other use. Those



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