

This is the third time the Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth Nigeria [ERA/FoEN] is documenting this matter of attempts by some persons to acquire land expense of land at

Confirming the violent clash to ERA's field monitor, Mr. Dollar said, "I witnessed the clash at Biseni last Thursday. In fact I was trapped inside when I carried somebody to the community around 11:00 A.M that day. I couldn't leave the environment again due to the violence that ended only after Mobile Police men were drafted to the place. It was the police that stopped the fight. They were throwing bottles at each other. They engaged in other violent actions that led to the destruction of some buildings. Even after the battle had ended, it was not easy to get out of the community with my motor cycle due to the broken bottles on the road. It was so serious."

ERA's field monitor witnessed some heaps of broken bottle along the road, especially at Egbhiri community axis. The roofs of few buildings were also noticed to have suffered attacks. Community youths were noticed discussing in clusters.

ERA demands:

1. That the authorities should be proactive and take action to stop the brewing violence from escalating.
2. The Bayelsa State Government should not wait until lives are lost and more property destroyed before taking action.
3. All parties to the issue should be invited for frank talks on the matter, taking into consideration the communal land ownership structures of the clan, the livelihood and local needs of the people into consideration.
4. The root cause of this crisis should be made public