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In the Niger Delta of Nigeria, Indigenous women are taking on international oil companies. For decades, these corporations have exploited their communities, polluted their coastal waters, destroyed fish and marine habitats, and diminished their limited income and independence.

Martha Agbani, a second-generation environmental activist and advocate for women's rights, is the executive director of the Lokiaka Community Development Center. In the Ogoniland region of Nigeria, Agbani helps local women secure employment and income and works to restore the mangrove forests.

Now, with funding from a Royal Dutch Shell subsidiary held legally responsible for the restoration of forests lost to oil pollution, Agbani has established a nursery filled with hundreds of thousands of mangrove plants. She pays scores of local women to plant seedlings and seed pods in depleted coastal areas, fostering the return of the mangroves and their interdependent ecosystem, including the shellfish they rely upon for food and income.

Through her committed efforts, Martha restores the mangroves, the women, and their dignity and self-reliance.