For the benefit of the Ogoni people

Who we are

The Kiisi Trust is managed by TrustAfrica as a donor-advised fund on behalf of the Kiisi Trust fund trustees in Nigeria. Kiisi Trust is a grant-making fund dedicated to the benefit of the Ogoni people in Rivers state, Nigeria. The word “kiisi” means “progress” in Ogoni language. This Trust will allow for initiatives for education, health, community development and other benefits for the Ogoni people and their communities, including educational endowments, skills development, agricultural development, women’s programmes, small enterprise support, and adult literacy.

Our vision is a prosperous, equitable, and democratic Ogoniland and our work and mission is to support organizations promoting peace, justice and sustainable development in Ogoniland.

Our history

The Kiisi Trust was established in 2009 as part of lawsuit settlement in a U.S. federal court against the Royal Dutch Shell Company by family members of men who were summarily executed by the government for their role in protesting the cultural and environmental devastation from Shell’s operations in Ogoniland.

At the time of the settlement, the Ogoni plaintiffs stated that the Kiisi Trust “should stand as one legacy of the labours of our heroes past.”

Our process

We will undertake a community-based approach to identify and assess potential grantee partners, propose grants for approval, and monitor and evaluate the results. We will do this working closely with our Advisory Council, partners, and stakeholders in Ogoniland.

Our values are non-partisan, independence, respect for local knowledge, impact focused, and network development. Aligning with TrustAfrica’s core values, we will also maintain the highest standards of institutional performance and transparent governance, as well as facilitating collaboration and partnership with grantee partners, donors and like-minded institutions.