



# SPACES FOR CHANGE | S4C NIGERIA

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## Life After Evictions in Badia-East

# About Badia-East

Overlooking the bustling Apapa seaport, with Federal rail-lines criss-crossing the area, and a few minutes drive to Lagos Central Business District, Badia-East community sits on prime land located in Ijora area of Apapa Local Government in Lagos State. It is, therefore, not surprising that the land on which the residents of Badia-East live, is coveted by many. This has triggered protracted land disputes, trespass, court actions, and forced evictions, resulting in the displacement of thousands of persons. The inhabitants are predominantly poor, and have been repeatedly targeted with forced evictions and demolitions of their homes and businesses.

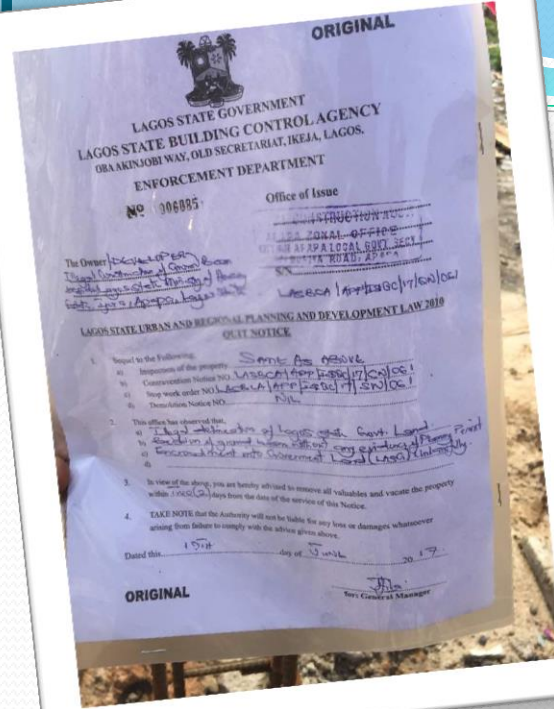
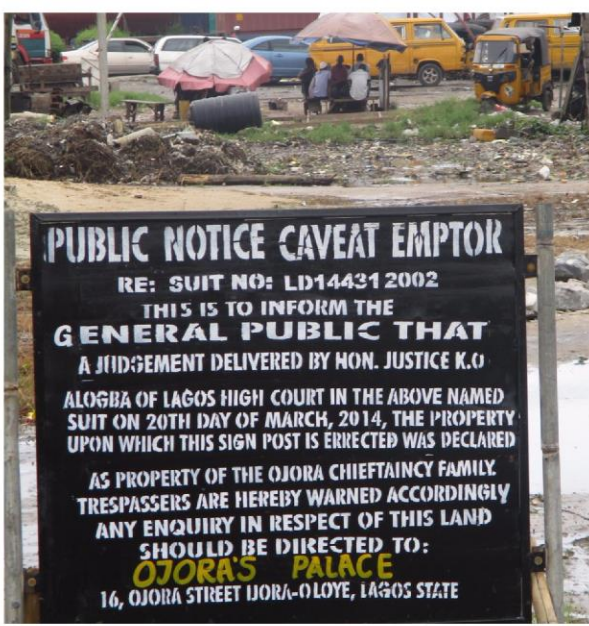
# #SaveBadia

**Badia-East: Demolished in September 2015, and again on June 15, 2017. About 500 persons, mostly women and children, were rendered homeless this year alone.**



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Land grab? In June 2017, multiple actors comprising federal and state entities, private and corporate persons, posted these notices in Badia-East, claiming ownership of the land.

Conflicting interests on the land has triggered repeated demolitions





# Life After June 2017 Demolitions



With her home demolished suddenly in June 2017, and her source of livelihood destroyed, this young woman lost her child custody battle with her former partner. Her child is still a toddler.

## Ophelia Aiyenuro

Ophelia, fashion designer, was among the talented youth that participated in S4C's March 2016 talent hunt in Badia-East. She is unable to continue her sewing business because her properties were destroyed during the demolitions, including her sewing machine. Since then, she has been out of work with no funds to pay for her son's (Samuel) schooling.

She sleeps outside with young Samuel and life is hard for them. Samuel's has skin rashes and needs medical care. They have no money and have nowhere else to go.





Olabisi had a thriving business selling cold beverage drinks and water to residents of the Badia-East community.

Her deep-freezer was damaged during the June 2017 demolitions. She could no longer cool the drinks and patronage became too low. Because of that, she has been unable to replace or repair her deep freezer. She is out of business presently.



Olabisi Bolededeoku





Taiwo, a dancer, was scheduled to undergo an appendicitis surgery. She lost her home and business during the June 2017 demolitions and can no longer pay for the surgery. Her children do not go to school anymore.

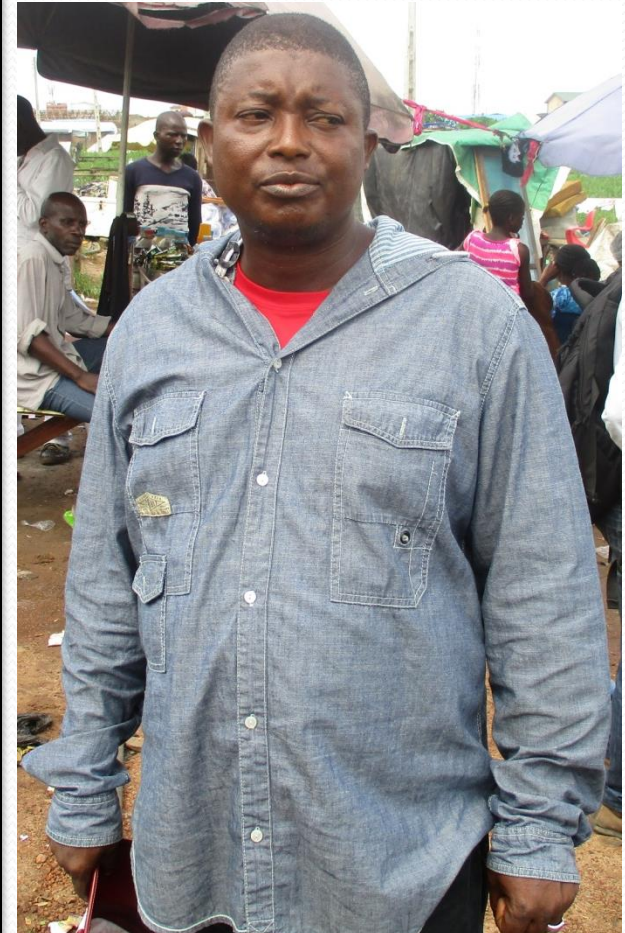
*'My children are still very young. Please Government, do not make them orphans. The stress is too much', she says.*

Taiwo  
Benjamin

Idowu Makanjuola

Idowu, a very active citizen, who often serves as S4C's community organizer, lost 3 structures during the demolitions in June. He was also affected during the September 2015 demolitions in the community.

He is downcast, and wants the demolitions to stop. #SaveBadia.



Ever-smiling Itunu was born in Badia-East in November 1979, and has lived there all her life. She cooks and sells food. She is well known in the community for preparing tasty noodle meals. With the proceeds from her cooking business, she is training her daughter in the university. Her daughter is studying Medicine and Surgery. Frequent demolitions in Badia-East disturbs her small business and shrinks her earnings.

*'Where shall I get the money to train her(my daughter)?', she asked.*



Itunu Balogun





**Madam Adunni is one of the few living elders that witnessed the relocation of indigenous families from Oluwole village to Badia-East in 1973. She still lives there with her children and grandchildren.**



**'When the Federal Government took over our land to build the National Theater at Orile Iganmu, and brought us on this Badia land, the whole area was waterlogged. Our industry and land reclamation efforts made the area habitable. Now, we have lost everything we have invested here', she narrated.**

*Madam  
Adunni*

## Fatima Ebiesuwa

Fatima runs a local canteen and outdoor catering service in Badia-East.

Her business is in jeopardy because of the destruction of her stall and the resulting low patronage since the June demolitions. Together with a few family members, she sleeps outside, watching over her utensils and other personal property.



# Stella Omagbemi

Stella is a trained midwife. S4C staff saw her counselling a pregnant lady. Despite suffering from elephantiasis disease for the past 10 years which makes physical movement very difficult, she is still very well known in the community for her contributions to maternal and child care.

She is scheduled to undergo surgery on her right leg and has paid a hospital deposit. She lost everything she had during the demolitions and is afraid to go for her surgery because she does not have anywhere to return to after her treatment.





Bilikisu is one of S4C's community organizers in Badia-East. She fends for herself and her children using the proceeds of a hairdressing salon that she runs in the community. Her salon was demolished on June 15, 2017 without notice or compensation.

On the demolition day, she pleaded with the task force officials to allow her salvage her properties. Her request was met with brute force. She was assaulted, forced into a waiting Black Maria and then taken to the Task force office at Oshodi. One of the officers attacked her with a knife and she sustained injuries on her leg. S4C secured her release shortly thereafter.

After her release, she had a fever and her body ached for several days. She subsequently received treatment.



Bilikisu  
Adeoye





## DONATIONS:

### How Much Can We Give?

- S4C has provided food and treated sleeping nets for women and young mothers. But this is not enough. Some displaced women need as little as \$30 to restart their businesses. They need urgent financial assistance.
- You can also support S4C's advocacy for:
  - ☐ Adequate shelter as a human right;
  - ☐ Proper delineation of land boundaries to end incessant encroachments and displacement;
  - ☐ An end to forced evictions in Lagos State







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