

One year ago we celebrated. One year ago something happened that only a few optimistic people deemed possible. One year ago we defeated Shell in court (with our landmark victory)!

One year ago, the judge acknowledged Shell's responsibility for causing dangerous climate change and how that is a fundamental threat to the lives of many people. Shell's emissions are violating human rights and this has to stop. Shell is therefore forced by the court to drastically reduce its global CO2 emissions in 2030.

Unfortunately not much has changed. Despite the court's ruling, Shell's emissions are still rising, acting like climate change is not an existential threat to all living things. Let me clarify: Are the 6.4 billion dollars profits Shell made last year from oil and gas complying with the verdict? (NO) Are the plans to extract more oil and gas from the North Sea complying with the verdict? (NO) Are Shells so-called climate ambitions that allow for an increase in CO2 emissions complying with the verdict? (NO). Shell appealed to the court's decision hoping to escape responsibility. That is why we are here. To let Shell know they can't run, they can't hide and we, together with all of you, will fight them for the right of our future!

Luckily and proudly we don't fight them alone. In our case, we from Friends of the Earth Netherlands were joined by 17000 (!) individual co-plaintiffs. It is an honor to work on this case for you, for our future, to make a difference. To be part of a movement that is changing the system. This system of inequality and destruction in which Shell thrives and the planet loses.

This court case was a victory for all communities that already face the deadly impact of the climate crisis and fight for their existence. It was a victory for future generations, that will live on a planet that is over-exploited, polluted, and colonized by the past and current generations. It was a victory that brought so many people around the world hope. When we needed it most.

This victory demonstrated the people, we, the climate movement, can win from those in power and with money. If we can beat Shell on their global emission, we can beat them in the fight against their oil and gas extraction.

Here, at the Cambo and Jackdaw fields, the extraction in Nigeria. In South Africa. Argentina. Suriname. And all other places where communities resist Shell's endless hunger for oil gas. Our victory shows that truth defeats greenwashing lies and people defeat corporate power!

We will win the appeal and we will not rest until Shell no longer destroys the lives of all living things. Shell is holding on to a system that has no future, and they know this. As long as Shell knowingly and willingly causes dangerous climate change, as long as Shell threatened the lives of us and the future generations, We will be here. And dear board members of Shell we, us, will not back down.