



Reclaiming Economic Sovereignty in Africa

A Natural Resource-based Industrialisation *By Horman Chitonge*

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Discusses the critical question of why Africa, despite being the most endowed place on the planet, with a diverse range of natural and human resources, has remained the most impoverished region on the planet

This book has discussed the critical question of why the continent, despite being the most endowed place on the planet, with a diverse range of natural and human resources, has remained the most impoverished region on the planet. The book shows that this is largely due to lack of economic sovereignty.

Key selling points

- To the best of my knowledge, this is the first book that has looked at the natural wealth in Africa from this angle. Most of the books and papers on this topic have not engaged with the concept of economic sovereignty; they have largely looked at natural resources within the conventional economic view of Africa having a static comparative advantage, which in this case often leads to the idea that African countries are only suited to the supply of primary products.
- This book is unique in that it has used the concept of economic sovereignty to connect natural resources and economic development, arguing that strengthening economic sovereignty can be achieved by using natural resources as the foundation for building resilient and diversified economies.
- The book is also unique in linking natural resources to industrial development by arguing for a resource-based industrial approach, based on building strong productive capabilities.
- The book's main strength is in showing that strong productive capabilities enhance a country's economic sovereignty by increasing the options a country has regarding how it utilises its natural resources.

About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

Horman Chitonge is professor of African Studies at the Centre for African Studies, University of Cape Town (UCT). His work focuses on alternative strategies for economic transformation and development in Africa.

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