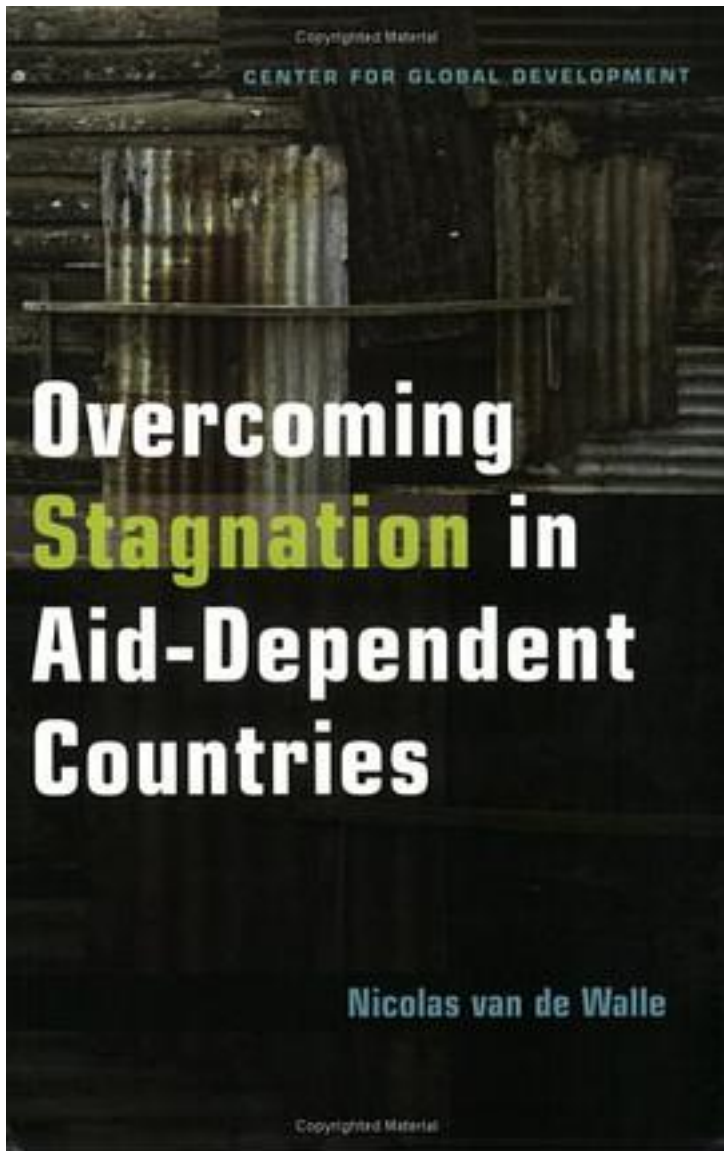


Overcoming Stagnation in Aid-Dependent Countries



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出版者:Brookings Inst Pr

出版时间:

装帧:Pap

isbn:9781933286013

In this book, Nicolas Van de Walle identifies 26 countries that are extremely poor and grew little if at all in the 1990s. His sample excludes North Korea and countries where civil war explains some of their failure to grow (Afghanistan, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tajikistan and others). The 26 countries have limited infrastructure and human capital and the small size of their markets deter private savings and investment. Aid was meant to help overcome these problems, and these countries received a lot. Yet they have failed to grow. What is wrong? Is foreign aid a solution or part of the problem? What changes might make aid more effective? Given these countries require the financial and technical resources of the West, why haven't aid programs made a difference? Van de Walle blames their economic failure mostly on the venality and incompetence of their political leadership. He analyzes the contradictions and tensions faced by the aid community in poorly run countries, providing a sobering analysis of the perverse effects of aid where the politics is all wrong. Too often, resources provided by foreign aid keep the wrong government in office, and undermine adoption of economic as well as political reforms. Bad government combined with aid, in short, hurts poor countries and particularly the poorest people in those countries. Despite good intentions, little progress has been made in implementing announced reforms of the aid business itself. A constituency for reform is lacking, in the donor countries and in the recipient countries, where those in power benefit from the status quo.

作者介绍:

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标签

评论

这本书从donor方的视角出发，讲一些aid存在的技术问题，像conditionality, local ownership之类。翻了半天找aid对accountability的损害，最后只在两页上找到直接相关的，简介简直是在逗我……

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书评

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