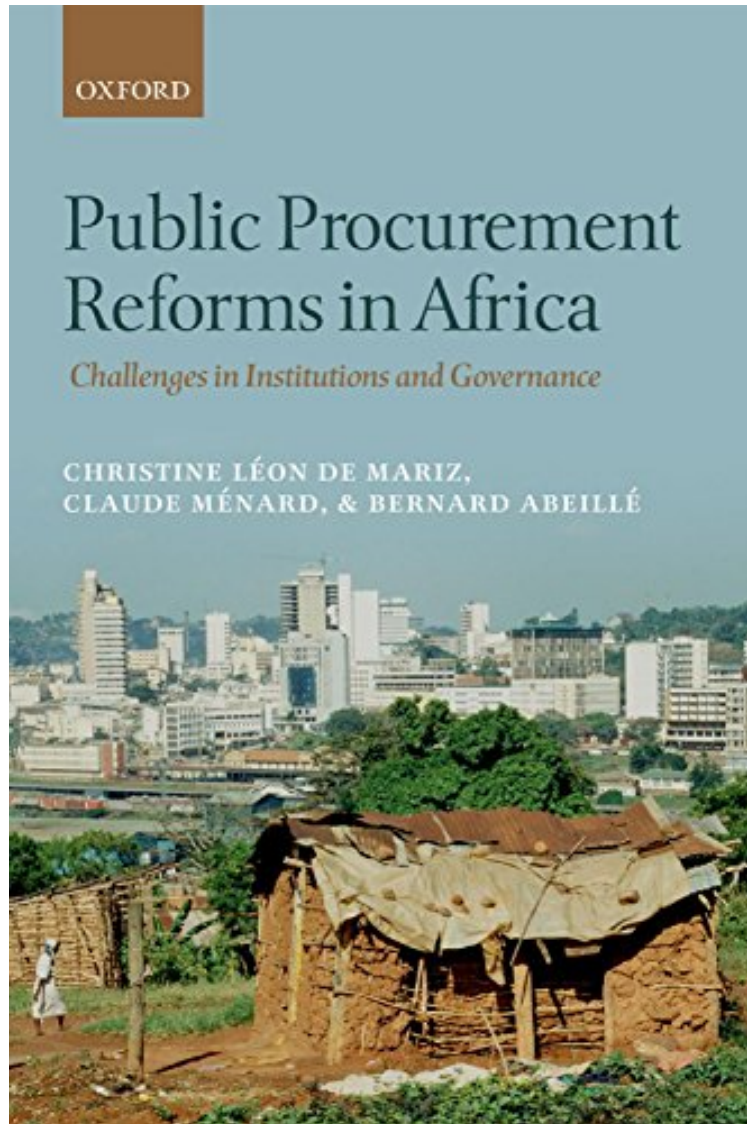


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Public Procurement Reforms in Africa: Challenges in Institutions and Governance

Christine Léon de Mariz, Claude Ménard, Bernard Abeillé
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Christine Léon de Mariz, Claude Ménard, Bernard Abeillé : **Public Procurement Reforms in Africa: Challenges in Institutions and Governance** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Public Procurement Reforms in Africa: Challenges in Institutions and Governance:

Institutional reforms and their contribution to development and growth have been a source of renewed interest as well

as of many challenges over the last two decades. Identifying the forces that push towards reform and the conditions that determine the success or failure of reforms, building organizational arrangements needed to make modifications to the rules of the game sustainable, and understanding the limits to the transfer of reforms and to the help that international organizations and foreign institutions can provide to support change, raise intellectually difficult and politically highly sensitive issues. This book attempts to address these issues from an economic perspective. Combining knowledge and field experience, it develops an analysis of institutional changes and organizational transformations based on the experience of the public procurement reforms carried out in sub-Saharan Africa. This highlights the economic significance of procurement and the formidable obstacles that institutional changes face. Using an original dataset, it explores the gap between the expectations and what has been achieved. It develops a framework that intends to capture the complex interaction between the different components of reform and aims to provide useful insights for researchers and policy makers.

This important new book is a model study of how to reform public policymaking in developing countries. Most reform efforts spend too little time on engineering the micro-institutional details necessary to give the relevant parties incentives to implement the reform. Focusing on public procurement in Sub-Saharan Africa, the authors construct the institutional details necessary for successful reform. Barry Weingast, Stanford University This important book deftly analyzes African public procurement, where weak public institutions, including ineffectual enforcement and corruption, have defeated the aims and ambitions of countless aid projects. The book's novel approach fills a major gap in our understanding of this thorny problem, and draws actionable insights by comparing the few successful and many failed reforms. Mary M. Shirley, President, Ronald Coase Institute In identifying the tax system as the intestines of the state, Joseph Schumpeter seriously neglected the other side of the government budget. Building an effective state requires not just resources, but the ability to spend those resources in the interests of society. This book is a seminal study of what it takes to do that in Africa. An essential for anyone trying to understand how to build modern states James A. Robinson, Harvard University Public Procurement Reform in Africa is an ambitious study that provides a vast improvement to the literature on the effects of political and legal reform. Using original data and in-depth case analyses, the authors are able to demonstrate when exogenously-imposed and endogenously-driven institutional and ideological reforms will effect political outcomes, such as levels of corruption. Mathew D. McCubbins, Duke University This book delivers a big and welcome surprise: public procurement offers transcendental lessons in the modalities and difficulties of state-building. Using a new dataset on public procurement systems in sub-Saharan Africa, the book carries important messages for procurement scholars and practitioners, for the development community, and for state-builders. Philip Keefer, The World Bank The literature on public procurement reform in Africa is very limited and mainly examines the topic from a legal perspective. In analysing these reforms in sub-Saharan Africa from an institutional perspective, this book is highly significant in filling a gap in the literature. It will surely be successful in pushing the institutional issues to a more prominent place on the agenda of economists, social scientists and policymakers. Sue Arrowsmith, University of Nottingham Public Procurement Reforms in Africa thoroughly grapples with the complex challenges of improving public financial management, and in so doing, the authors contribute to a discourse which is critical to Africa's economic transformation. Kingsley Y. Amoako, President, African Center for Economic Transformation. This book is a must read for those interested in public procurement systems and their reforms in Africa and elsewhere. Those familiar with the New Institutional Economics will recognize this book as an ambitious and informative application of the NIE framework. New comers to the NIE will likewise be impressed by the value added that accrues thereto. Oliver E. Williamson, Nobel Prize in Economics This study is a major step forward in understanding the way institutions work in different settings. Douglass C. North, Nobel Prize in Economics About the Author Christine Leon de Mariz, Consultant, Claude Menard, Full Professor of Economics, University of Paris (Pantheon-Sorbonne), Bernard Abeille, Consultant, Christine Leon de Mariz was a Senior Economist at the World Bank and has more than a decade of experience in international development. She managed projects focusing on institution, governance, and public finance in Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America. Christine is a graduate of Sciences-Po Paris, holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Paris (Pantheon-Sorbonne), and was a fellow at Harvard University. Claude Menard is Professor of Economics at the University of Paris (Pantheon-Sorbonne) and affiliated to the Centre d'Economie de la Sorbonne. He graduated from the University of Montreal in Canada and completed his PhD at the Sorbonne. He has been visiting professor in numerous universities worldwide, has published extensively in international journals, and has worked as consultant for several international organizations and governments, mainly on issues of reform in network infrastructures and institutional changes. He has been co-editor of the Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization for over ten years, and is a co-founder with Ronald Coase, Douglas North, Oliver Williamson and others of the International Society for New Institutional Economics. He is also co-founder and member of the board of the Ronald Coase Institute. Bernard Abeille is a Public Procurement Specialist who initially worked in the private sector in major infrastructure and city planning programs, 10 years in French Aid abroad, and more than 30 years at the World Bank. He has been head of the procurement family for the Africa region and has assumed important responsibility in the World Bank

Procurement Board. He initiated major procurement reforms and played a major role in the working group that issued the OECD Procurement Base-Line Indicators which are now applied worldwide to evaluate national procurement systems. Since he retired, he has been a consultant for the World Bank, African Development Bank, Millennium Challenge Corporation, Agence Francaise de Developpement, and Inter-American Development Bank, and has been involved in numerous training programs to develop capacity in developing countries. His academic background is in architecture, city planning, legal aspects of construction and regional development.