Record Nr. UNINA9910255302803321 Region-Building in Africa: Political and Economic Challenges / / edited **Titolo** by Daniel H. Levine, Dawn Nagar New York:,: Palgrave Macmillan US:,: Imprint: Palgrave Macmillan,, Pubbl/distr/stampa 2016 **ISBN** 1-137-58611-7 Edizione [1st ed. 2016.] 1 online resource (XXV, 348 p.) Descrizione fisica Disciplina 320.54096 Soggetti International relations Africa—Politics and government Regional economics Spatial economics Economic development Political economy **Development economics** International Relations African Politics Regional/Spatial Science **Development Theory** International Political Economy **Development Economics** Africa Economic integration Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph

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## Sommario/riassunto

This landmark book is the first of its kind to assess the challenges of African region-building and regional integration across all five African sub-regions and more than five decades of experience, considering both political and economic aspects. Leading scholars and practitioners come together to analyze a range of entwined topics, including: the theoretical underpinnings that have informed Africa's regional integration trajectory; the political economy of integration, including the sources of different 'waves' of integration in pan-Africanism and the reaction to neo-liberal economic pressures; the complexities of integration in a context of weak states and the informal regionalization that often occurs in 'borderlands'; the increasing salience of Africa's relationships with rising extra-regional economic powers, including China and India; and comparative lessons from non-African regional blocs, including the EU, ASEAN, and the Southern Common Market. A core argument of this book, running through all chapters, is that region-building must be recognized as a political project as much as if not more than an economic one; successful region-building in Africa will need to include the complex political tasks of strengthening state capacity (including states' capacity as 'developmental states' that can actively engage in economic planning), resolving long-standing conflicts over resources and political dominance, improving democratic governance, and developing trans-national political structures that are legitimate and inclusive.