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| Nota di contenuto | 1. Introduction: Africa's Middle Classes in Critical Perspective; Tabea Scharrer, David O'Kane and Lena Kroeker -- Section 1: Rethinking Concepts of Middle Classes in Africa -- 2. Turning the Poor into Something More Inspiring: The Creation of the African Middle Class Controversy; Dominique Darbon -- 3. The Narrative of 'the African Middle Class' and its Conceptual Limitations; Dieter Neubert and Florian Stoll -- 4. Anthropology and Class in Africa: Challenges of the Past and Present -- Section 2: The Recurring Rise and Return of Middle Classes in Africa; David O'Kane and Tabea Scharrer -- 5. The Ghanaian Middle Class, Social Stratification, and Long-Term Dynamics of Upward |

and Downward Mobility of Lawyers and Teachers; Jan Budniok and Andrea Noll -- 6. The Nubians of Kibera 'Revisited': Detribalized Natives, Slum Dwellers, Middle class?; Johanna Sarre -- 7. Saving and Serving the Nation: HIV Politics and the Emergence of New Professional Classes in Botswana; Astrid Bochow -- Section 3: The Political Consequences of the Middle Classes.-8. Propertied Citizenship in a Township and Suburb in Johannesburg; Barbara Heer -- 9. Thinking Sierra Leone and Building a New Middle Class: Political Expression and Political Values at the University of Makeni; David O'Kane -- 10. African Middle Classes: Formation and Destabilizing Effects -- Section 4: Formation of Social Interconnections and Interdependencies; Jason Musyoka -- 11. Pathways into the Middle: Rites of Passage and Emerging Middle Classes in Namibia; Julia Pauli -- 12. Middle Class Approaches to Social Security in Kenya; Lena Kroeker -- 13. Middle Classes and 'Moderate Prosperity' in Rural Madagascar; Tsiry Andrianampiarivo -- 14. Afterword. The (Idea of) African Middle Classes: Theorizing from Africa; Rachel Spronk.

Sommario/riassunto

This volume challenges the concept of the 'new African middle class' with new theoretical and empirical insights into the changing lives in Sub-Saharan Africa. Diverse middle classes are on the rise, but models of class based on experiences from other regions of the world cannot be easily transferred to the African continent. Empirical contributions, drawn from a diverse range of contexts, address both African histories of class formation and the political roles of the continent's middle classes, and also examine the important interdependencies that cut across inter-generational, urban-rural and class divides. This thought-provoking book argues emphatically for a revision of common notions of the 'middle class', and for the inclusion of insights 'from the South' into the global debate on class. Middle Classes in Africa will be of interest to students and scholars across a range of disciplines, as well as NGOs and policy makers with an interest in African societies.
