

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910808505603321
Autore	Nyamnjoh Francis B. <1961->
Titolo	Modernising traditions and traditionalising modernity in Africa : chieftaincy and democracy in Cameroon and Botswana / / Francis B. Nyamnjoh
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Bamenda, Cameroon : , : Langaa Research & Publishing CIG, , 2015 ©2015
ISBN	9956-762-79-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (84 p.)
Disciplina	320.9688109049
Soggetti	Democracy - Botswana Democracy - Cameroon Local government - Botswana
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Nota di contenuto	1. Chieftaincy studies in Africa : an overview -- 2. Chieftaincy and the game of legitimacy in Cameroon -- 3. Chieftaincy and the negotiation of Botswana's democracy -- 4. Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	Chieftaincy in Africa has displayed remarkable dynamics and adaptability to new socio-economic and political developments, without becoming totally transformed in the process. Almost everywhere on the continent, chiefdoms and chiefs have become active agents in the quest for ethnic, cultural symbols as a way of maximising opportunities at the centre of bureaucratic and state power, and at the home village where control over land and labour often require both financial and symbolic capital. Chieftaincy remains central to ongoing efforts at developing democracy and accountability in line with the expectations of Africans as individual 'citizens' and also as 'subjects' of various cultural communities. This book uses Cameroon and Botswana as case studies, to argue that the rigidity and prescriptiveness of modernist partial theories have left a major gap in scholarship on chiefs and chieftaincy in Africa. It stresses that studies of domesticated agency in Africa are sorely needed to capture the creative ongoing processes and to avoid overemphasising structures and essentialist

perceptions on chieftaincy and the cultural communities that claim and are claimed by it.
