



Peter de Haan

# Whatever Happened to the Third World?

A History of the Economics of Development

- **Interweaves the author's personal experience in working in developing countries**
- **Succinctly explains the evolution in thinking about topics such as economic growth models, international trade theory, the dirigiste dogma, Hirschman's dissenting views, and Myrdal's circular cumulative causation**
- **Touches upon contemporary issues such as the trade war between the US and China, the latest Sustainable Development Goals and population issues**
- **Includes an overview of the first generation of development economists and beyond, development theories in the Marxist tradition, and views of contemporary commentators such as Edward Luce and Bruno Macaes**

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How can the successful development of some former Third World countries be explained, while other developing countries have remained stagnant or worse, have deteriorated into failed states? This book offers a history of the economics of development. De Haan examines how the right mix of policies and evolving insights in development economics have impacted certain countries with the progression from low-income to middle-income, and even high-income status. In particular middle-income countries encounter hindrances to transit into high-income countries. The challenges of low-income countries and those of fragile and failed states is elaborated as well. Due attention is given to successive generations of development economists, economic growth models and international trade theories to provide academic background to the evolution or stagnation of developing countries. The author's own experience in development aid is woven into the text, making this book important and entertaining reading for researchers, students of development economics, international trade and international aid.

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