

## **Africa Development Indicators** 2007: Spreading and **Sustaining Growth in Africa**

The World Bank, 2007

Electronic books Statistics.

Monografía

The world's demand for food is expected to double within the next 50 years, while the natural resources that sustain agriculture will become increasingly scarce, degraded, and vulnerable to the effects of climate change. In many poor countries, agriculture accounts for at least 40 percent of GDP and 80 percent of employment. At the same time, about 70 percent of the world's poor live in rural areas and most depend on agriculture for their livelihoods. World Development Report 2008 seeks to assess where, when, and how agriculture can be an effective instrument for economic development, especially development that favors the poor. It examines several broad questions: How has agriculture changed in developing countries in the past 20 years? What are the important new challenges and opportunities for agriculture? Which new sources of agricultural growth can be captured cost effectively in particular in poor countries with large agricultural sectors as in Africa? How can agricultural growth be made more effective for poverty reduction? How can governments facilitate the transition of large populations out of agriculture, without simply transferring the burden of rural poverty to urban areas? How can the natural resource endowment for agriculture be protected? How can agriculture's negative environmental effects be contained? This year's report marks the 30th year the World Bank has been publishing the World Development Report

Título: Africa Development Indicators 2007 Spreading and Sustaining Growth in Africa

Editorial: Washington, D.C. The World Bank 2007

**Descripción física:** 1 online resource (176 pages)

Mención de serie: Africa Development Indicators

Copyright/Depósito Legal: 813530080 815539969 821616673

ISBN: 0821372831 9780821372838 9780821372845 082137284X 6611099867 9786611099862 1281099864

9781281099860 9780821372838

Materia: Economic indicators- África Social indicators- África Economic history. Economic indicators. Social conditions. Social indicators.

Materia Geográfica: África- Economic conditions- 1960- Statistics África- Social conditions- 1960- Statistics

África

Entidades: Banco Internacional de Reconstrucción y Fomento. Africa Regional Office

Enlace a formato físico adicional: Print Version 9780195208764

Punto acceso adicional serie-Título: Africa Development Indicators World Bank e-Library

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