

Kiggundu, N. Moses. Managing Globalization in Developing Countries and Transition Economics: Building Capacities for a Changing World. Praeger: Westport, Connecticut. Hardcover: Price US\$74.00. xvi + 338 pp. + index

Upon beginning to review this book, one thing struck me as outstanding and that is the author's thorough attempt to capture the complete meaning of globalization. Most books or writings in general, give brief descriptions of what "globalization" really is. Professor Kiggundu takes the reader of his book through the many different definitions of globalization in his first chapter. This chapter provides the reader different perspectives of globalization by daring to answer the question "what is globalization?" To do so, the author has done two things:

- 1) "Provide a list of select definitions from recent works of authors and writers" (Professor Kiggundu calls these the experts' definition)
- 2) "Collect a list of descriptors from ordinary people as to their understanding of globalization (Professor Kiggundu calls these the citizens' definition)

The book is divided into three main parts: (1) Globalization and the state (2) Globalization and the Economy and (3) Globalization and Society. The chapters are unevenly distributed in the three parts. In part one, there are two chapters: (1) What is Globalization? and (2) Governance and Globalization. In part two, there are six chapters: (1) Globalization and Economic Management (2) Globalization and Entrepreneurship (3) Trade and Investment (4) The World Trade Organization Challenges for Developing Countries (5) Managing Banking and Financial Crisis and (6) Globalization and Debt.

The third section of the book consists of four chapters (1) Globalization and Healthcare Services (2) Globalization and Culture (3) Globalization and the Environment.

The essence of Kiggundu's book is summed up in Joseph E. Stiglitz's opening statement in his piece entitled "Globalism's Discontents (The American Prospect Winter 2002) when he notes:

Few subjects have polarized people throughout the world as much as globalization. Some see it as the way of the future, bringing unprecedented prosperity to everyone, everywhere. Others, symbolized by the Seattle protestors of December 1999, fault globalization as the source of untold problems, from the destruction of native cultures to increasing poverty and immiseration (p.A16)

Kiggundu argues that it is of utmost importance to manage the challenges presented by globalization. The gains and losses presented to the world's communities by globalization have enormous consequences. Some of these consequences are unexpected and it is through the strategies of management that ethical and moral obligation of global efforts can be realized. In today's world, there are two sets of countries—those that are economically strong and those that are economically weak. The latter are mainly developing countries that are in the process of building democratic governments. Democratization process flourish well under free market economies and it is certainly true that when the economies of countries do well, the atmosphere for stability is enhanced. It is quite possible to achieve stability when globalization provides the platform for progress, for equity, and for needed development of infrastructure. Kiggundu provides ample argument for managing globalization especially from the standpoint of reforming institution, human security, and the importance of recognizing that it is paramount to have an adequate mix of public and private sector activities. Trade policies in developed and developing countries must be structured so that progress is not hindered—especially for developing countries since they are the weaker of the two groups. The negative or unexpected bad consequences of globalization can be minimized through a holistic process that incorporates the vision of poor countries in trade negotiation for their natural resources and agricultural products.

The comprehensive nature of this book makes it an excellent reading for development students and researchers. Its only problem is that it has not thoroughly discussed the environmental/natural/ecological issues surrounding globalization. Nonetheless, it is highly recommended as a text for the study of development management because it is very scholarly and theoretically sound.

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