

‘This collection brings together empirical studies from varied contexts, based primarily in Africa, many by African scholars, allowing a crucial opportunity for new perceptions and comparisons and for identifying key dynamics to track into the future.’
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‘Africa's Informal Workers is an impressive example of the rigour and theoretical deftness required to acknowledge and engage the politics of urban informality in all its variegated complicatedness. This cutting-edge volume is indispensable reading for urbanists, activists and policy-makers.’
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‘This collection, with its excellent editorial introduction, makes a ground-breaking contribution to understanding the ways in which informal workers are developing new forms of collective organization. Always fascinating, as might be expected in the varied terrain of sub-Saharan Africa, the accounts are by turns depressing and inspiring.’
Professor Carole Rakodi, The University of Birmingham

AFRICA'S INFORMAL WORKERS is a vigorous examination of the informalization and casualization of work, which is changing livelihoods in Africa and beyond.

Gathering cases from nine countries and cities across sub-Saharan Africa, and from a range of sectors, this volume goes beyond the usual focus on household ‘coping strategies’ and individual agency, addressing the growing number of collective organizations through which informal workers make themselves visible and articulate their demands and interests. The emerging picture is that of a highly diverse landscape of organized actors, providing grounds for tension but also opportunities for alliance. Specifically, the collection examines in depth attempts at organizing across the formal–informal work spheres, as well as exploring the novel trend of transnational organizing by informal workers.

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EDITED BY
ILDA LINDELL



AFRICA'S INFORMAL WORKERS



COLLECTIVE AGENCY,
ALLIANCES AND
TRANSNATIONAL
ORGANIZING IN
URBAN AFRICA

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