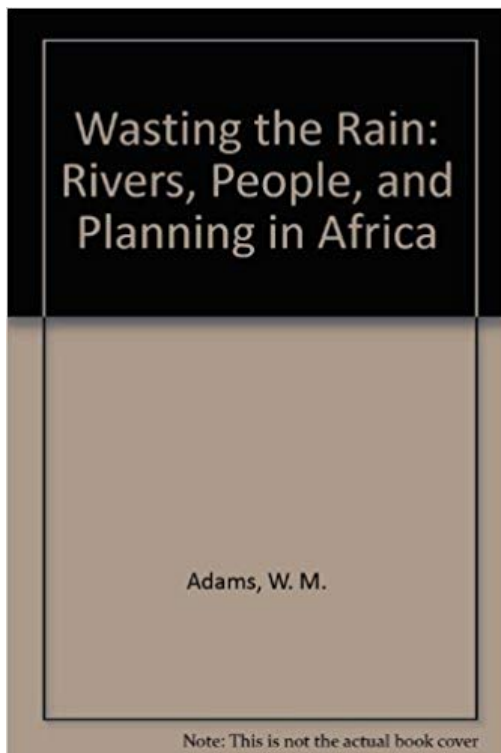


Wasting the Rain: Rivers, People and Planning in Africa *by* W. M. Adams



ISBN: 0816622701

ISBN13: 978-0816622702

Author: W. M. Adams

Book title: Wasting the Rain: Rivers, People and Planning in Africa

Pages: 256

Publisher: Univ of Minnesota Pr (January 1, 1993)

Language: English

Category: Engineering

Size PDF version: 1682 kb

Size ePUB version: 1205 kb

Size FB2 version: 1304 kb

Other formats: mobi txt mbr rtf

The development of water resources in Africa has always been central to plans for its economic development. This book reveals how although reservoirs and irrigation schemes dot the landscape, environmental problems continue to dominate thinking and reportage on Africa's crisis. Far from helping to solve Africa's environmental problems, critics have said that large-scale water development projects have themselves added to existing, or have created wholly new, environmental problems. It is commonly said that the vast sums of money expended on such development have been wasted. It is also explained that some people have been left in debt and have been displaced and disaffected as a consequence. This book, which looks at the ecological impact and political context of water development in Africa, discusses whether this analysis is correct and, if so, why these things have happened and why this form of development has not stopped.



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