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Almas Heshmati *Editor*

Economic Integration, Currency Union, and Sustainable and Inclusive Growth in East Africa

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Economic Integration, Currency Union, and Sustainable and Inclusive Growth in East Africa

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Chapter One

Introduction and Summary of *Economic Integration, Currency Union, and Sustainable and Inclusive Growth in East Africa*

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Abstract

This edited volume is a collection of selected studies on economic integration, currency union and sustainable and inclusive growth in East Africa. The volume consists of 11 inter-related studies. These are largely grouped into economic integration and its trade effects; financial sector development and a common currency; research, innovation and knowledge, and the shadow economy; inclusive and sustainable growth; and the conflict-growth nexus and reconstruction. The studies together provide a comprehensive picture of the state of economic development, growth and integration in East Africa. Several studies cover major parts or the entire continent, but the main focus is on economic development and cooperation among countries in East Africa -- Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda and Tanzania. By employing diverse up-to-date data and methods this volume provides a wealth of empirical evidence and provides sound recommendations to researchers and policymakers in East Africa for designing and implementing effective and inclusive strategies and policies for promoting development and economic integration.

1. Introduction

The core argument of this edited volume is that East Africa is developing rapidly. Economic integration, currency union and sustainability of growth are among the crucial factors in the development of the region. These issues are not well researched. This book with contributions from professionals in the field sheds light on various determinants of economic integration, currency union and sustainability and inclusiveness of growth. It fills existing gaps in literature and provides necessary tools for decision makers.

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