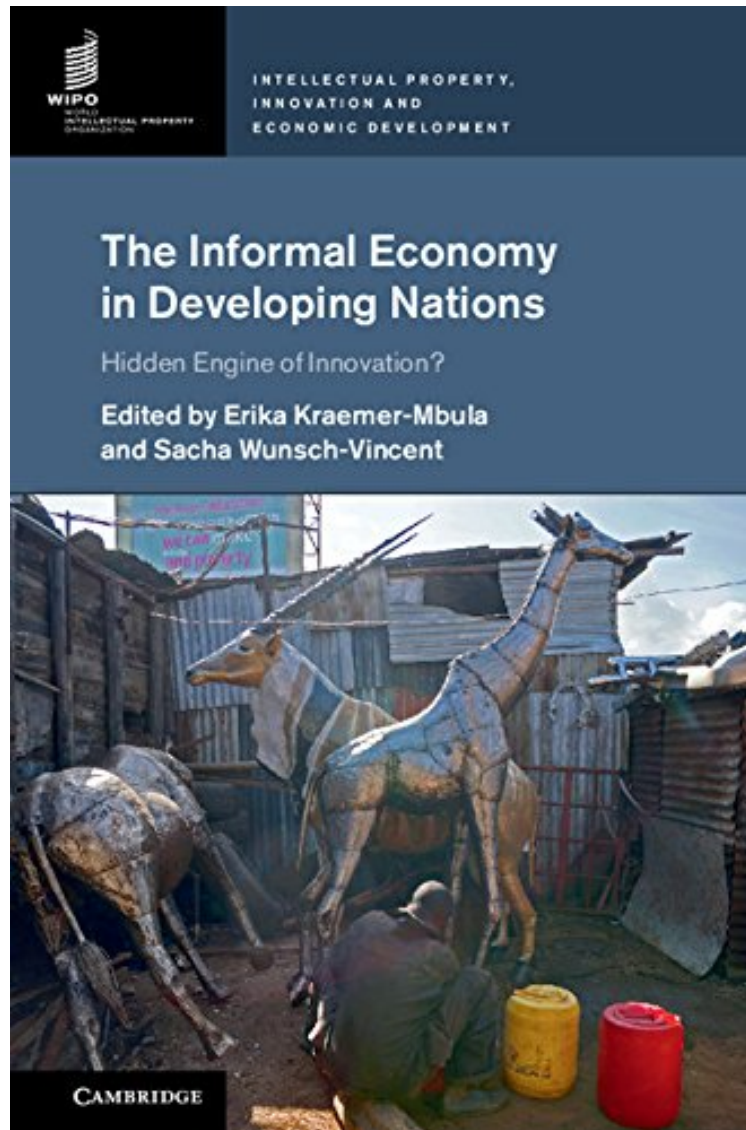


(Free) The Informal Economy in Developing Nations: Hidden Engine of Innovation? (Intellectual Property, Innovation and Economic Development)

## The Informal Economy in Developing Nations: Hidden Engine of Innovation? (Intellectual Property, Innovation and Economic Development)

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## Engine of Innovation? (Intellectual Property, Innovation and Economic Development):

The informal economy represents a significant share of output and employment in many developing countries. Yet little is known about this hidden engine of innovation. This pioneering study addresses some crucial questions, including: what is the role of the informal sector in economic development? How does innovation occur in the informal economy? How does it spread, who are the key actors and what impacts does it have? How do inventors and entrepreneurs in the informal economy reap benefits from their innovations? What stops informal sector innovation from scaling up? How can informal sector innovation in developing countries be measured? And what policies might support informal sector innovation and improve its impacts? This book will stimulate further work on this crucial but under-researched subject. As well as rich empirical evidence from several groundbreaking studies, it includes conceptual and methodological tools and policy recommendations to help researchers and policy-makers understand innovation in the informal economy.

'This book is timely and important. Developing countries need to build development strategies and design public policies on the basis of what they have.' Bengt-Arving Lundvall, Aalborg University, Denmark and Secretary General, Globelics

'This book encourages policy makers to better enable innovation in the informal sector. It is a meaningful contribution to the development of the South Africa's national strategic framework on Innovation for Inclusive Development.' Nonhlanhla Mkhize, Department of Science and Technology, South Africa

'This book will contribute to making innovation statistics and measurement work of the African Observatory for Science, Technology and Innovation more relevant to the African community.' Philippe Mawoko, Director of African Observatory of Science, Technology and Innovation

'Mainstream innovation and intellectual property debates have, for the most part, ignored what is commonly referred to as the 'informal' economy. This book aims to redress this deficit.' Shamnad Basheer, Honorary Research Chair of IP Law at Nirma University, India and Founder of SpicyIP ([www.spicyip.com](http://www.spicyip.com))

'This book's strong point is its emphasis on better measurement and evidence as essential prerequisites to improved policy-making.' Mark Dutz, Lead Economist, Trade and Competitiveness, The World Bank Group

'Innovation may seem like a luxury; something countries can afford only once they have transcended issues of survival. But this attitude is outdated. Innovation can provide fundamental solutions to low-income countries and this book underlines this potential.' Xiaolan Fu, Founding Director of the Technology and Management Centre for Development, University of Oxford

'The divorce between informal endeavors and prevailing knowledge production practices developed in this book is immediately recognizable for all developing countries.' Judith Sutz, Universidad de la Rep blica, Uruguay and formerly Secretary of Science, Technology and Development, Latin American Commission of Social Sciences

'The democratisation of innovation, a wider participation of individuals and small firms in innovation, is a key factor for more inclusive growth. Considering the informal sector is critical in this regard, making this book an important contribution to this policy agenda.' Dominique Guellec and Caroline Paunov, Head of Division and Senior Economist, Directorate for Science, Technology and Innovation, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

'The authors have managed to put into perspective the hitherto hidden and unexplored contribution of the informal sector to Kenya's modern economy and its industrialization process.' Joseph K. Kiplagat, Ministry of Industrialization and Enterprise Development, Kenya

About the Author Erika Kraemer-Mbula is a Research Fellow at the Institute for Economic Research on Innovation at Tshwane University of Technology, South Africa. She is also a researcher at the DST-NRF Centre of Excellence in Scientometrics and STI Policy (SciSTIP). Kraemer-Mbula holds a PhD in Development Studies from the University of Oxford. Her research interests have focused on science and technology policy analysis, innovation systems, sustainable development, and various routes to the expansion of creative competencies in Africa. She is an active member of several academic networks (such as Globelics and Africalics) and an advisory member of international platforms advancing Africa-EU research collaboration in science and technology.

Sacha Wunsch-Vincent is Senior Economist at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and a lecturer in international economics at Sciences Po, Paris. He is one of the authors of the World Intellectual Property Report and editor of the Global Innovation Index. Wunsch-Vincent has served as an advisor to various governments, and to organizations such as the World Bank and the World Economic Forum. Before joining WIPO, he was an economist at the OECD Directorate for Science, Technology and Industry and a Fellow at the Berkeley Center for Law and Technology, University of California.