

# A Handbook of Primary Commodities in the Global Economy

The update of this edition of the *Handbook* took place during 2019, a period of continued slow recovery in most primary commodity markets after the dramatic price falls of 2014–2015 that marked the end of the most powerful and enduring commodity boom since the Second World War. The book is intended as a guide to the ins and outs of the primary commodity universe, an increasingly crucial part of the world economy. Assuming nothing more from readers than a basic understanding of economics, the authors introduce and explain pertinent issues surrounding international commodity markets such as the global geography of raw materials, price formation, price trends, the role of commodity exchanges, the threat of depletion, cartel action, state ownership, the emerging commodity nationalism and much more.

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