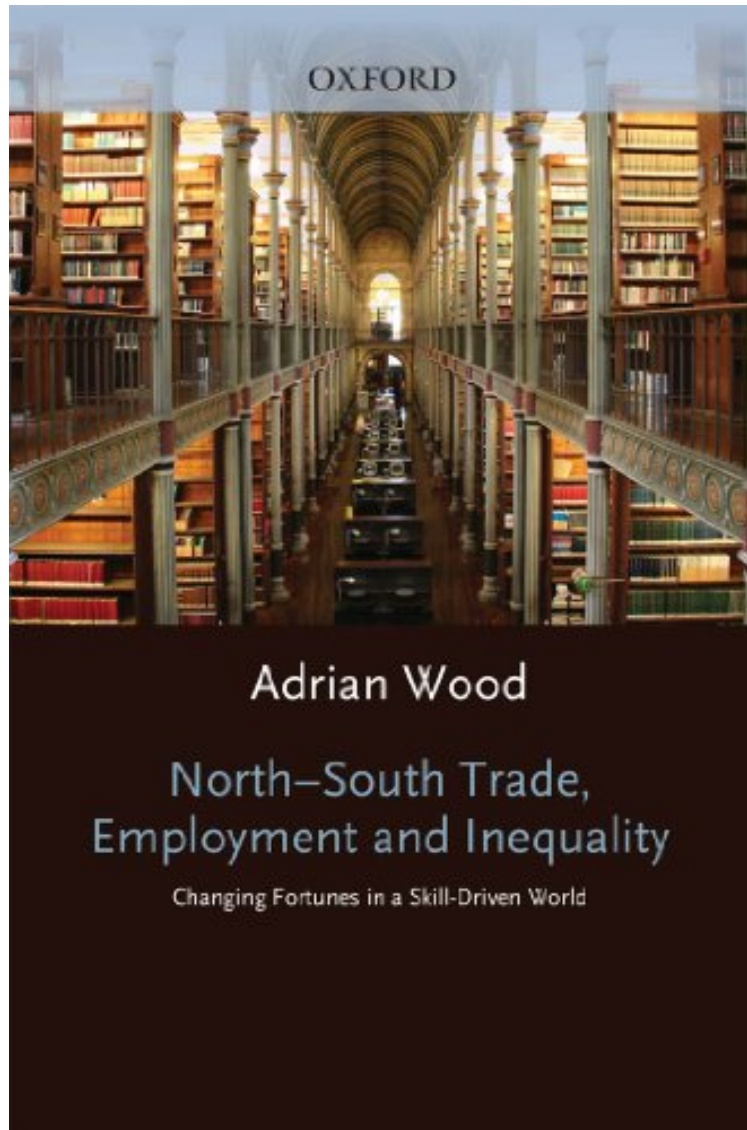


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North-South Trade, Employment and Inequality: Changing Fortunes in a Skill-Driven World (Clarendon Paperbacks)

Adrian Wood

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Adrian Wood : North-South Trade, Employment and Inequality: Changing Fortunes in a Skill-Driven World (Clarendon Paperbacks) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised North-South Trade, Employment and Inequality: Changing Fortunes in a Skill-Driven World (Clarendon Paperbacks):

Drawing on three fields of economics (international, labour, and development), this study shows that expansion of North-South trade in manufactures has had a far greater impact on labour markets than earlier work suggested. In the South, unskilled workers have benefited most from this trade, but in the North, the gains have been concentrated on skilled labour, while unskilled workers have suffered falling wages and rising unemployment. This decline in the economic position of unskilled workers has increased inequality, and aggravated crime and other forms of social erosion, on both sides of the Atlantic. The failure of Northern governments to recognize that trade with the South has these adverse side-effects, and to take appropriate counter-measures, has fuelled the rise of protectionism - the worst possible response, which slows economic progress in both regions. The best solution for the longer term in the North is more investment in education, to raise the supply of skilled labour. However, the benefits of this investment will emerge slowly. During the next one or two decades, Professor Wood argues, other measures are also urgently needed to boost the demand for, and incomes of, unskilled workers.

"Wood has eloquently raised the profile of trade in the debate about skills, equality and employment. Rather disarmingly, he accepts that the technology argument might be equally plausible, but as a strong opponent of protectionism, his policy prescriptions remain the same."--Financial Times
About the Author
Adrian Wood is at University of Sussex.