Rente pétrolière et crise agricole

Johny Egg, François Lerin and Laurence Tubiana
Rente pétrolière et crise agricole

Johny Egg, François Lerin and Laurence Tubiana

ABSTRACTS

Oil revenues and the agricultural crisis. -- Among developing countries, oil-producers rank first in terms of food deficit. Thanks to the two oil booms, these exporting economies had no problems solving traditional agricultural development problems, namely deficit financing and the insolvency of the internal market. But the massive inflow of oil revenues determines an economic development pattern that destabilizes rather than supports the agricultural sector. The state monopoly over oil revenues led to a new kind of patronage relationship that usually excluded the peasantry. The trends of oil economies in terms of inflation, the appreciation of the currency and the centralization of economic decision-making impede agriculture at the same time that the privatization of oil revenues squanders financial resources. The analysis of the agricultural situation of major oil-exporting countries leaves on pondering the usual interpretation of food-dependency in southern countries.