

Resource Politics

How natural resource wealth affects governance.

Political Science

Mechanisms and mitigations.

Mechanisms

Revenue without taxation weakens accountability

Rents fund patronage networks

Currency appreciation harms other exports

Volatility destabilises budgets

Control of resources becomes the political prize

Mitigations

Sovereign wealth funds and fiscal rules

Revenue transparency requirements

Strong institutions established before discovery

Diversification of the economic base

Educational reference. The resource curse is conditional: countries with strong prior institutions generally avoid it.