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## **Development and Environmental Politics Unmasked: Authority, Participation and Equity in East Timor (Routledge Contemporary Southeast Asia Series)**

*Christopher J. Shepherd*

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**Christopher J. Shepherd : Development and Environmental Politics Unmasked: Authority, Participation and Equity in East Timor (Routledge Contemporary Southeast Asia Series)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Development and Environmental Politics Unmasked: Authority, Participation and Equity in East Timor (Routledge Contemporary Southeast Asia Series):

Focusing on rural development and environmental management, this book brings together the detailed history of development in East Timor under two colonial regimes and under the contemporary conditions of national independence. It addresses two comparative areas of development: across the three political regimes and across four case studies of projects delivered by various national or international development agencies in independent East Timor. Employing an original classificatory framework for kinds of approaches to development — coercive orders,

mandated orders, negotiated orders ndash; the book covers the plantation-centred development of Portuguese Timor as a European colony and the integration-oriented development of 'Timor Timur' as Indonesia's 27th province. It examines the neoliberal 'democratic' development of East Timor (or Timor-Leste) in the current context of state and nation-building, before drawing on case studies to investigate how development proceeds as a negotiation between authoritative state, non-state and international actors and local people who need to adapt development and conservation projects to suit their lived realities. By using the history of East Timor to explore how particular modes of operationalising development interventions are intimately intertwined with the broader political system, this book makes a valuable contribution to the fields of Development Studies, Anthropology, Science and Technology Studies, and Southeast Asian Studies.

About the Author Christopher Shepherd is Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Department of Anthropology at the Australian National University. His research interests include politics of development in East Timor and Peru.