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The New Natural Resource

Knowledge Development, Society and Economics

Hans Christian Garmann Johnsen

'This is an ambitious and illuminating book, based on broad and deep knowledge of the international literature, and grounded in practical engagement in research. Without offering a grandiose overview, in a series of essays Hans Christian Garmann Johnsen makes valuable links between social theory and the new challenges of the knowledge society. Readers will find familiar starting points, and new connections.'

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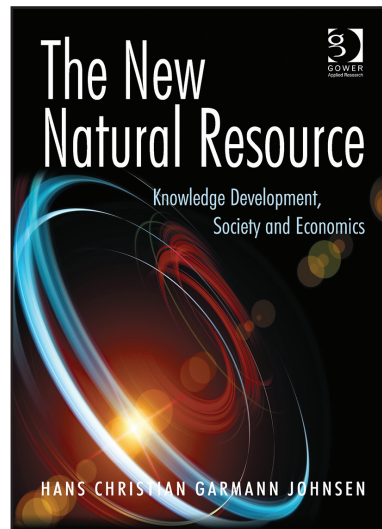
The New Natural Resource looks at the role of knowledge in social and economic development. There is a need to address the process of developing knowledge as a social process and this book starts with the argument that knowledge is inherently a social phenomenon.

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This is a book about the role of knowledge in social and economic development. There is a need to address the process of developing knowledge as a social process and *The New Natural Resource* starts with the argument that knowledge is inherently a social phenomenon. This allows us to discuss the relation between individual opinions and what is regarded as knowledge. It also allows us to see how economic and political and democratic processes are interrelated.

Acknowledging that we are more dependent on contesting processes of knowledge development in society implies that we should address how society as a whole is able to legitimize what it regards as the right kind of knowledge.

Contents:

Foreword; Knowledge and society: an introduction. **Part I The Epistemological Foundation of Knowledge:** Sociology of knowledge development; Subjective reflexivity and knowledge; Communicative rationality. **Part II Knowledge in Social Structures:** How science makes knowledge; Economic thought, market and knowledge; Knowledge organisations: developing knowledge in practice; Cultural knowledge and market development; Modernist criticisms and development of social knowledge. **Part III Knowledge Development in a Liberal Society:** Knowledge, market and social justice; Knowledge, social systems and legal order; Knowledge and democracy. Concluding reflections; References; Index.

About the Author:

Hans Christian Garmann Johnsen is a professor in the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences at the University of Agder in Norway and an adjunct professor at Gjøvik University College. Professor Garmann Johnsen is a specialist in the study of working life and innovation and is the Centre Leader at the Centre for Advanced Studies in Regional Innovation Strategies (RIS) at Agder. He has an MBA from the Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration and gained his PhD at the Copenhagen Business School. He has been a visiting scholar and fellow at several universities including UC Berkeley and Cornell in the USA and Kingston University in the UK. For 15 years Garmann Johnsen has been involved in a national research programme into collaborative innovation. He has written and presented papers and authored journal articles published worldwide and co-edited the book *Creating Collaborative Advantage*.

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