## **Economics**

Avoiding the resource curse



## Analyse the three case studies

Case Study 1: East Timor

Interesting discussion on sovereign wealth funds from just before the collapse in oil prices:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wM5r9xHQxT4

http://www.dw.com/en/over-reliance-on-oil-and-gas-threatens-east-timors-economy/a-17868268

#### Case Study 2: Botswana

Botswana is an interesting case which has one of the highest HDI's in sub-saharan Africa in spite of a 25% HIV infection rate. Sound governance appears to have allowed them to avoid the worst of the resource curse:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QgfgsGAHmnk

http://hdr.undp.org/sites/all/themes/hdr\_theme/country-notes/BWA.pdf

http://aidsinfo.unaids.org/ (Need to change the map to "HIV Prevalence" under the "People Living with HIV" Indicator)

http://www.transparency.org/cpi2015#map-container (Scroll to table - Botswana more transparent than Spain)

### Case Study 3: How Norway has avoided the 'curse of oil'

Hugged by mountains and perched on a stunning coastline of fjords, Bergen, Norway's second-largest city, has picture-postcard views.

As one of the centres of Norway's booming oil and gas industries, it is also a very wealthy place.

Yet there are few displays of ostentatious spending - there are no supercars with tinted windows, no designer handbag shops, and no queues of people outside exclusive nightclubs.

For while other countries have struck oil and then binged on the revenues, by contrast Norway is continuing to invest its oil and gas money in a giant sovereign wealth fund.

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The fund, worth about \$800bn (£483bn), owns 1% of the entire world's stocks, and is big enough to make every citizen a millionaire in the country's currency, the kroner. In effect, it is a giant savings account.

And most Norwegians are seemingly very content with this - according to a 2012 study by New York's Columbia University Norway is one of the world's happiest countries.

Click this link for the full article: <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-28882312">https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-28882312</a>