



Multimedia Library Collection: Environmental Film Profiles (videos)

Why Poverty? Stealing Africa

Guldbrandsen, Christoffer. *Why Poverty? Stealing Africa*. Denmark: Guldbrandsen Film, 2012. HD, 58 min. <https://youtu.be/WNYemuiAOfU>.

Stealing Africa describes the tax system employed by multinational companies in Africa. The film looks at Rüşchlikon, a village in Switzerland with a very low tax rate and very wealthy residents. But it receives more tax revenue than it can use. This is largely thanks to one resident - Ivan Glasenberg, CEO of Glencore, whose copper mines in Zambia are not generating a large bounty tax revenue for the Zambians. Zambia has the third largest copper reserves in the world, but 60% of the population lives on less than \$1 a day and 80% are unemployed. Based on original research into public documents, the film tells the story of global trade where money and natural resources only flow one way. (Source: [Steps International](#))

The series *Why Poverty?* was initiated and produced by Steps International, a non-profit organization that combines documentaries, new media, old media and outreach to get millions of people talking about big issues.

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This film is available at the [Rachel Carson Center](#) Library (RCC, 4th floor, Leopoldstrasse 11a, 80802 Munich) for on-site viewing only. For more information, please contact library@rcc.lmu.de.

[About the Environmental Film Profiles collection](#)

Further readings:

- Froberg, Kristina, and Attiya Waris. *Bringing the Billions Back: How Africa and Europe Can End Illicit Capital Flight*. Stockholm: Forum Syd Forlag, 2011.
- Zucman, Gabriel. *The Hidden Wealth of Nations: The Scourge of Tax Havens*. University of Chicago Press, 2015.

Related links:

- Rupert Neate. "Ivan Glasenberg's neighbours rest uneasily with Glencore tax windfall" (The Guardian)

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2012/dec/02/ivan-glasenberg-neighbours-glencore-tax-windfall>

- Siji Jabbar. “How the Swiss get rich at Zambia’s expense.” (This is Africa)
<http://thisisafrica.me/how-the-swiss-get-rich-at-zambias-expense/>
- Frantz Fanon. “How Mining Companies Steal Africa’s Wealth.” (Blog Post)
<http://readingfanon.blogspot.de/2013/02/how-mining-companies-steal-africas.html>
- When China Met Africa (Film Profile)
<https://www.environmentandsociety.org/mml/when-china-met-africa>

Websites linked in this text:

- <http://www.comminit.com/whypoverty/content/stealing-africa-how-much-profit-fair>
- <http://www.comminit.com/whypoverty/>
- <http://www.carsoncenter.uni-muenchen.de/index.html>
- <https://www.environmentandsociety.org/multimedia/collection/environmental-films-project>