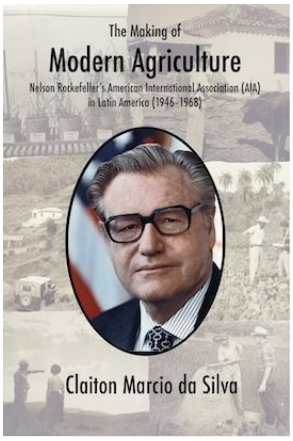
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The Making of Modern Agriculture

da Silva, Claiton Marcio



Making of Modern Agriculture. Cover.

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da Silva, Claiton Marcio. *The Making of Modern Agriculture*. Winwick: The White Horse Press, 2023.

The Making of Modern Agriculture addresses how an American philanthropic agency—the American International Association for Economic and Social Development (AIA)—influenced the course of agricultural development in Latin America during the Cold War. Operating from 1946 to 1968, the AIA was an endeavour designed by the multimillionaire and politician Nelson Aldrich Rockefeller (1908–1979) to maintain the United States' influence on foreign policy through Latin America. With a major presence in Venezuela and Brazil, the AIA also conducted rural development programmes in Chile, Costa Rica, as well as studies of Trinidad & Tobago, Paraguay, Peru, China and India. With an unwavering faith in the principles of science and technology, the AIA exported experts who began their careers in reformist organisations during

the New Deal and later expected to accommodate similar programmes in Latin America during and after WWII.

By exploring previously unpublished primary sources, *The Making of Modern Agriculture* demonstrates the role of Latin American elites and governments in adapting and rejecting programmes of US origin. Based on numerous examples, the book demonstrates how the encounters and clashes between foreign experts, governments, and local technicians with affected populations resulted not only in the adaptation of exogenous projects, but, in a certain way, forced the AIA to rethink its strategies and formulate new models to be adopted later in other Southern Hemisphere countries. The book also demonstrates, from an approach mingling history of science, environment and international relations, how the encounters between experts, politicians, and rural populations rendered the notions of development and modernisation even more polysemic. (Source: The White Horse Press)

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