

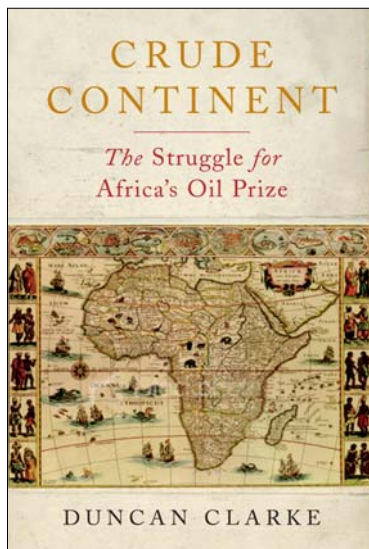
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## PRESS RELEASE

*'provides original analysis and passionate views, which are never dull and always thought-provoking, in a closely-argued account informed by an unrivalled knowledge of Africa's oil industry'* Michael Holman, former Africa editor, Financial Times

*'If anyone knows about liquid gold, he does.'* The Times

*'A highly accomplished work and must-read on Africa and its political economy of oil ... in an epic which illuminates Africa's "inner worlds" and deftly weaves together the continent's ancient, post-colonial and modern histories.* **Barry Morgan, Africa Correspondent, Upstream International Oil & Gas Newspaper**



## Crude Continent The Struggle for Africa's Oil Prize Duncan Clarke

Published 18 September 2008  
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Duncan Clarke is available for features and interviews.  
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Today's scramble for Africa - the great uncharted frontier in world oil and gas - is part of a continuing struggle for oil that started before the Cold War. It engages over 500 corporations, including state oil companies from six continents. And yet Africa retains a vast underbelly of ancient subsistence economies on which the quest for oil has had little impact.

*Crude Continent* is the first in-depth exploration of this fascinating and important subject, providing ground-breaking insights into the continent's oil history, economics and fragmented geopolitics. Based on an intimate understanding of the origins, evolution and current state of Africa's oil game, Clarke shows how an array of flawed and fragile governments, shadowy politicians, warlords, militia, oil executives, financiers, state institutions and myriad 'masters' are all seeking their piece of the prize. From oil-rich countries to hopeful states with exploration potential, it is an enduring epic struggle - and one that has left many empty-handed.

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Duncan Clarke is a leading thinker, writer and speaker on corporate oil strategy and geopolitical issues in the world oil industry. Chairman of Global Pacific & Partners, a private advisory firm based in London, The Hague and Johannesburg, he is an economist with 30 years advisory experience in oil, focused on strategy in the worldwide upstream industry. His previous books, *The Battle for Barrels* and *Empires of Oil* were published in 2007 to critical acclaim.

### PRAISE FOR DUNCAN CLARKE'S PREVIOUS BOOKS

#### *Empires of Oil*

*'a triumph and will be read by many beyond the energy sector. Erudite, convincing and grounded in Clarke's experience of life in the oil-producing countries on the fringes of Western influence, Empires of Oil will command a place on the shelf devoted to other classics of international energy politics.'* The Petroleum Economist

*If you read just one book on oil this year, let it be by Duncan Clarke, whose Empires of Oil is a stimulating mix of futurology, philosophy, and real politik, with a dose of lateral thinking thrown in. Drawing on sources as diverse as Machiavelli and Gibbon, Niall Ferguson and Robert D Kaplan, as well as lessons learnt from three decades as a leading industry advisor, Clarke challenges current assumptions about the future of oil. The result is a blast of fresh intellectual air that forces a radical reappraisal of the role of the commodity that shapes our lives, for better or for worse.* Michael Holman, former Africa editor, Financial Times

*'this book's strength is the author's willingness to fearlessly present views that run counter to what is currently deemed politically correct.'* African Business Magazine

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*'Such a welcome addition to what has largely been a one-sided debate outside of energy industry circles. Clarke, well known as a leading corporate strategist within the industry, is well equipped to provide a clearly reasoned and balanced response to the gloom and doom predicted by peak oilers...Clarke's book may be the best overview of the lobby written by either friend or foe...an optimistic alternative to peak oil Cassandras.'* Petroleum Africa

*'A must-read antidote to the gloom and doom conclusions of oil scarcity...effectively undermines the validity of the theory of Peak Oil and comprehensively demolishes the arguments of its proponents.'* Peter R. Odell, Professor Emeritus, Erasmus University, Rotterdam

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