

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910141117103321
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Titolo	Handbook on Monitoring and Evaluation of Human Resources for Health : With Special Applications for Low- and Middle-income Countries
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Geneva, : World Health Organization, 2009
ISBN	9789240687219 9240687211
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (195 p.)
Altri autori (Persone)	GuptaN QuainE
Disciplina	300 600
Soggetti	Developing Countries Health Manpower -- organization & administration Health Personnel -- organization & administration Health Personnel -- statistics & numerical data Medical care -- Needs assessment Personnel Management Public health administration Public health personnel World health Medical personnel Qualitative research Health Care Facilities Workforce and Services International Cooperation Organization and Administration Occupational Groups Health Resources Delivery of Health Care Health Services Administration Internationality Persons Named Groups Health Care Quality, Access, and Evaluation Social Sciences Anthropology, Education, Sociology and Social Phenomena Health Personnel Health Workforce Developing countries

Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di contenuto	Book Cover; Title; Copyright; Contents; List of tables, figures and boxes; Preface; Acknowledgements; List of contributors; Acronyms and abbreviations; Part I: Overview; Part II: Monitoring the stages of the working lifespan; Part III: Measurement strategies and case studies; Part IV: Data dissemination and use; Index
Sommario/riassunto	In many countries shortage and maldistribution of trained health workers is one of the most important constraints to strengthening the delivery of primary and other health services including curative promotional preventive and rehabilitative services. At the same time many countries currently lack the technical capacity to accurately monitor their own health workforce: data are often unreliable and out-of-date common definitions and proven analytical tools are absent skills and experience for assessing crucial policy issues are lacking. This Handbook aims to strengthen that technical capacity.