

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910297039603321
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Titolo	Poverty reduction strategies : a comparative study applied to empirical research // Philipp Albert Theodor Kircher
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Bern, : Peter Lang International Academic Publishing Group, 2018 Frankfurt am Main, Germany : , : Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies, , 2002
ISBN	3-631-75366-7
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (290)
Collana	Goettinger Studien zur Entwicklungsoekonomik / Goettingen Studies in Development Economics.
Disciplina	339.46
Soggetti	Poverty Poor
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	Cover -- LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS -- LIST OF FIGURES -- LIST OF TABLES -- LIST OF ANNEXES -- 1. Introduction -- 1.1. Aim of the Analysis -- 1.2. Examination Procedure -- 1.3. Strategies Reviewed in the Analysis -- 1.4. The Role of Poverty Reduction: Poverty Reduction vs. Other Developmental Goals -- 2. Poverty Reduction as Focal Point of Development Cooperation: The International Consensus -- 2.1. The Evolution Towards the Current Consensus -- 2.1.1. Overview -- 2.1.2. Growth -- 2.1.3. Redistribution with Growth -- 2.1.4. Basic Needs Approach -- 2.1.5. Free Market Forces -- 2.2. Today's Understanding of Poverty Reduction -- 2.3. Poverty Definitions beyond Monetary Income -- 2.3.1. Conceptual Dimensions of Poverty Definitions -- 2.3.2. The Current Poverty Definition -- 2.3.3. International Development Targets -- 2.4. The Domestic Framework for Poverty Reduction -- 2.4.1. Economic Framework -- 2.4.1.1. Growth and Equality -- 2.4.1.2. The Economic Incentive System -- 2.4.1.3. Creating Economic Opportunities -- 2.4.1.3.1. Poor People's Assets -- 2.4.1.3.2. Access to Markets -- 2.4.1.4. Excursion into Infrastructure Investment -- 2.4.2. Necessary Political Condition -- 2.4.2.1. Linkages Between Political Conditions and Economic Issues -- 2.4.2.2. Empowerment -- 2.4.2.2.1. Human Rights and Equality -- 2.4.2.2.2. Participation --

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Sommario/riassunto

Poverty remains one of the greatest problems of our time, causing starvation and humiliation in poor countries and contributing to problems of conflict, migration and environmental degradation affecting also richer countries. This study provides a systematical analysis of today's donor strategies for development cooperation, which unite around the goal of poverty reduction. The most recent strategies of the World Bank and the German, British and Swedish official development agencies are compared and evaluated. Their broad consensus on goals and conceptual elements is comprehensively presented. Differences in accentuations regarding beneficiaries and implementation methods are highlighted. An empirical study of the poverty focus in project evaluations of the German Financial Cooperation rounds off the analysis by exemplarily pointing at the

practical implications of the new strategies.
