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4: Surviving in the City; Introduction; Framing urban livelihoods; Household livelihood strategies; Wider social networks of the urban poor; Urban governance and the social assets of the poor; Conclusion; Chapter 5: Urban Politics; Introduction; Democratization, decentralization, rights and regime change; Forms of democracy Actors, power relationships and political practices Conclusion; Chapter 6: Urban Government; New opportunities for responsive city government; Constraints on city government; Generating and managing the financial resources; Responsive city government; Conclusions; Chapter 7: Civil Society Organizations; Introduction; Civil society and urban development; The extent of civil society organizations in the ten cities; Civil society and poverty reduction; The constraints facing civil society; Conclusion; Chapter 8: Regulating the Informal Sector; The importance of the informal sector Background to the informal sector The role of city government in enhancing and protecting the assets of the poor in the informal sector; Regulation of the informal sector; The stories from the cities; Emerging themes; Concluding remarks; Chapter 9: Accessing Land and Services; The challenge; Inadequacies in provision; Gaining access; Access and the nature of urban governance; Conclusions; Chapter 10: Conclusions; City comparisons; Some conclusions on the key research questions; Some implications for policy and governance; Directions for further research; Annex 1: Research Methodology Annex 2: Urban Governance, Partnerships and Poverty Research Working Papers References; Index

Sommario/riassunto

Poverty and governance are both issues high on the agenda of international agencies and governments in the South. With urban areas accounting for a steadily growing share of the world's poor people, an international team of researchers focused their attention on the hitherto little-studied relationship between urban governance and urban poverty. In their timely and in-depth examination of ten cities in Africa, Asia and Latin America, they demonstrate that in many countries the global trends towards decentralization and democratization offer new opportunities for the poor to have an influence on
