

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910453836203321
Titolo	Language planning and policy in Asia . Volume 1 Japan, Nepal, Taiwan and Chinese characters [[electronic resource] /] / edited by Robert B. Kaplan and Richard B. Baldauf Jr
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Bristol, UK ; ; Buffalo, NY, : Multilingual Matters, c2008
ISBN	1-281-87849-9 9786611878498 1-84769-096-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (307 p.)
Collana	Language planning and policy Language planning and policy in Asia ; ; v. 1
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Disciplina	306.44/95
Soggetti	Language planning - Asia Language policy - Asia Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Series Overview -- Language Policy and Planning in Chinese Characters, Japan, Nepal and Taiwan: Some Common Issues -- Chinese Character Modernisation in the Digital Era: A Historical Perspective -- Japan: Language Planning and Policy in Transition -- The Language Situation in Nepal -- The Language Situation in Nepal: An Update -- The Language Planning Situation in Taiwan -- The Language Planning Situation in Taiwan: An Update -- Biographical Notes on Contributors
Sommario/riassunto	This volume covers the language situation in Japan, Nepal and Taiwan, as well as the modernisation of Chinese characters in China, explaining the linguistic diversity, the historical and political contexts and the current language situation, including language-in-education planning, the role of the media, the role of religion, and the roles of non-indigenous languages. Two of the authors are indigenous and the other two have been participants in the language planning context in these countries. The purpose of the volumes in this series is to present up-

to-date information on polities that are not well known to researchers in the field. A longer range purpose is to collect comparable information on as many polities as possible in order to facilitate the development of a richer theory to guide language policy and planning in other polities that undertake the development of a national policy on languages. This volume is part of an areal series which is committed to providing descriptions of language planning and policy in countries around the world.
