Record Nr. UNINA9910457239703321 Autore Donaldson John A. <1970-> Titolo Small works [[electronic resource]]: poverty and economic development in southwestern China / / John A. Donaldson Ithaca,: Cornell University Press, 2011 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-8014-6278-9 0-8014-6277-0 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (237 p.) Disciplina 339.4/6095134 Soggetti Poverty - China - Yunnan Sheng Poverty - China - Guizhou Sheng Economic development - China - Yunnan Sheng Economic development - China - Guizhou Sheng Electronic books. Yunnan Sheng (China) Economic conditions Guizhou Sheng (China) Economic conditions Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Guizhou and Yunnan in comparison -- Why do similar areas adopt different developmental strategies? -- Roads : building connections to markets -- Migration : go east, young man (and woman) -- Tourism : joyous village life -- Coal mining: black gold -- Conclusion: the micro-oriented state, development, and poverty. Sommario/riassunto How can policymakers effectively reduce poverty? Most mainstream economists advocate promoting economic growth, on the grounds that it generally reduces poverty while bringing other economic benefits. However, this dominant hypothesis offers few alternatives for economies that are unable to grow, or in places where economic

growth fails to reduce or actually exacerbates poverty. In Small Works, John A. Donaldson draws on his extensive fieldwork in two Chinese provinces-Yunnan and Guizhou-that are exceptions to the purported relationship between economic growth and poverty reduction. In

Yunnan, an outward-oriented developmental state, one that focuses on large-scale, urban development, has largely failed to reduce poverty,

even though it succeeded in stimulating economic growth. Provincial policy shaped roads, tourism, and mining in ways that often precluded participation by poor people. By contrast, Guizhou is a micro-oriented state, one that promotes small-scale, low-skill economic opportunities-and so reduces poverty despite slow economic growth. It is no coincidence that this Guizhou approach parallels the ideas encapsulated in the "scientific development view" of China's current president Hu Jintao. After all, Hu, when Guizhou's leader, helped establish the micro-oriented state in the province. Donaldson's conclusions have implications for our understanding of development and poverty reduction, economic change in China, and the thinking behind China's policy decisions.