

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910460467703321
Autore	Suhardiman Diana <1973->
Titolo	Bureaucracy and development : reflections from the Indonesian water sector // Diana Suhardiman
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Singapore : , : Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, , 2015
ISBN	981-4459-71-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (292 p.)
Disciplina	303.6909174927
Soggetti	Irrigation - Government policy - Indonesia Irrigation - Indonesia - Management Water - Distribution - Management 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 and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- CONTENTS -- LIST OF FIGURES -- LIST OF TABLES -- GLOSSARY -- 1. Introduction -- 2. The Indonesian State in Transition -- 3. The Irrigation Agency's Contested Bureaucratic Identity -- 4. IMT in Indonesia: A Changing Policy Game -- 5. The Struggle on the Principles of IMT under the WATSAL Programme -- 6. Regional Governments and IMT Policies -- 7. IMT and Water Distribution Practices in the Kulon Progo District -- 8. Conclusions -- REFERENCES -- INDEX -- ABOUT THE AUTHOR
Sommario/riassunto	The fall of the New Order government in 1998 and the political reform that followed posed substantial challenges for Indonesia's bureaucracy to continue fulfilling its mandate. This book analyses the process of bureaucratic reform in the irrigation sector. Using Irrigation Management Transfer policy as the entry point for analysis, it documents and analyses the irrigation bureaucracy's ability to sustain its power and prominence in the sector's development, amidst and against national and international pressures for reform. The book argues that bureaucratic reform in the irrigation sector, rather than attempting to change the bureaucracy's functioning in the image of national and global (good) governance perspectives and priorities, should instead focus on linking the irrigation bureaucracy's everyday

practice more effectively with farmers' needs and aspirations. Reform efforts of the past decades show that Indonesia's irrigation sector development cannot be redirected without the irrigation bureaucracy's knowledge, experience and cooperation, and without strengthening its downward accountability to farmer-irrigators.

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