

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910463675803321
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Titolo	Cyclical patterns of government expenditures in Sub-Saharan Africa [[electronic resource] ] : facts and factors // Victor Lledo, Irene Yackovlev and Lucie Gadenne
Pubbl/distr/stampa	[Washington, D.C.], : International Monetary Fund, African Department, c2009
ISBN	1-4623-3658-2 1-282-84461-X 1-4518-7419-7 1-4527-6922-2 9786612844614
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (53 p.)
Collana	IMF working paper ; ; WP/09/274
Altri autori (Persone)	YackovlevIrene GadenneLucie
Soggetti	Fiscal policy - Africa, Sub-Saharan Finance, Public - Africa, Sub-Saharan Electronic books. Africa, Sub-Saharan Economic policy
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	"November 2009."
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Nota di contenuto	Cover Page; Title Page; Copyright Page; Contents; I. Introduction; 1. Evolution of the fiscal balance in sub-Saharan Africa, current and past cycles; 1. Number of sub-Saharan African countries satisfying various macroeconomic performance and institutional quality criterial by decade; II. Literature Review; III. Empirical Strategy; A. Empirical Model and Identification; B. Data, Measurement, and Specification; IV. Results; A. Key Facts; 2. Cyclical properties of government spending, 1970-2008; 3. Robustness checks, system-GMM estimates and additional controls 4. Cyclical properties of government spending by decade B. Factors; 5. Political factors, impact on procyclicality, 1970-2008; 6. Financing constraints, impact on procyclicality, 1970-2008; 7. Macroeconomic stability and fiscal space, impact on procyclicality, 1970-2008; 8. How

can we explain the evolution of procyclicality over time in sub-Saharan Africa?; V. Conclusions and Policy Implications; Appendix; References; Footnotes

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Sommario/riassunto

This paper documents cyclical patterns of government expenditures in sub-Saharan Africa since 1970 and explains variation between countries and over time. Controlling for endogeneity, it finds government expenditures to be slightly more procyclical in sub-Saharan Africa than in other developing countries and some evidence that procyclicality in Africa has declined in recent years after a period of sharp increase through the 1990's. Greater fiscal space, proxied by lower external debt, and better access to concessional financing, proxied by larger aid flows, seem to be important factors

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