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Nota di contenuto	Contents; Abbreviations; Acknowledgments; Foreword; Executive Summary; Chairperson's Summary: Committee on Development Effectiveness (CODE); 1 Introduction; 2 World Bank Lending for Rural Electrification; Figure 2.1 A Growing Number of Rural Electrification Projects Are in Latin America and Sub-Saharan Africa; Figure 2.2 Increased Energy Supply and Institutional Development Account for the Largest Share of Objectives; Figure 2.3 Gender Issues Are Increasingly Taken into Account but Still Affect the Design of Only a Minority of Energy Projects; 3 Who Benefits from Rural Electrification? Figure 3.1 Pattern of Electrification Favors the Non-Poor, but This Bias Generally Reduces over Time as Electrification Coverage ExpandsFigure 3.2 Share of Poor of On-Grid Electricity Consumption Is Low; Box 3.1 Successful RE through a Multisectoral CDD Project; Box 3.2 Selection of Projects under the Peru Rural Electrification Project; Box 3.3 Chile Rural Electrification Fund; Figure 3.3 A Large Proportion of Households Connect to the Grid Immediately after It Becomes Available . . . But Some Remain Unconnected after Many Years Table 3.1 Relative Price of Grid, Off-Grid, and Kerosene (/kWh) for

Selected CountriesBox 3.4 India's Experience with the Single Point Light Connection Scheme: Kutir Jyoti; Box 3.5 Overcoming the Connection Cost Barrier; Box 3.6 Poor Communication of Tariff Structures Can Disadvantage the Poor; 4 What Is Electricity Used for in Rural Areas?; Figure 4.1 The Energy Ladder; Figure 4.2 Nearly All Projects Provide Residential Connections, but also Other Connections for Productive Purposes; Box 4.1 The Cold Chain; Figure 4.3 Pattern of Consumption in Rural Households (Distribution Total kWh)  
Box 4.2 Electrification and Worker Absenteeism in the Social Sector5 The Benefits of Rural Electrification; Box 5.1 Shedding Light on Lumens; Figure 5.1 Consumer Surplus; Figure 5.2 Producer Surplus; Table 5.1 Willingness to Pay Calculation for Lighting; Table 5.2 Willingness to Pay Calculation for TV; Box 5.2 The Health Risk of Candles; Table 5.3 Fertility Impact of Electrification; Table 5.4 Hours Watching TV by Electrification Status; Box 5.3 Micro Home Enterprises; Table 5.5 Rural Electrification Benefits (US per Household per Month); Figure 5.3 Willingness to Pay Exceeds Supply Cost  
Box 5.4 Technical Problems Reduce the Benefits from Off-Grid Investments6 Conclusion and Lessons Learned; Appendixes; Endnotes; Bibliography

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#### Sommario/riassunto

Rural electrification can have many benefits-not only bringing lighting, but improving the quality of health care, spreading information and supporting productive enterprises. The extent of these benefits has been questioned, arguing that they may be insufficient to justify the investment costs. This book quantifies these benefits. It finds that the benefits can indeed be high, substantially outweighing the costs, and that consumer willingness to pay is generally sufficient to achieve financial sustainability. However, benefits could be increased further by providing smart subsidies to assist

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