

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910746288203321
Titolo	Public policies and sustainable development in post-reform India : regional responses and the way forward // Mukunda Mishra, Subrata Saha, Madhabendra Sinha, editors
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Singapore : , : Springer, , 2023 ©2023
ISBN	981-9936-96-9
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xxxvi, 408 pages) : illustrations
Collana	New Frontiers in Regional Science: Asian Perspectives Series
Altri autori (Persone)	MishraMukunda SahaSubrata SinhaMadhabendra
Disciplina	338.95407
Soggetti	Regional disparities - India Sustainable development - India India Economic policy 1991-2016 India Economic policy 2016-
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	Intro -- Foreword -- Preface -- Acknowledgments -- Disclaimer -- Contents -- Editors and Contributors -- Abbreviations -- List of Figures -- List of Tables -- Part I: Economic Reforms, Public Policy Moderations and Sustainability -- Chapter 1: Contextualizing the 1990s' Economic Reforms in India: A Politico-Economic Narrative -- 1.1 Introduction -- 1.2 Departure from the Nehruvian Legacy (1965-1991) -- 1.3 The Economic Reform in 1991: Expectations and Realities -- 1.4 Bringing Efficiency for Politico-Economic Leadership in South Asia -- 1.5 Conclusion -- References -- Chapter 2: Green Economy, Sociopolitical and Environmental Implications of Institutional Participatory Governance -- 2.1 Introduction -- 2.2 Green Economic Implications -- 2.3 Social Implications -- 2.4 Environmental Implications -- 2.5 Conclusion -- References -- Chapter 3: Democracy, Governance, and Public Policy: The Trio for Ensuring India Towards Sustainable Development Agendas -- 3.1 Introduction -- 3.2 Research Questions and Methods -- 3.3 Democracy -- 3.4 Governance -- 3.5

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Sommario/riassunto

This book portrays India as a representative of post-colonial democratic republic states with a parliamentary form of federal-structured government and analyzes the critical challenges faced by such states in generating broadly shared economic well-being and quality of life. The reader is shown how creating and utilizing physical, human, financial, and social assets under the aegis of public policies help achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to provide a global framework to move toward a more equitable, peaceful, resilient, and prosperous society by 2030. It not only addresses how the states capacity has long been linked to the available economic resources, but also unfolds how the political system thus evolves to crucially determine the capacity of the state to implement its programs. The chapters of this book are particularly focused on judging the states capacity amid the neo-liberal ascendancy that has been triggered by the opening up of both the domestic and external economy, significantly initiated since 1991 and popularly known as the economic reforms in India. Examined here is the potency of the public policies of the country in fulfilling the sustainable development agendas, the specificity of which places the state at the heart of its execution, unlike many other versions of development that would be executed in parallel with or without states action. This work book has three principal foci facets within the broad swath of discussions covered by different chapters: (1) It critically examines how successful remains the public policies in mobilizing the population is mobilized to the next orbit of income, employment, education, and health consequent to amid the existing considerable magnitude of social and economic inequalities while achieving equity has always been the declared agenda in the post-reform public policy frameworks; (2) It traces the rationality of the transformation of the public policies and welfare strategies during the post-reform period in terms of motives, goals, and coverage to achieve the SDGs; and, (3) It reviews specific post-reform policies in terms of their potency to stimulate the system in addressing sustainable development. and upholding the states dominant and structuring intervention to resolve the existing inequalities and ensure that society develops amidst a harmonious world reconciled with nature.

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