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Nota di contenuto	Preliminary Materials / Giorgio Blundo and Pierre-Yves Le Meur -- Introduction An Anthropology Of Everyday Governance: Collective Service Delivery And Subject-Making / Giorgio Blundo and Pierre-Yves Le Meur -- State Bureaucracy And Governance In Francophone West Africa: An Empirical Diagnosis And Historical Perspective / Jean-Pierre Olivier De Sardan -- 'Bad Governance' And The Persistence Of Alternative Political Arenas: A Study Of A Tanzanian Region / Felicitas Becker -- How Can The Local Level Exist? The Case Of The Decentralisation Of The Health System In Cameroon / Marc-Éric Gruénais , Raphaël Okalla and Eric Gouvrit -- Like Chameleons: Civil Servants And Corruption In Malawi / Gerhard Anders -- Urban Dwellers, Politicians And Dirt: An Anthropology Of Everyday Governance In Bobo-Dioulasso (Burkina Faso) / Jacky Bouju -- Ma-Slaan-Pa Dockets: Negotiations At The Boundary Between The Private And The Public / Julia C. Hornberger -- Liquid Waste Management In Urban And Rural Ghana: Privatisation As Governance? / Sjaak Van Der Geest and Nelson Obirih-Opareh -- Reclaiming Politics In The Bureaucratic Space Of A Burundian Refugee Camp In Tanzania / Simon Turner -- The

Politics Of Transferring And Managing Land In The 'New' South Africa / Wiebe Nauta -- Humanitarian Governance: Assisting Mauritanian Refugees In Senegal / Marion Fresia -- The Daily Governance Of Environmental Health: Gender Perspectives From Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania / Brigit Obrist Van Eeuwijk -- Public Goods And The Management Of Collective Infrastructure: The Case Of The Drinking-Water Supply Systems In The Maradi Region Of Niger / Mahaman Tidjani Alou -- Contributors / Giorgio Blundo and Pierre-Yves Le Meur -- Index / Giorgio Blundo and Pierre-Yves Le Meur.

Sommario/riassunto

Anchored in an empirically-grounded anthropology, this book explores the notion of governance in a non-normative way. It describes and analyses the institutional and political processes through which social actors and groups - be they state, private or 'third-sector' - contribute to the provision of public and collective goods or services. The book draws on case studies from Anglophone and Francophone Africa, crossing anthropological traditions that have too often evolved in parallel directions and dealing with a range of topics such as health, water supply, sanitation and waste management, security, humanitarian aid, land issues and decentralisation. Beyond African boundaries, it contributes to current debates about governmentality, public policy, subject making, public/private boundaries, and the role of the state.
