

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910780174803321
Titolo	Reforming social policy [[electronic resource] ] : changing perspectives on sustainable human development // editors Daniel A. Morales-Gomez, Necla Tschirgi, Jennifer L. Moher
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Ottawa, : International Development Research Centre, c2000
ISBN	1-280-71737-8 9786610717378 1-55250-047-0
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (170 p.)
Altri autori (Persone)	MoherJennifer L <1969-> (Jennifer Lori) Morales-GomezDaniel A TschirgiNecla Yongacoglu <1946->
Disciplina	361.61
Soggetti	Social policy Sustainable development Politique sociale Developpement durable Canada Social policy Ghana Social policy Chile Social policy Canada Politique sociale Ghana Politique sociale Chili Politique sociale
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: p. 151-160.
Nota di contenuto	Preface / Daniel A. Morales-Gomez -- Ch. 1. Introduction: the paradox of development / Necla Tschirgi -- Ch. 2. Ghana: social-policy reform in Africa / Ernest Aryeetey and Markus Goldstein -- Ch. 3. Chile: progress, problems, and prospects / Dagmar Raczynski -- Ch. 4. Canada: experience and lessons for the future / Terrance Hunsley -- Ch. 5. Conclusion: a research agenda for social-policy reform / Jennifer L. Moher -- Appendix 1: Acronyms and abbreviations -- Appendix 2: Contributing authors -- Bibliography.

## Sommario/riassunto

The 20th century has been a remarkable age of material advancement and sociopolitical transformation. In all parts of the world, people have witnessed profound changes in their conditions of life: infant mortality rates and adult illiteracy have dropped as dramatically as primary school enrollment and life expectancy have increased. Nevertheless, despite unprecedented material progress, basic education, health care, housing, and social protection remain insufficient for the majority of the world's population. In developed and developing countries alike, governments are re-evaluating their soci

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