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Foreign exchange
Public debt
Credit bureaus
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Nota di contenuto	Cover; Contents; Foreword; Preface; Contributors; Abbreviations; PART I: INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY; 1 The Eastern Caribbean Economic and Currency Union: Overview and Key Issues; PART II: THE SETTING; 2 The Economic, Social, and Political Setting; 3 Economic Integration and the Institutional Setup of the OECS/ECCU; PART III: GROWTH ISSUES; 4 Economic Growth; PART IV: FISCAL POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION; 5 Public Debt; 6 Enhancing Fiscal Revenue; 7 Public Expenditure Rationalization; 8 Fiscal Multipliers; 9 Experiences with Sovereign Debt Restructuring: Case Studies from the OECS/ECCU and Beyond PART V: FINANCIAL SECTOR 10 The Banking Sector; 11 Credit Unions: Prospects and Challenges; 12 The Insurance Sector and the Collapse of CL Financial; 13 Capital Markets: An Example of a Regional Market; 14 Offshore Financial Centers: To Be or Not to Be?; PART VI: MONETARY AND EXCHANGE RATE ISSUES; 15 The Role of the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank; 16 The Optimal Exchange Rate Regime in the OECS/ECCU: A Medium-Term View; PART VII: EXTERNAL SECTOR; 17 External Competitiveness; PART VIII: THE ROLE OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR; 18 Impediments to Developing the Private Sector PART IX: MACROECONOMIC STATISTICS 19 Macroeconomic Statistics for Policymaking; Index;
Sommario/riassunto	The Eastern Caribbean Economic and Currency Union (OECS/ECCU) is one of four currency unions in the world. As in other parts of the world in the aftermath of the global economic and financial crisis, the region is at a crossroads, facing the major challenges of creating jobs, making growth more inclusive, reforming the banking system, and managing volatility, while grappling with high public debt and persistent low economic growth. Policymakers have the critical task of implementing strong reforms to strengthen the monetary union while also laying the foundation for accelerating growth. This Handbook provides a

comprehensive analysis of the key issues in the OECS/ECCU, including its organization and economic and financial sector linkages, and provides policy recommendations to foster economic growth.
