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| 1. Record Nr. | UNINA9910790701103321 |
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| Titolo | Social assistance in developing countries // Armando Barrientos, BWPI, University of Manchester [[electronic resource]] |
| Pubbl/distr/stampa | Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2013 |
| ISBN | 1-139-89290-8 1-107-42485-2 1-107-42281-7 1-107-56260-0 1-107-41712-0 1-107-42086-5 1-139-85605-7 1-107-41969-7 1-107-41835-6 |
| Descrizione fisica | 1 online resource (xiii, 256 pages) : digital, PDF file(s) |
| Disciplina | 362.5/82091724 |
| Soggetti | Transfer payments - Developing countries Public welfare - Developing countries Poverty - Developing countries |
| Lingua di pubblicazione | Inglese |
| Formato | Materiale a stampa |
| Livello bibliografico | Monografia |
| Note generali | Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015). |
| Nota di bibliografia | Includes bibliographical references and index. |
| Nota di contenuto | pt. I. Introduction. The emergence of social assistance in developing countries -- pt. II. Foundations. Ethical foundations -- Poverty concepts and measures for social assistance -- Optimal anti-poverty transfers -- pt. III. Practice. Anti-poverty transfers in practice -- Incidence, implementation and impact -- Budgets, finance and politics -- pt. IV. Conclusion. The future of social assistance in developing countries. |
| Sommario/riassunto | The rapid spread of large-scale and innovative social transfers in the developing world has made a key contribution to the significant reduction in global poverty over the last decade. Explaining how flagship anti-poverty programmes emerged, this book provides the first comprehensive account of the global growth of social assistance |

transfers in developing countries. Armando Barrientos begins by focusing on the ethical and conceptual foundations of social assistance, and he discusses the justifications for assisting those in poverty. He provides a primer on poverty analysis, and introduces readers to the theory of optimal transfers. He then shifts the focus to practice, and introduces a classification of social assistance programmes to help readers understand the diversity in approaches and design in developing countries. The book concludes with an analysis of the financing and politics of the emerging institutions and of their potential to address global poverty.
