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Nota di contenuto	Cover; Contents; Foreword; Acknowledgments; PART I: TRENDS IN INCOME INEQUALITY AND THE REDISTRIBUTIVE ROLE OF FISCAL POLICY; 1 Fiscal Policy and Income Inequality: An Overview; 2 The IMF and Income Distribution; 3 Inequality and Fiscal Redistribution in Advanced Economies; 4 Fiscal Redistribution in Developing Countries: Overview of

Policy Issues and Options; 5 Poverty and Distribution: Thirty Years Ago and Now; PART II: ALTERNATIVE MEASURES OF INEQUALITY AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR FISCAL POLICY; 6 Functional Income Distribution and Its Role in Explaining Inequality
7 The Wealth of Nations: Stylized Facts and Options for TaxationPART III: FISCAL CONSOLIDATION AND INCOME INEQUALITY; 8 Fiscal Consolidation and Inequality in Advanced Economies: How Robust Is the Link?; 9 Fiscal Consolidation and Income Inequality; PART IV: TAX POLICY AND INEQUALITY; 10 International Corporate Tax Spillovers and Redistributive Policies in Developing Countries; 11 Taxing Immovable Property: Revenue Potential and Implementation Challenges; 12 Targeting and Indirect Tax Design; 13 Carbon Tax Burdens on Low-Income Households: A Reason for Delaying Climate Policy?
PART V: EXPENDITURE POLICY AND INEQUALITY14 The Unequal Benefits of Fuel Subsidies Revisited: Evidence for Developing Countries; 15 Equity Considerations in the Design of Public Pension Systems; 16 The Redistributive Impact of Government Spending on Education and Health: Evidence from Thirteen Developing Countries in the Commitment to Equity Project; 17 Income Inequality, Fiscal Decentralization, and Transfer Dependency; PART VI COUNTRY CASE STUDIES; 18 Reinventing the Dutch Tax-Benefit System: Exploring the Frontier of the Equity-Efficiency Trade-Off
19 Growing (Un)equal: Fiscal Policy and Income Inequality in China and BRIC+20 The Quest for the Holy Grail: Efficient and Equitable Fiscal Consolidation in India; 21 A Path to Equitable Fiscal Consolidation in the Republic of Congo; 22 Fiscal Adjustment and Income Inequality in Brazilian States; Contributors; Index; A; B; C; D; E; F; G; H; I; J; K; L; M; N; O; P; R; S; T; U; V; W

Sommario/riassunto

The sizeable increase in income inequality experienced in advanced economies and many parts of the world since the 1990s and the severe consequences of the global economic and financial crisis have brought distributional issues to the top of the policy agenda. The challenge for many governments is to address concerns over rising inequality while simultaneously promoting economic efficiency and more robust economic growth. The book delves into this discussion by analyzing fiscal policy and its link with inequality. Fiscal policy is the government's most powerful tool for addressing inequality. It affects households' consumption directly (through taxes and transfers) and indirectly (via incentives for work and production and the provision of public goods and individual services such as education and health). An important message of the book is that growth and equity are not necessarily at odds; with the appropriate mix of policy instruments and careful policy design, countries can in many cases achieve better distributional outcomes and improve economic efficiency. Country studies (on the Netherlands, China, India, Republic of Congo, and Brazil) demonstrate the diversity of challenges across countries and their differing capacity to use fiscal policy for redistribution. The analysis presented in the book builds on and extends work done at the IMF, and also includes contributions from leading academics.
