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Nota di contenuto	Contents; Introduction; 1. Background and Questions; 1.1. Township government and "sannong issues"; 1.2. Township government in the governmental system; 1.3. Township government and " state-society relationship"; 2. The Analytical Framework of Institution of Township Government; 2.1. The institutional dissimilation of grassroots government; 2.2. Reform and governmental involution; 2.3. Institutionalization of government; 3. Structure of the Book; Chapter 1 Progress of Township Governance Studies; 1.1. Policy Description and Comment; 1.1.1. Policy tracking; 1.1.2. Process of reform 1.1.2.1. First, merger of township and town1.1.2.2. Second, restructure administration and decentralization; 1.1.2.3. Third, separation between the function of party and government; 1.1.2.4. Fourth, separation between the functions of government and enterprise; 1.1.3. Comprehensive rural reforms; 1.2. Research Review; 1.2.1. Domestic research; 1.2.1.1. First, reformation of township finance and tax and fee; 1.2.1.1.1. Position of township government; 1.2.1.2. Second, governance of township sand villages; 1.2.2. International research; 1.2.2.1. First, course of development

1.2.2.2. Second, key questions
 1.2.2.2.1. Study of grassroots democracy; 1.2.2.2.2. Study of grassroots conflict; 1.2.2.2.3. Study of government governance; 1.2.2.2.4. Study of the operation of grassroots government; 1.2.2.2.5. Enlightenment to us; 1.2.3. Rethinking township research; 1.3. Research Design; 1.3.1. Theoretical framework; 1.3.1.1. First, from the point of relationship between grassroots government and society; 1.3.1.2. Second, interaction between government of upper level and grassroots government; 1.3.1.3. Third, township government itself; 1.3.2. Analytical path
 1.3.3. Research Methods
 1.3.4. Data sources; Chapter 2 Organizational and Personnel Structure; 2.1. Organizational Structure; 2.1.1. Township leadership; 2.1.2. Departmental structure; 2.1.3. Personnel and staff: A complex situation; 2.1.3.1. Bewildering staffing arrangements; 2.1.3.2. Complex personnel structure; 2.1.4. Township expansion; 2.1.4.1. Conclusion; 2.2. Institutional Reforms; 2.2.1. Institutional streamlining; 2.2.2. Township mergers; 2.2.3. Suggestions for Reforms; 2.2.3.1. Convert the township governments into county-level agencies
 2.2.3.2. Create conditions for implementing township self-government
 2.2.3.3. Continue to streamline; 2.2.3.4. Conclusion; 2.3. Shaping Government Forms; 2.3.1. Township government features; 2.3.2. Evolution path; 2.3.3. Organizational foundation; Chapter 3 Fiscal Standing and Debt Crisis; 3.1. Hard-Pressed Township Finances; 3.1.1. Financial systems; 3.1.2. Financial revenues; 3.1.3. Financial expenditures; 3.1.4. Salaries; 3.1.5. Tax reforms; 3.1.5.1. Conclusion; 3.2. Debt Chaos of Township Governments; 3.2.1. Extent and structure of the debts; 3.2.2. How the debts grew
 3.2.3. Effect of debts and prospects for their elimination

Sommario/riassunto

This unique volume takes a very different approach to township or xiangzhen governance. It explores the structural constraints on township governance and the way that these constraints influence the day-to-day behavior of Chinese rural grassroots government leaders. Based on thoroughgoing interviews with township and village cadres and villagers, the book depicts how individual actions affect and are affected by the underlying institutional arrangements and hence captures the dynamic micro functions of grassroots government as well as macro evolutions of overarching political institutions in C
