Record Nr. UNINA9910812625703321 Autore Gunnarsson Victoria Titolo Government Spending on Health Care and Education in Croatia:: Efficiency and Reform Options / / Victoria Gunnarsson, Etibar Jafarov Washington, D.C.:,: International Monetary Fund,, 2008 Pubbl/distr/stampa 1-4623-4772-X **ISBN** 1-4519-9031-6 9786612840883 1-4518-6995-9 1-282-84088-6 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (36 pages) : illustrations (some color) Collana **IMF** Working Papers IMF working paper; ; WP/08/136 Altri autori (Persone) JafarovEtibar Disciplina 362.1 Soggetti Medical care - Croatia - Finance Education - Croatia - Finance Analysis of Health Care Markets **Education spending** Education Education: General Expenditures, Public Health care spending Health care Health economics **Health Policy** Health systems & services Health Health: General Medical care National Government Expenditures and Education National Government Expenditures and Health Public finance & taxation Public Finance Croatia Appropriations and expenditures

Croatia, Republic of

Inglese

Lingua di pubblicazione

Formato

Livello bibliografico

Monografia

Note generali

Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph

Nota di bibliografia

Includes bibliographical references.

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Sommario/riassunto

This paper assesses the relative efficiency of government spending on health care and education in Croatia by using the so-called Data Envelopment Analysis. The analysis finds evidence of significant inefficiencies in Croatia's spending on health care and education, related to inadequate cost recovery, weaknesses in the financing mechanisms and institutional arrangements, weak competition in the provision of these services, and weaknesses in targeting public subsidies on health care and education. These inefficiencies suggest that government spending on health and education could be reduced without undue sacrifices in the quality of these services. The paper identifies ways to do that.