

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910818762903321
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Titolo	Does private sector participation improve performance in electricity and water distribution? // Katharina Gassner, Alexander Popov, Nataliya Pushak
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Washington, DC : , : World Bank : , : Public-Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility, , [2009] copyright 2009
ISBN	1-281-84586-8 9786611845865 0-8213-7717-5
Descrizione fisica	xv, 98 pages : illustrations ; ; 23 cm
Collana	Trends and policy options ; ; no. 6
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Disciplina	333.793/2
Soggetti	Public utilities - Management - Evaluation Electric utilities - Management Water utilities - Management Public-private sector cooperation
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	"Helping to eliminate poverty through private involvement in infrastructure."
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 87-91) and index.
Nota di contenuto	CONTENTS; FOREWORD; ACKNOWLEDGMENTS; ABOUT THE AUTHORS; ABBREVIATIONS; OVERVIEW; 1. INTRODUCTION; 2. EMPIRICAL LITERATURE; 3. SELECTION OF THE SAMPLE; FIGURE 3.1 Sample of PSP Cases and SOEs, by Sector; TABLE 3.1 Electricity Sample, by Region; FIGURE 3.2 Sample of PSP Cases for Electricity, by Type of Contract; FIGURE 3.3 Sample of PSP Cases for Water and Sanitation, by Type of Contract; TABLE 3.2 Water and Sanitation Sample, by Region; 4. EMPIRICAL METHODOLOGY; 5. EMPIRICAL RESULTS; TABLE 5.1 Effect of PSP on Performance: Selected Results TABLE 5.2 Effect of PSP on Performance: Results for All Impact Variables6. CONCLUSION; APPENDIXE A. Core Indicators; TABLE A.1 Description of Core Indicators; TABLE A.2 Utility-Year Observations, by Sector; TABLE A.3 Summary Statistics for Electricity; TABLE A.4

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Sommario/riassunto

This study examines the question of private versus public performance in a natural monopoly setting. It analyzes data from 301 utilities with private sector participation (PSP) and 926 utilities without PSP in 71 developing and transition economies to evaluate the impact of PSP on firm performance in electricity distribution and water and sanitation services. Private participation is shown to be associated with an increase in connections, labor productivity, and bill collection rates, and a decrease in employment and electricity distributional losses.
