

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910956284803321
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Titolo	China's pension system : : a vision / / Mark C. Dorfman, Robert Holzmann, and Philip O'Keefe
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Washington DC : , : World Bank, , 2012
ISBN	9780821395417 0821395416
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	pages cm
Collana	Directions in development
Altri autori (Persone)	HolzmannRobert O'KeefePhilip
Disciplina	331.25/20951
Soggetti	Pensions - Government policy - China Social security - China
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Contents; Preface and Acknowledgments; About the Authors; Abbreviations; Overview; Introduction; Motivations for Pension Reform; Pension System Design Proposal and Options; Tables; O.1 Summary of Proposed Pension Design (Architecture and Financing); Figures; O.1 Current and Proposed Urban Old-Age Insurance Design; Design Considerations; Implementation Issues and Options; Conclusion; Notes; China: A Vision for Pension Policy Reform; Introduction; Current and Future Trends Motivating Reform; 1 China Population Projections: Growth in the Aged and Dependency Ratios; Boxes 1 The Effect of the Minimum Retirement Age on Employment and Labor Markets 2 Projected Size and Composition of the Working-Age Population; Proposed Design; 3 Proposed Overall Design; 4 Primary Source of Support for Rural Elderly by Age; 1 Citizens' Social Pensions (CSP)-Proposed Parameters; 5 Stylized Example of Rural CSP Benefit Levels and Composition; 6 Indicative Cost Projections for Urban and Rural Citizens' Social Pensions; 2 Stylized Examples Comparing NRPS and CSP Benefits; 7 Comparison of Rates of Inflation, Wage Growth, and One-Year Term Deposits Interest Rates 8 Chinese Government Subsidies to Pensions, 2003-2007 9 Current Urban Old-Age Insurance and Proposed MORIS Design; 3 Comparison of Key Features of the Old-Age Insurance System and the Proposed

MORIS; 2 Benefit Calculation and Illustrative Examples for the Proposed MORIS; 3 Proposed Pensions for Civil Servants and Employees of Public Service Units; 4 Rural-Urban Migrants and Informal Sector Workers; 4 Voluntary Individual Retirement Insurance Scheme (VIRIS)-Key Parameters; 10 Stylized Example of Annuitized Monthly VIRIS Benefits Based on Different Contribution Histories  
5 Commonalities and Differences between the Proposed VIRIS Design and the NRPS and URPS6 Occupational and Personal Pension Arrangements; Financing Options; 7 Description of Pension Costs and Possible Financing; A Reform Process: Cross-Cutting Analysis and Institutional Reform Issues; Conclusion; 8 Summary of Proposed Design Parameters; Notes; References; Appendix A: Pension Needs for Nonwage Rural and Urban Citizens; Introduction; Rationale and Expectations; A.1 Measuring the Poverty of the Rural and Urban Elderly; A.1 Percentage of Poor Rural Households by Age of Household Head A.2 Trends of Population Aging in Rural and Urban China, 2008-2030A. 3 Old-Age Dependency Ratios in Rural and Urban China, 2008-2030; A.2 Primary Sources of Support for China's Elderly; A.4 Rural Saving Rates by Income Quintile; A.5 Pension Coverage Rate of Active Labor Force, Various Countries, Mid-2000s; A.6 Pension Coverage in OECD Countries; China's Experience with Rural Pensions; A.7 Coverage among the Economically Active Population, Latin America, 1990s-2000s; A.3 Rural Pension Indicators, 1993-2007  
A.4 Rates of Return on Accumulations and Bank Deposits versus Inflation Rate, Various Years

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#### Sommario/riassunto

Comprehensive reform of China's pension and social security system is an essential element of achieving its objectives of a harmonious society and sustainable development. Over the past few years, the Government has considered various options and initiated several significant measures. In 2009 the authorities established a national framework for rural pensions, the Rural Pension Pilot Program (RPPP) and in 2011 a Pilot Social Pension Insurance for Urban Residents announced. In this process, it has articulated principles for a reformed urban pension system (indicated by 12 Chinese characters )

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