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Access and Quality across Different Enterprises' Characteristics -- Private Sector Involvement and Independence of Rulemaking -- Role of Infrastructure Development in Fostering Investment in the Real Sector and in Regional Integration -- Policy Recommendations -- 5. Corporate Ownership, Financial Transparency, and Access to Finance -- Introduction -- Forms of Ownership -- Transparency and Accountability in Firm Finances -- Access to Finance -- Financial Transparency, Investment, and Growth -- Policy Recommendations -- Annex: Additional Analyses -- 6. Resolving Business Disputes in South Eastern Europe: The Role of the Courts -- Avoidance of Business Disputes -- Contract Enforcement in Court -- Firms' Use of the Courts. Perceptions of Court Performance by Court Users -- Judicial Corruption -- Policy Implications -- Statistical Annex -- Boxes -- 2.1 The European Charter for Small Enterprises -- 2.2 Challenges in Establishing a Working Bankruptcy Institution in Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina -- 2.3 Energy Problems and Setbacks for Reform in FYR Macedonia -- 2.4 Implementation Problems in Moldova -- 2.5 Water Challenges in Albania -- 2.6 Institutional Hurdles to Privatization in Bosnia and Herzegovina -- 2.7 Combating Corruption in Bulgaria through Public-Private Partnerships -- 2.8 Land Reform in Romania: Identifying and Tackling the Problems -- 3.1 Is Ownership Change Enough? -- 3.2 Variation in Number of Competitors -- 3.3 The "Home-Grown" Construction Sector in SEE -- 3.4 Market Dominance and Anticompetitive Pricing in SEE -- 3.5 Vertical Integration in the South Eastern European Food Processing and Retailing Sector -- 3.6 Weak Financial Discipline Delays the Exit of Loss-Makers and Distorts the Use of Capital -- 3.7 Brand Loyalty as a Barrier to Entry: The Case of Food Processing and Retailing -- 4.1 Uneven Playing Field in the Energy Sector -- 4.2 Utility Pricing -- 4.3 Electricity Crisis in Albania -- 4.4 Effect of Privatization on Infrastructure Business Users -- 4.5 Establishing a Competitive Mobile Market -- 4.6 Telecommunication Liberalization in the SEE8 -- 4.7 Preshipment Inspection in Moldova -- 4.8 Regional Energy Market -- 4.9 Regional Cooperation in Water Management -- 4.10 How Does EU Enlargement Affect Telecommunication Industries? -- 5.1 The Mixing of Social and Private Goals: State Ownership in Bosnia and Herzegovina -- 5.2 Postprivatization Concentration in Bulgaria -- 5.3 The Perils of Partial Privatization for a Croatian Firm -- 5.4 The Link between Accounting and Inspectorate Reforms in Moldova -- 5.5 Firm Skepticism of Audits in Albania. 5.6 The Pros and Cons of Barter in Croatia and Romania -- 5.7 Access to Formal Financing in Albania and FYR Macedonia -- 6.1 How Do Firms Avoid Business Disputes? -- 6.2 The Role of Business Associations in Resolving Commercial Disputes -- 6.3 Using Prepayment to Reduce Contractual Risk -- 6.4 Example of a Debt Collection Court Procedure -- 6.5 Which Firms Use the Courts? -- 6.6 How Are the Courts Perceived? -- 6.7 Disputes over Land Ownership -- 6.8 Resolving Payment Disputes with the Government -- Figures -- 1.1 Progress in the Transition of the SEE8: Small-Scale Privatization, Large-Scale Privatization, and Private Sector Share in Output -- 1.2 Registered Unemployment in the SEE8, 1994-2001 -- 1.3 Direction of Trade in the SEE8 -- 1.4 Inflows of Foreign Direct Investment in the SEE8, 1991-2003 -- 1.5 Institutional Development of the Business Sector and Foreign Direct Investment in the SEE8 -- 2.1 Aggregate Assessment of Institutional Barriers in the Business Environment in the SEE8, 1999 and 2002 -- 2.2 Institutional Progress in the SEE8, 1999 and 2002 -- 2.3 Changes in Average Employment by Enterprise Ownership, 1999-2002 -- 2.4 Firms with Subsidies and Arrears in the SEE8 under BEEPS1 and

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Sommario/riassunto

Building Market Institutions in South Eastern Europe, a collaborative effort of the World Bank and the EBRD, analyses the institutional impediments to investment and growth in eight SEE countries - Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, FYR Macedonia, Moldova, Romania, and Serbia and Montenegro - and suggests policy reforms to ease these constraints. The analysis focuses on four core issues: (i) Business competition and economic barriers to entry/exit, (ii) Access to regulated utilities and services, (iii) Corporate ownership, financial transparency and access to finance, and (iv) Commercial dispute resolution. These issues are investigated empirically across the SEE countries to allow for cross-country comparisons and to develop a regional perspective on corresponding policy challenges.
