Record Nr. UNINA9910970772703321

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Titolo International Evidence on Recovery from Recessions / / Valerie Cerra,

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Pubbl/distr/stampa Washington, D.C.:,: International Monetary Fund,, 2009

ISBN 9786612843938

Edizione [1st ed.]

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (32 p.)

Collana IMF Working Papers

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Disciplina 336.54

Soggetti Financial crises

Recessions Business cycles

Foreign exchange administration

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Foreign exchange

International economics
Macroeconomics
Public Finance
Short-term Capital Movements
United States

Lingua di pubblicazione

Inglese

Formato

Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico

Monografia

Note generali

"August 2009."

Nota di bibliografia

Includes bibliographical references.

Nota di contenuto

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Sommario/riassunto

Although negative shocks have persistent effects on output on average, this paper shows that macroeconomic policies and the structure of the economy can influence the speed of recovery and mitigate the persistence of the shock. Indeed, monetary and fiscal stimulus and foreign aid can spur a rebound, with impacts that are asymmetrically stronger than in nonrecovery years. Real depreciation and the exchange rate regime also have asymmetric growth effects in a recovery year relative to other years of expansion. Recoveries are more sluggish in open economies, partly because fiscal policy is less effective than in closed economies.