

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910973782303321
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Titolo	Reforming Government Subsidies in the New Member States of the European Union / / Alex Segura-Ubiego, Taline Koranchelian, Carlos Mulas-Granados
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Washington, D.C. : , : International Monetary Fund, , 2008
ISBN	9786612841163 9781462387076 1462387071 9781452761190 1452761191 9781282841161 1282841165 9781451870237 145187023X
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (41 p.)
Collana	IMF Working Papers IMF working paper ; ; WP/08/165
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Disciplina	338.9402
Soggetti	Subsidies - European Union countries Agribusiness Agricultural law Agricultural Policy Agricultural policy Agriculture and state Energy industries & utilities Energy subsidies Energy: Demand and Supply Expenditures, Public Food Policy Government subsidies Industry Studies: Transportation and Utilities: General Infrastructure International Trade Organizations Macroeconomics National Government Expenditures and Related Policies: General Prices Public finance & taxation

Public Finance
Saving and investment
Subsidies
Tariff
Tariffs
Taxation
Trade Policy
Transportation
Czech Republic

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

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Sommario/riassunto

Subsidy reform has been a key component of the pre-accession reform agenda of the 10 new member states that joined the EU in 2004 (EU-10). During the pre-accession period, these countries had to undertake a number of important structural reforms in their economies. One of the most critical reforms was to reduce, and in some cases, eliminate their subsidy programs. This paper analyzes how key subsidy reforms (in state aid to enterprises, agriculture, energy, and transportation)

were carried out in the EU-10 during 1995–2005, and explains observed variations across types of subsidies and across countries. Based on an extensive qualitative analysis, the paper draws lessons for future successful reforms of government subsidies. 32B.
