1. Record Nr. UNINA9910975071503321 Autore Tchakarov Ivan Titolo The Role of Interest Rates in Business Cycle Fluctuations in Emerging Market Countries:: The Case of Thailand // Ivan Tchakarov, Selim Elekdag Pubbl/distr/stampa Washington, D.C.:,: International Monetary Fund,, 2006 **ISBN** 9786613830692 9781462344765 1462344763 9781452715841 145271584X 9781283518246 1283518244 9781451909043 1451909047 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (24 p.) Collana **IMF** Working Papers Altri autori (Persone) ElekdagSelim Business cycles - Thailand - Econometric models Soggetti Foreign exchange rates - Thailand - Econometric models Interest rates - Thailand - Econometric models Accounting Banks and Banking Currency Emerging and frontier financial markets Exchange rate arrangements Exchange rate flexibility Finance Finance, Public

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**Public Administration** 

Public Sector Accounting and Audits Real interest rates United States

Lingua di pubblicazione

Inglese

**Formato** 

Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico

Monografia

Note generali

"May 2006."

Nota di bibliografia

Includes bibliographical references.

Nota di contenuto

""Contents""; ""I. INTRODUCTION""; ""II. INTEREST RATES AND BUSINESS CYCLES""; ""III. THE GLOBAL ECONOMY MODEL WITH THE FINANCIAL ACCELERATOR""; ""IV. THE EFFECTS OF A 1 PERCENT U.S. INTEREST RATE HIKE""; ""V. A REPEAT OF THE GLOBAL BOND MARKET ROUT OF 1994?""; ""VI. WHAT ROLE FOR MONETARY POLICY?""; ""VII.

CONCLUSION""; ""REFERENCES""

Sommario/riassunto

Emerging market countries have enjoyed an exceptionally favorable economic environment throughout 2004, 2005, and early 2006. In particular, accommodative U.S. monetary policy in recent years has helped create an environment of low interest rates in international capital markets. However, if world interest rates were to take a sudden upward course, this would lead to less hospitable financing conditions for emerging market countries. The purpose of this paper is to measure the effects of world interest rate shocks on real activity in Thailand. The analysis incorporates balance sheet related credit market frictions into the IMF's Global Economy Model (GEM) and finds that Thailand would best minimize the adverse effects of rising world interest rates if it were to follow a flexible exchange rate regime.