

Local Public, Fiscal and Financial Governance

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An International Perspective

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PREFACE

This book is a part of a two volume series on local governance: *Local Public Finance and Economics: An International Perspective* as volume 1 and *Local Public, Fiscal and Financial Governance: An International Perspective* as volume 2. This series is intended to serve as a comprehensive guide/reference for policymakers, practitioners, policy analysts and interested researchers, scholars and students in local public governance and local public finance and economics worldwide. The series would also be of interest to government officials, policymakers and public policy students internationally as it provides a comprehensive coverage of issues and presents a synthesis of lessons from worldwide experiences in local economic and fiscal governance. The series would also serve as useful reference books for undergraduate and graduate courses in public economics. The existing literature on local public finance and economics has typically a country-specific focus, mostly of an industrial country, for example, *State and Local Public Finance* by Ronald Fisher, published by Routledge in 2016, has a US focus. Also, the literature does not give special attention to local public governance issues. This series attempts to fill this void by providing a state-of-the-art synthesis of the academic literature and supplementing it with lessons of experience from both industrial and developing countries. The series further presents one of the most comprehensive treatments of local economic and fiscal governance issues. Some of the newer topics covered include neo-institutional perspectives on the role of local government, tax instruments for environmental protection, output-based intergovernmental transfers, fiscal rules and fiscal discipline, combating corruption, measuring, monitoring and evaluating local government

performance, municipal mergers, intermunicipal cooperation and political economy of local government reform. In view of this, we hope that this series would be of interest to a wider range of audience in both industrial and developing countries.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This book represents the knowledge gained from several decades of research and teaching local public economics to graduate and undergraduate students in Australia, China, Japan and North America. In addition, it captures the practical experiences of policy-makers and practitioners from industrial and developing countries gained through policy advice, senior policymakers and high-level executives' retreats, conferences, workshops, seminars and short courses. The authors are grateful to students, practitioners and policymakers around the globe for enriching their knowledge with the insights gained from these interactions.

The authors are also grateful to their families and the editors of Palgrave Macmillan for their support and encouragement for completion of this volume.

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With special contribution by:

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