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Corporate Social Responsibility and Regulatory Governance

Towards Inclusive Development?

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Peter Utting is Deputy Director at the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD), where he also co-ordinates the Markets, Business and Regulation Programme. He has published extensively in this area.

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About the book

The corporate social responsibility (CSR) movement has been instrumental in raising awareness that firms have responsibilities other than to their owners and 'the bottom line'. Yet despite all the talk about the importance of stakeholders, transparency, corporate citizenship and sustainability, the developmental and regulatory impacts of CSR remain highly questionable. With a new Foreword and Preface, this IPE Classic assesses the global rise of private regulation and CSR from the perspective of social and sustainable development. By adopting a multidisciplinary lens, it examines why the experience of CSR pales in comparison with the promise, what needs to be done to address 'the intellectual crisis' of CSR, and forms of corporate accountability and regulation more conducive to inclusive patterns of development.

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Reviews

"This timely and important collection addresses many of the critical shortcomings in conventional approaches to CSR by emphasizing issues of power and the role of regulatory governance in promoting corporate responsibility, and restraining acts of corporate irresponsibility." - Peter Newell, University of East Anglia, UK

"Historically informed, theoretically sophisticated and empirically grounded, this excellent volume brings together an interdisciplinary group of prominent authors to provide a piercing examination of the practices, potential and limitations of CSR." David L. Levy, University of Massachusetts Boston, USA

"Ongoing and recent crises have raised profound questions about the effectiveness and virtues of corporate social responsibility and deregulation. However, concerns about the difficulties and costs of developing adequate, appropriate and effective regulation continue to command attention. This volume sheds much light on these complex issues." - Jomo Kwame Sundaram, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development

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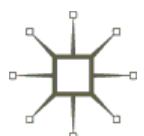
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