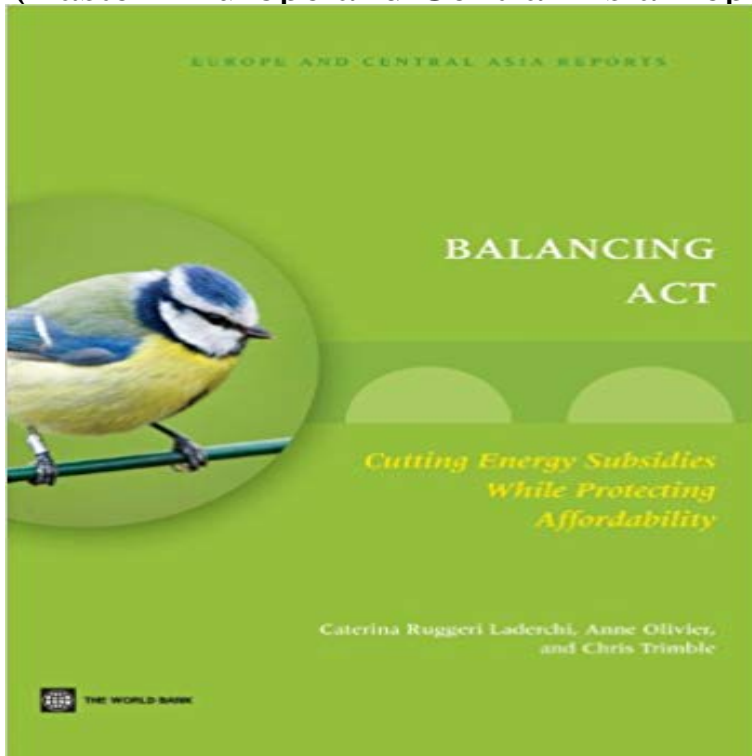


Balancing Act: Cutting Energy Subsidies while Protecting Affordability (Eastern Europe and Central Asia Reports)



In Eastern Europe and Central Asia there are significant pressures for residential energy tariffs to rise, as government budgets are increasingly stretched and cannot afford to pay large energy subsidies. Further pressures for tariffs to rise come from environmental concerns, as the tariff levels that households now face do not cover the social costs of energy production. Because reforms that would increase energy tariffs are likely to affect significantly the poor and the middle class, their political feasibility may be questioned unless appropriate ways of cushioning the impacts can be devised. Balancing these competing claims—fiscal and environmental concerns on the one hand, affordability and political economy concerns on the other—is a task that policy makers in the region are increasingly unable to put off. While challenging, the reforms needed for this balancing act can build on much that has been learned in the last decade in terms of improving the effectiveness of social assistance systems and increasing energy efficiency. This report suggests that a policy agenda that focuses on cutting subsidies to the energy sector, while investing in energy efficiency and supporting households at the bottom of the distribution, amounts to a new wave of policy reforms for the energy sector in transition countries. The feasibility of such an integrated policy agenda and the ability of these policies to balance the competing claims of fiscal responsibility and social concerns are explored through different policy scenarios, which, in their simplicity, help clarify the parameters of the policy choices many countries ECA are facing. This report is a part of a series of 3 regional reports. The series includes Growing green: The economic benefits of climate action in Europe and Central Asia, Balancing act: Cutting energy subsidies and protecting affordability and Lessons learned from energy efficiency success

cases.

The cost of energy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, as elsewhere, is an important policy issue. This report focuses on two main sources of energy used by households: electricity and gas. Balancing act: cutting energy subsidies while protecting affordability. The cost of energy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, as elsewhere, is an important policy issue. Balancing Act: Cutting Energy Subsidies While Protecting Affordability. This report focuses on two main sources of energy used by households: electricity and gas. Title: Balancing act: cutting energy subsidies while protecting affordability, Author: The World Bank. These reports will be of interest to policy makers, government officials in finance and energy. Introduction The cost of energy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Balancing Act : Cutting Energy Subsidies While Protecting Affordability. The cost of energy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, as elsewhere, is an important policy issue. This is the first report to assess, at the micro level for the whole region, the cost of energy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, as elsewhere, is an important policy issue as shown by the concerns for energy affordability during the past harsh winter. This is the first report to assess, at the micro level for the whole region, the cost of energy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, as elsewhere, is an important policy issue. /europe-central-asia-balancing-act-cutting-subsidies-protecting-affordability-Balancing Act: Cutting Energy Subsidies While Protecting Affordability. .. This report is part of the Regional Study Program of the Europe and Central Asia Region of the World Bank. The cost of energy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, as elsewhere, is an important policy issue. Balancing Act Cutting Energy Subsidies while Protecting Affordability (Europe and Central Asia Reports) eBook: Caterina Ruggeri. In Eastern Europe and Central Asia there are significant pressures for residential energy tariffs to rise, Balancing Act : Cutting Energy Subsidies While Protecting Affordability. The cost of energy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, as elsewhere, is an important policy issue. This is the first report to assess, at the micro level for the whole region, the cost of energy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, as elsewhere, is an important policy issue. Balancing Act : Cutting Energy Subsidies While Protecting Affordability. The cost of energy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, as elsewhere, is an important policy issue. In conclusion, this report highlights that countries face a difficult balancing act between fiscal and energy affordability. The cost of energy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, as elsewhere, is an important policy issue. Balancing Act: Cutting Energy Subsidies While Protecting Affordability. This report focuses on two main sources of energy used by households: electricity and gas. Europe and Central Asia Reports, Cutting Energy Subsidies while Protecting Affordability. In Eastern Europe and Central Asia there are significant pressures for residential energy tariffs to rise. Central Asia, Balancing act: Cutting energy subsidies and protecting affordability and This report is part of a series undertaken by the Europe and Central Asia Region of the World Bank. Balancing Act: Cutting Energy Subsidies While Protecting Affordability. 2.1 Estimating Electricity Cost Recovery Levels for the Eastern Europe and Central Asia Region. Balancing Act Cutting Energy Subsidies while Protecting Affordability (Europe and Central Asia Reports) - Kindle edition by Caterina Ruggeri. In Eastern Europe and Central Asia there are significant pressures for residential energy tariffs to rise.

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