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CASH TRANSFERS IN CONTEXT

An Anthropological Perspective

Edited by Jean-Pierre Olivier de Sardan and Emmanuelle Piccoli

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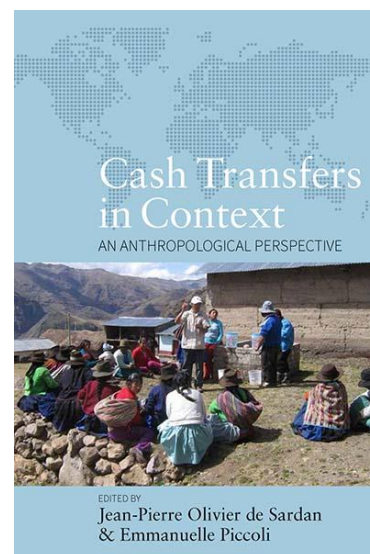
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"This book – the first collection of its kind – will make an important contribution to the literature on cash transfer programs. Many of the chapters are written by practitioners with in-depth knowledge of the communities they write about which brings an on-the-ground perspective that is often missing from the literature." • **Linda Abarbanell**, San Diego State University

Marginal in status a decade ago, cash transfer programs have become the preferred channel for delivering emergency aid or tackling poverty in low-and middle-income countries. While these programs have had positive effects, they are typical of top-down development interventions in that they impose on local contexts standardized norms and procedures regarding conditionality, targeting, and delivery. This book sheds light on the crucial importance of these contexts and the many unpredicted consequences of cash transfer programs worldwide - detailing how the latter are used by actors to pursue their own strategies, and how external norms are reinterpreted, circumvented, and contested by local populations.

Jean-Pierre Olivier de Sardan is Professor of Anthropology at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales and Emeritus Director of Research at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (both in France).

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