Acknowledgment

This handbook brings together the most current research efforts of a diverse group of scholars and practitioners in the social sciences who are seized by the governance imperatives of the post-development era to reframe old debates or propose new questions and answers in the areas of public policy, public management, public governance and local (economic) development. Importantly what makes this handbook avant-garde is the character of the discourse it initiates which is problematized within the context of the subnational political economy. The wide range of countries (large and small) that are included are prime resources for identifying ‘good’ practices and for drawing lessons from subnational governance and development issues and situations that prove challenging to resolve.

It is no easy feat to bring to conclusion so efficiently a book project of this magnitude whose essays span different political and socio-cultural boundaries and yet which allowed the editors to distill conceptual and policy relevant themes that have international appeal and should stimulate further research. The editors acknowledge in this regard, first the contribution of chapters to this volume by leading researchers and scholars in the field and second, the unwavering administrative assistance and technical support of the Institute for Public Policy and Governance, University of Technology Sydney and the Department of Government, Faculty of Social Sciences, The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus.

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