

of interest among governments often block effective action to deal with metropolitan problems. Changes in the structure of government within metropolitan areas, and innovations in relations between the Federal Government, the States, and local communities are needed to overcome these obstacles. The complex federal system of the United States, however, is rich in possibilities for adaptation to meet the changing circumstances of metropolitan growth. With sufficient imagination and effort, the resources of the federal system can be brought effectively to bear on the urban problems that challenge our age, just as previous generations found ways of adapting the federal system to deal with other national challenges.