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## Poverty Alleviation and Development Path Analysis: A Case Study on Rocky Desertification Area of in Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou Province in China

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### Abstract

Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou provinces are concentrated areas of rocky desertification in China. In this paper, the poverty status of Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou provinces rocky desertification areas can be analysed in multidimension. We can improve many aspects such as the ecological environment, infrastructure, education skills training and others for poverty alleviation and development. According to the poverty theory and related theory in applying to poverty alleviation of the Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou rocky desertification area, combined with their self-conditions of Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou provinces rocky desertification area, strive to solve the bottleneck problems of the development and curb desertification expansion trend, fundamentally change the face of the Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou provinces rocky desertification area, promote the sustainable development. On the basis of these, we can build the model of poverty alleviation and development of Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou provinces rocky desertification area.

**Key words:** Rocky desertification; Poverty alleviation and development; Path

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### INTRODUCTION

With the implementation of poverty alleviation policies, China has made tremendous achievements in poverty: poverty population has sharply reduced, income level has increased steadily, infrastructure in poor areas has significantly improved, social undertakings have progressed continuously, a system of basic cost of living allowances has established in all rural areas of China, adequate food and clothing for the urban and rural residents has been ensured. However, factors of restricting development in poor areas of deep-seated contradictions still exist. These problems are underscored by lagging behind the development of the concentrated destitute areas, which has become the bottleneck of the breakthrough of poverty alleviation and development. Therefore, to alleviate poverty in the poor areas and explore the dilemma of poverty alleviation and development will be especially important and urgent.

### 1. BASIC SITUATION OF ROCKY DESERTIFICATION AREA IN YUNNAN GUANGXI GUIZHOU PROVINCES

#### 1.1 Rocky Desertification Area Distribution of Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou Provinces

Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou provinces rocky desertification region is typical of “old, young, edge, poor” areas into an organic whole, is the 14 concentrated destitute areas in poor counties under the jurisdiction of the most poverty population, most minority population, the largest minority autonomous county. Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou

provinces involved 80 poor counties, 11 other counties, a total of 91. Including 81 national autonomous areas, 34 old counties, 8 border counties, and a total land area of 228000 km<sup>2</sup>. Among them, the three provinces of rocky desertification area of 85700 km<sup>2</sup>, accounting for karsts rocky desertification areas a total area of 2/3.

## 1.2 The Causes of the Formation of Rocky Desertification

Rocky desertification in karsts fragile ecological environment is the result of the comprehensive effects, due to the obvious contradiction between people and land caused by irrational human social and economic activities, destruction of vegetation, soil erosion, rocks gradually exposed, decline or loss of land productivity, surface showing the evolution of rocky desert landscape. Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou provinces rocky desertification area is formed by the natural factors and human factors, the mutual influence and interaction, natural factors are the internal factors of desertification, human factors are the dominant cause of desertification. The natural factors mainly include the widely distributed carbonate rocks, simple vegetation community structure, combined with the complex topography, soil erosion, and ecological environment low ability to resist dry. Human factors include deforestation, overgrazing and unreasonable utilization of land.

## 2. THEORETICAL REFERENCE AND ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

We construct the analysis framework the poverty alleviation and development paths of Rocky Desertification Area in Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou Provinces on the basis of the poverty theory and related theory.

### 2.1 Theoretical Reference

#### 2.2.1 New Regionalism

The ways of doing concentrated contiguous poverty alleviation work embody the main thought of regionalism. The progress of western regional research theory can give some suggestions to concentrated poverty alleviation for China.

Research into region began in the field of western Geography, and its rapid development in the field of economic geography. With the development of profound research, the “new regionalism” oriented policy and theory has been produced (Miao & Fan, 2002). “New regionalism” holds that the basis of economic and social development is the production technology and organizational changes, and regional development should form their own competitiveness (Sun, 2009). New Regionalism advocates to pay attention to regional development, open up new industrial space, strengthen cooperation in the local economy, create an atmosphere of

innovation and continuous learning, and construct system assurance and economy assurance for development (Leng & Lei, 2011). It can be seen that continuous development in contiguous poor areas need to strengthen regional cooperation, enhance learning and innovation ability, focus industrial upgrading and the development of emerging industries, build the institutional environment and facilities which are benefit for local development

#### 2.2.2 Space Theory of Poverty

This theory mainly focuses on the poverty-stricken areas and the spatial distribution of the population as well as the internal relations between space and poverty. In the 1950s, the research on relationship between regional economic development status and regional geography location of Harris and Myrdal (1954) has found that, the economics of underdeveloped areas or no development areas are related with their region's geographical location. By analyzing carefully with four provinces in the southern China in 1985-1990 rural income and consumption data, Jalan and Ravallion (1997) found that a clear correlation between the rural household income and consumption fluctuation and geographical capital, and shortage of geographical capital could lead to “space poverty trap” in the field of population development (Jalan & M.ravallion, 1997). Zhang Xiaoxu and Feng Zongxian (2008) proved that the correlation between the regional per capita income and geographical location, and pointed out that the close relation between Chinese rural poverty and the geographical space (Zhang & Feng, 2008). Spatial poverty theory emphasizes the importance of strengthening the construction of infrastructure, strengthening the relocation of poverty alleviation and the construction of small towns, improving agricultural subsidies and reducing the production risk.

#### 2.2.3 Multiple Development Theory

With the weakening of the past poverty governance scheme and its marginal effect of poverty reduction, the problem of poverty governance at this stage needs to convert new perspective. The phenomenon in concentrated contiguous poor areas is mostly a coexistence of complexity and diversity in natural and geographical conditions and economic, social and cultural conditions. The schemes or policies of uniform or one-size-fits-all poor governance couldn't obtain good results in different regions at the same time. Unscientific management strategies also may lead to a variety of risks for specific areas of ecology, folk beliefs and social structure features. The method of poverty alleviation is diverse and plural for the differences in economic, cultural and infrastructure during regions. (Lü, 2012). Multiple development theory hold that due to the diversity and particularity of geographical space, development has no universal way and pattern, different time and space combination determines the corresponding development with local economy, this development is diverse and complicated. (Tian, 2009).

### 2.3 Summary

New regionalism theory, space poverty theory and multiple development theory lay a theory foundation for poverty alleviation in the Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou provinces rocky desertification. Poverty alleviation from different angles can strengthen regional development to drive the development of regional economy, to promote the poor peasants own hematopoietic ability.

## 3. THE REALISTIC DILEMMA OF POVERTY IN YUNNAN GUANGXI GUIZHOU ROCKY PROVINCES DESERTIFICATION AREA

Yunnan, Guangxi Guizhou provinces rocky desertification area is one of the largest regions where poverty is the most widely and impoverished, most difficult to governance. The root causes of poverty are the poor survival space, low population quality and bad external condition.

### 3.1 Poor Living Space, Weak Ecological Environment

Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou provinces rocky desertification area is located in remote areas in China, which is characterized as “mountains, steep slope, low water, valley deeps, thin soil, ground barren” with fragile ecological environment, harsh living space, undulating surface, rocky desertification and serious soil erosion. Due to the destruction of surface vegetation, in drought season, you cannot carry out normal production activities for the difficulties in human and animal drinking water. In heavy rainfall time, the formation of large area of water logging caused geological disasters and soil erosion and other natural disasters. For example, land area of 1.3781 million km<sup>2</sup> in Guizhou province rocky desertification is accounting for 45.58% of the province rocky desertification land area. Guangxi province 0.73 acres of arable land per capita, of which Paul irrigation area accounts for only 28% of basic farmland, the contradiction between people and land is extremely sharp prominent. It is also prone to geological disasters. The main hazards in this area are landslide, debris flow, desertification, and soil erosion and land solidifications. Not only the amount per capita is low, the poor quality of renewable resources, the situation is a bit more serious in poor areas is extremely poor resource conditions, can't let people survive.

### 3.2 The Largest Poor People, The Low Quality of The Population

Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou provinces rocky desertification area with high natural population growth rate, large densely population, weak living spatial carrying capacity, increasing environmental damage, which make the area falling into the vicious circle of poverty. The development of rural social economy is hampered by the low quality of

the labor who keeps old-fashioned ideas, lack of market ideas and opening consciousness. In 2011, Chinese government increased per capita annual income of RMB2300 yuan, which is one of the important reasons for the rise in poverty. According to this standard, the poverty population in Yunnan province will be raised to 1800 million people, poverty rate as high as 41%. Permanent residence population in Guizhou province is 11.4 million in 2011, the population density reaches per km 140 people. With respect to the harsh living environment of the area, the population pressure of rocky desertification area is too large. The area is inhabited by various minority groups in China. Influenced by the historical and geographical conditions, the average people in the area have just 4.1 years of schooling. Such as People with low quality and market awareness, weak competitiveness in Guizhou province is 7.41 years, compared to the national average of 1.64 years less.

### 3.3 Weak Infrastructure, Single Industrial Structure

Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou provinces rocky desertification area are poor in electricity, road, communication and other infrastructure condition, shortage of farmland and ecologic environment, which satiation and development of socialist market economy not to suit. Although many rivers in Guizhou province, water resources are abundant, there is a shortage of water projects, the number of homes with running water of the village has accounted for more than 25%. The peasant household drinking water safety problems unresolved occupies 32.6%. The Guangxi province area per unit mileage is only 86.7%, there are 2,329 administrative villages did not pass hardened roads. Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou provinces are in the underdeveloped areas with weak industry foundation. Such as single industry structure in Guizhou, the proportion of the first, second, third industry rate are close to 1:2:2 in 2011. The proportion of primary industry is too large; the second and third industry the proportion is relatively small. The rural economy mainly by the traditional farming and aquaculture, the industrialization of agricultural products processing industry, manufacturing industry basically is a blank. Rural economy income channels for a single, coupled with traffic inconvenience, poor logistics, there are even more abundant mountain resources, but it is difficult to translate into commodities. Restricted by the conditions of economic and social development, poverty alleviation work is very difficult. Therefore, concentrated organic combination of infrastructure construction and industrial development, focusing on infrastructure construction and industrial development combine to strengthen industrial strength, mobilize resources, cultivate leading industries and extend the industrial chain, to improve the ability of the sustainable development of Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou provinces rocky desertification area.

### **3.4 Poverty Alleviation Financing is not in Place, and Poverty Alleviation Policy is not effective enough**

Most of the poverty alleviation financing allocated by the state and local governments in Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou provinces rocky desertification area is not in place. The local fiscal revenue in Guizhou province is in trouble in 2011, regional fiscal revenue of 62.592 billion yuan, accounting for only 34.46% of fiscal income in Guizhou. The lack of effective experience in fund management and use makes the aid-the-poor funds utilization rate low, which is difficult to develop the interior rural vigor. Poverty alleviation just relying on national and local government financing cannot be fit for purpose. The relevant supporting policies are limiting the development of serious influence on poverty alleviation.

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## **4. YUNNAN GUANGXI GUIZHOU ROCKY DESERTIFICATION AREA POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND DEVELOPMENT PATH SELECTION**

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### **4.1 Strengthening the Construction of Ecological Environment, Enhancing the Ability of Sustainable Development**

Many human factors such as deforestation make rocky desertification serious. So, poverty alleviation and development in the protection and construction of ecological environment become a top priority. For prevention and control of rocky desertification aggravate poverty, we should strengthen ecological environment construction, vigorously implement the ecological poverty alleviation project, give full play to the ecological resources advantage. The afforestation project can be implemented by the forest planting, reforestation, letting farmland revert to forest and other measures to expand forest area. Accelerate the development of ecological economy, to curb desertification expansion trend. Establish and improve the ecological compensation mechanism and significantly improve the poverty-stricken areas ecological environment, the implementation of ecological poverty, change of relocation, soilless resettlement project (Chen, 2012). Building a good ecological environment is a kind of competitive development, strengthening ecological protection consciousness, rational development of natural resources, restoring ecological environment and enhancing the ability of sustainable development.

### **4.2 Implementation of Education Skills Training, Strengthening Self Hematopoietic Function**

The backwardness of education, people's ideas and concepts behind and low quality of the labor force are the root causes in Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou provinces desertification area. Therefore, Pay special attention to the cultivation of talents in poverty-stricken areas and

put special emphasis on labor force training in poverty-stricken areas. The education poverty alleviation is an important gripper in Yunnan Guangxi provinces, to vigorously promote education and skills training, by “the rain plan” and other professional training, to improve the farmers’ survival skills, to strengthen self hematopoietic function. We should get rid of farmers backward and closed the old idea through intensive propaganda, and Set up the new idea of the development of the market economy in the poor areas.

### **4.3 The Implementation of Infrastructure Construction, Developing Pillar Industries**

In a new round of poverty alleviation and development, we should pay attention to infrastructure construction and development of pillar industries of poverty alleviation organic combine, which is the mutual influence and interaction. On one hand, the infrastructure construction can provide effective environment for industry development, reduce the cost of industrial development, and promote industry development space. On the other hand, the development of the industry will promote the construction of infrastructure, resources and funds in the development of pillar industries can be used to improve production and living environment. Industrial poverty reduction is long-term poverty alleviation. To speed up infrastructure construction at the same time, focus on the poor industry; optimize the industrial structure, from the planting industry into the second and third industry. Cultivate leading industries and the industrial chain, give full play to radiation and leading role of leading industry, speed up cultivating farmers of division of labor cooperation, improve the industry economy of scale and the degree of organization, through the industrial poverty alleviation to drive more poor farmers out of poverty.

### **4.4 Key Input Resources Effectively, Implementation of Differentiated Poverty Alleviation and Development**

Establishing a reasonable and long-term sustainable fund project for poverty alleviation and development on the basis of investigation, adhere to the adjust measures to local conditions, in accordance with the key, there are differences to support the principle of avoiding repetitive project, leading to waste of resources. In the capital, increase investment funds by the integration of capital, to the special poverty relief funds, self-financing of social assistance funds and the integrated with self-raised funds together. Focusing on investment, joint effort, we can improve the utilization rate of funds and implement the differential poverty alleviation.

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## **CONCLUSION**

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In short, poverty alleviation and development in Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou provinces rocky desertification area should conform to the laws of nature, emphasis on rocky

desertification governance by industry comprehensive development and the construction of the ecological environment. The technology training of farmers in poverty-stricken areas and their own development capacity should be strengthened.

It is very difficult challenge to help impoverished village take off deficient to become rich, although impoverished regions in Yunnan Guangxi Guizhou provinces rocky desertification are characterized mainly by alarge area and population sunk in poverty. We must explore the industry the right path of poverty alleviation from starting from reality and reflecting on the past, and a new poverty alleviation works will obtain the fundamental and long-term effect.

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