

Research on Transformation and development Paths of the Resource-based City

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Abstract: The resource-based cities make great contribution to the economy and society. However, the development of these cities are alone with various problems. The transformation of development is the urgent problem that the resource-based cities face with. In this paper, the problems of the resource-based cities are analyzed and make the suggestion accordingly. The sustainable development and cyclic economy is the best option for resource-based cities.

Key words: Resourced-based city Exhaustion of resources Sustainable development

1. INTRODUCTION

The resource-based cities refer to those leading industries are based on the utilization and development of local natural resource such as mine or forest etc. The resource-based cities usually experience 4 stages, the initial stage, the developing stage, the mature stage and the declining stage. The resource-based cities are uprising fast because of the rich natural resource. The rapid development of extraction industry made great contribution to the city's social and economic development. However, as the resource-based city entering the declining stage, the local economy faced the structural declining. The leading unitary industry's economic contribution has become less and less due to the great consuming of natural resources while other industries are inferior, which have insignificant contribution to the local economy. The declining of natural resource is the great challenging to the regional social and economic development. The economic transformation is the urgent and challenging problems for the resource-based cities. China is a vast country with variety of natural resources. From the statistical data, China's resource-based cities has produced 52.9 billion tons of coal, 5.5 billion tons of crucial oil, 5.8 billion tons of iron ore and 2 billion cubic meters of wood after 1949.

However, in current situation of the transformation of economic development mode, the resource-based cities faced the series problems such as the sustain development, environment deterioration

2. THE CURRENT MAIN PROBLEMS OF RESOURCE-BASED CITY

(1) The exhaustion of natural resource

Natural resource largely can be categorized into

renewable sources as well as nonrenewable resources. The resource-based cities rely on the nonrenewable sources such as the mineral or fossil fuel now face the severe problem of exhausting the resources. From the product categories, the resource-based cities can be classified as the "coal city""forest city""petrol city" and "metallurgy city". The former 3 kinds cities are mainly focus on the initial products. The products are usually initially-processed or even the raw material, which are low in added-value. Because of the requirement of production technology, the manufacture industry has gradually founded in the metallurgy cities beside the extraction industry.

However The declining of natural resources is the urgent problem which can not be ignored for those resource-based cities. The natural resources used to be the essential guarantee for the rapid economical development. Such resource endowment is the advantage on the city's development path. As the continuously consuming, the amount of the natural resource has gradually decreased. The natural resources has progressively become the constraints for the local economical development.

(2)The unitary economical development

The relatively unitary economical structure and overly relying on the minerals are those cities' significant features. The second industry of resource-based cities occupy 60%-70% of the local gross economy. The exhaustion of natural resources will result in the great negative affects to the local economy. The particular instance even reaches to 80%. Such high percentage shows the imbalance of local economical structure and the uncoordinated development of Three Industries. The inferior of service sector directly results in the inability of absorbing the labors. The exhausting of natural resources is also the most significant negative factor for the local economy. Because of the resource endowment and traditional extensive development mode, the level of the products stay on the initial phase and lack of deep process. The added value are relatively low.

(3) The pollution to the local environment

Under the giant market demand and driving of high proficient , the extensive development of the natural resources in large scale definitely brings the severe environment devastating. Due to this chief goal, the

resource enterprises develop rapidly in the region which is rich in resource endorsement. As the city continuously developing, the external problems are prominent such as the environment pollution, ecologic deterioration and resource exhaustion. From the statistic data, 85% of the industrial solid waste is from the mine extraction. The current solid waste reaches 6-7 billion tons. The waste water from coal mine reaches 2.6 billion ton annually.

(4) The weakness of internal development

Nowadays, the resource-based cities face the bottlenecks during the process of industry transformation. Though the industry structure has adjusted partly and the the situation of stepping into the declining period been turned, the industry structure, the level of development and internal structure are still in the initial stage.

The resource enterprises were usually linked with the plan-economy era, the government take the leading position in the regional social and economic development. Moreover, the enterprises are the major economic entity in the local economy. Under the condition of plan-economy, the resource enterprises are usually state-owned and developing so fast due to the mines or petrol. However, as the economy transfers from plan to market, the disadvantages of the resource enterprise gradually unveiled in the process of transformation. The weakness on the market adaption exposed clearly when the fluctuation happens. The resource declining brings great negative effect to the enterprise. Under this situation, the enterprise lost in the path dependence but not find the other method to get the growth. The product of the resource enterprise usually stay in the initial stage or the raw material. On the condition of low added value and technology internalization, the enterprise can not get enough profit and hard to face the market changes.

3. THE TRANSFORMATION PATHS OF RESOURCE-BASED CITIES

(1) The transformation of economic development

The resource-declining cities must take the transformation of economic development as the guideline. The economic transformation is not simply the replacement of old industry. The replacement of old industry can only bring the temporal prosperity but not long-lasting. The key point is on the transformation of economic development. Therefore, the economic development transformation is the guideline in the whole process of resource-declining cities' economic development. During the economic development, the promotion of cities' transformation should combine with the industrialization, urbanization and the modernization organically. The economic transformation should deal the relations of contemporary and future, the total amount and

structure, the whole and part meanwhile unite the cultivation of uprising industry and the renovation of traditional advantage industry.

Such transformation focus on the connotative and intensive development guiding the extraction and resource developing sector converting to the harmonious and coordinating development of 3 industries.

(2)The extension of industry chain

The extension of industry chain varies according to the particular situation. But all in all, the extension of industry chain calls for the deep processing and improvement of added value. From the horizontal perspective, the industry chain extension should base on the advantages of local economy. It integrates the parts of industry chain and deletes the shortcomings. The industry chain extension facilitate the optimization of industry structure. Usually the resource-based cites have the problem of unitary economy. the correlation of industries are relatively loose. The extension of industry chain requires the further development to the original resource industry. As the development of resource industry, the parts on the chain will adjust accordingly. This adjustment causes the change of internal structural movement and the evolution of regional industrial structure. Meanwhile, the extension also brings the higher specification and more reasonable resource allocation.

(3)Developing the replacement industry

There are 2 options for realizing the development of the replacement industry. Firstly,the burgeoning industry is introduced through scientific appraisal and policy stimulating and supporting for achieving the city transformation and industry rebuild. This is an external mode of transformation mainly suits the cities facing the resource exhaustion. After the long-lasting developing, though some resource-based city still have large resource reserve, the current resource developing condition is not qualified under the com-temporal technology background. Moreover, some resource-based cities face the resource exhaustion and is unnecessary for further extraction. Choosing the promising and high driving competence industry from the existing is the second option. By adopting the policy supporting and further cultivation, such promising industry will be the leading and pillar sector and substitute the traditional industry. This option is an internal transformation mode and it adapts the cities' with certain degree industry advantages besides the resource sector. Though these cities have strong dependence on the resource extraction and development, the comprehensive ability in the process of city developing is prominent and significant. In this background, it is possible to find out certain industry which is potential and high driving force. The goal of city transformation is gradually achieved through the cultivation of these industries.

4. CONCLUSION

The resource-base cities varied according to its own condition. The development of replacement industry should insist on suiting the measures to local condition and avoiding the shortcoming while making best use of the advantage. The path selections on the mode transformation need to be adequate to the particular situation. There are successful examples on the transformation in the developed countries. However, such experience is also explored in certain situation. Nowadays, there are large amount of resource-based cities in China. In the new era, the transformation will face different factors. The sustainable and green development is the requirement for the city's future.

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