

# Research on Strengthening the Linkage and High-quality Development of Yijing-Jingen Urban Agglomeration

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**Abstract:** From the perspective of New Structural Economics Theory, based on the analysis of the present situation and main problems of the integrated development of Yichang-Jingzhou-Jingmen-Enshi (Yijing Jingen for short) urban agglomeration in Hubei Province, this paper thinks about how to strengthen the linkage and high-quality development of Yijing Jingen urban agglomeration. Influenced by geographical location and regional culture, in the long historical process, the geographical relationship and social and economic ties of Yijing-Jingen region have become increasingly close, forming a complete regional unit with obvious characteristics. However, there are conflicts and disharmonies in the economic development system between cities in Yijing and Jingen, which has brought many obstacles to the coordinated development between cities and restricted the urban development pattern. At present, there are some problems in Yijing Jingen, such as lack of vitality in economic growth, unreasonable overall planning of resources, and sluggish development of tertiary industry, and the level and level of regional cooperation are relatively low. Therefore, it is necessary to make full use of the favorable opportunity for the country to build the Yangtze River Economic Belt and the urban agglomeration in the middle reaches of the Yangtze River, optimize the allocation of regional resources, vigorously promote the high-quality development of Yijing-Jingen linkage, realize the strategy of regional economic balance and the strategy of regional economic development, and enhance the overall strength of Yijing-Jingen urban agglomeration development.

**Keywords:** New Structural Economics Theory; Integrated Development of Urban

**Agglomeration; Urban Development Pattern; Economic Equilibrium Strategy; Regional Economic Development**

## 1. Introduction

At present, China's economic development has changed from high-speed growth to high-quality development, and regional economic development has added new development momentum. Yijing Jingen urban agglomeration in Hubei Province is dominated by Yichang, including Jingzhou, Jingmen and Enshi. The urban agglomeration is rich in resources and has the endowment of creating a "provincial sub-center urban agglomeration". It is the southern array that will support the province's high-quality development in the future and the innovation-driven green development demonstration area in the middle reaches of the Yangtze River.

## 2. Yijing Jingen Urban Agglomeration Basic Situation Analysis and Theoretical Basis

Influenced by geographical location and regional culture, in the long historical process, the geographical relationship and social and economic ties of Yijing-Jingen region have become increasingly close, forming a complete regional unit with obvious characteristics. However, under the influence of different administrative plans and different interests of local governments, there are conflicts and disharmonies in the economic development system between cities in Yijing and Jingen, which has brought many obstacles to the coordinated development between cities and restricted the urban development pattern. At present, there are some problems in Yijing Jingen, such as lack of vitality in economic growth, unreasonable overall planning of resources, and sluggish development of tertiary industry, and the level and level of regional cooperation are relatively low. Therefore, it is necessary to make full use of the favorable opportunity for the country to

build the Yangtze River Economic Belt and the urban agglomeration in the middle reaches of the Yangtze River, optimize the allocation of regional resources, vigorously promote the high-quality development of Yijing-Jingen linkage, realize the strategy of regional economic balance and the strategy of regional economic development, and enhance the overall strength of Yijing-Jingen urban agglomeration development.

As a theoretical framework covering "efficient market" and "promising government", New Structural Economics Theory mainly uses the principle of mutual transformation of time, level and traditional three-dimensional space to study, so as to achieve its goals of revealing the law of economic development, predicting the trend of economic development, making economic spatial layout, adjusting industrial spatial structure, achieving economic scale benefits and realizing sustainable economic development [1].

The theory of regional balanced development abroad is mainly based on the basic assumption of western economics, that is, the perfect competitive market, so the economic development gap between regions will gradually narrow. For example, Lieberstein's theory of "minimum effort in the coming session" holds that developing countries should improve their economic development level and break through the critical point of low-level development, so as to obtain the momentum of sustained economic growth. Knox's "vicious circle of poverty and balanced growth theory" points out that the lack of capital is the main reason for the lack of economic development. In addition, the theory of regional balanced development emphasizes the unbalanced development between regions at different stages of development. Muerdal believes that the government should give priority to the development of relatively developed regions, so that the national economy can develop rapidly, and then narrow the development gap between regions through government policy support. Friedman's center-periphery theory emphasizes that the economic development of developed areas will drive the development of underdeveloped areas in the periphery. Williamson applied Kuznets' inverted U-shaped income distribution hypothesis to regional economic development, and empirical analysis proved

that there was an inverted U-shaped relationship between regional development stages and regional differences.

At present, the basic understanding of regional coordinated development in China is divided into five categories. One is the equilibrium theory represented by Chen Yajun and Chen Nanjing, which holds that the coordinated development of regional economy is the main aspect of regional coordinated development, with the goal of narrowing the economic gap between regions. The second is the cooperation theory represented by Liang Yinan and Yang Baojun, which emphasizes the establishment of regional coordinated development mechanism through mutual assistance and cooperation based on following the basic laws of regional and urban economic development, to achieve coordinated development among regions. The third is the persistence theory represented by Xu Kangning and Wu Dianyan, which holds that regional coordinated development should include the coordination between man and nature, the coordination between generations and the coordination between regions. The fourth is the essentialism represented by Qin Chenglin and Yang Weimin, which emphasizes that giving full play to the comparative advantages between regions and narrowing the development gap between regions are the keys to regional coordinated development. The fifth is the system theory represented by Jiang Qinghai and Du Ying, which holds that each region should take other regions as its own constraints, optimize its own economic structure, and promote cooperation among regions, thus forming a spiral upward trend in all regions of the country [2-5]. In addition, the evaluation standard of regional coordinated development has also changed from a single standard to a multi-dimensional evaluation standard, that is from narrowing the regional development gap to equalization of public services, harmonious coexistence between man and nature, and roughly equal living standards of people. For example, Chen Xiushan and Yang Yan put forward whether the regional comparative advantages can be brought into full play, the basic public services in the region can be equalized, and the degree of market integration can be strengthened.

### 3. Yijing Jingen Urban Agglomeration

### Integration Development Problems

According to the New Structural Economics Theory [6], we must fully understand the structural differences of factor endowments in Yijing-Jingen urban agglomeration to solve the most important social contradiction at present. Firstly, the degree of industrialization is not high, and the motivation for green innovation is insufficient. The development of agricultural industry in Jingzhou needs to further strengthen the integration of production, supply, processing and marketing of characteristic agriculture. Upgrade agricultural products logistics trading center, aquatic products trading platform and agricultural products exhibition platform. Jingzhou phosphorus chemical industry needs to continue to transform and upgrade, and build a national green chemical base.

Secondly, the similarity of resource endowments is high, and regional overall cooperation is not enough. From the perspective of industrial development, the urban agglomeration has the conditions to build a domestic fine phosphorus chemical center, and has formed a complete circular industrial chain with fine phosphorus chemical industry as the mainstay and coal-fluorine-silicon-calcium-salt-petrochemical industry, but the interconnection and integration within the urban agglomeration need to be strengthened [7].

Thirdly, the homogenization of industrial structure is serious, and the coordinated development of industries is not enough. Appropriate Jing Jingen, mountains and rivers are the same vein. It is necessary to give full play to the advantages of urban agglomeration in landscape tourism, form a tourism industry alliance with the cities within the cluster, and make Yijing Jingen urban agglomeration an internationally renowned tourist destination.

Fourthly, the promotion of industrial upgrading is not enough, and the tertiary industry is generally backward. Jingzhou will actively build a modern comprehensive transportation and logistics demonstration zone, vigorously develop multimodal transport, international logistics, supply chain logistics, cold chain logistics and smart logistics, build an economical and efficient transportation system, plan a new land and sea channel in the central region, a new water channel in the north and south, and open new channels.

### 4. Countermeasures and Suggestions for the Integrated Development of Yijing-Jingen Urban Agglomeration

The integrated development of Yijing-Jingen urban agglomeration needs to be far-sighted from the perspective of overall regional layout. Local governments need to cooperate with each other to eliminate administrative barriers between regions, rationally allocate and efficiently use the resource endowments within the region under the framework of new structural economy, and build a high-quality development regional unit with economic vitality.

#### 4.1 Collaborative Linkage of Key Industries

Firstly, characteristic agriculture. Jingzhou, Yichang and Jingmen jointly built seed and seedling breeding bases and implemented the biological seed industry upgrading project. Focus on promoting ecological and standardized production, and build industrial clusters of high-quality rice, high-quality rapeseed and freshwater products. Promote the construction of Jingzhou High-tech Zone and other parks.

Secondly, the fine chemical industry. Relying on leading enterprises in urban agglomeration, we will promote the coordinated development of phosphorus chemical industry in urban agglomeration, relying on railways and Yangtze River waterways to promote the coordinated development of coal chemical industry along the route, and build an influential modern coal chemical base in China. Relying on the existing industrial base and resource advantages, we will build a national microelectronics new material industry cluster. Thirdly, the biomedical industry. Give full play to the advantages of Jingzhou health medicine, carry out key common technical cooperation, improve the level of technological innovation and research and development in the industry, and promote the transformation and application of biomedical scientific and technological achievements.

Fourthly, the equipment manufacturing industry. Jointly carry out R&D and production of new power ships, key components of marine diesel engines, LNG equipment and marine engineering equipment with Yichang to build a marine equipment industrial cluster.

Fifthly, the tourism industry. Accelerate the integration of tourism resources in urban agglomerations, plan a few boutique tourism routes, jointly cultivate tourism brands in urban agglomerations, and jointly build a world-famous eco-health tourism destination and a national tourism demonstration zone. Dig deep into historical resources, cultural resources and natural resources, promote line interconnection, mutual recommendation of tourists, market sharing and complementary characteristics, strive to become the main venue of "China Tourism Day" activities, and enhance the influence of eco-cultural tourism in urban agglomerations.

Sixthly, the logistics industry. Build Jingzhou modern comprehensive transportation and logistics demonstration zone, form regional logistics strategic alliance, build logistics big data platform and logistics information network service system, and strengthen port linkage [8]. Vigorously develop multimodal transport, international logistics, supply chain logistics, cold chain logistics and smart logistics, build an economical and efficient transportation system, plan new land and sea passages in central China, new water passages in north and south, and open up new passages.

#### **4.2 Infrastructure Interconnection**

Firstly, create a "one-hour traffic circle". Give full play to the comprehensive advantages of Jingzhou combined port, take the initiative to connect with Yichang port, and accelerate the construction of a 100-million-ton combined port; Accelerate the second phase reconstruction and expansion of Jingzhou Airport, strengthen the linkage with Three Gorges Airport, Enshi Airport and Jingmen General Aviation, and jointly build an influential airport group in the middle reaches of the Yangtze River.

Secondly, speed up the construction of water conservancy infrastructure network. Accelerate the Yangtze River bank collapse control project and the Hanjiang dike reinforcement project. Strengthen the protection of water conservation areas and soil and water conservation.

#### **4.3 Co-construction and Sharing of Public Services**

Firstly, the integrated development of public health. Participate in the construction of

medical and health information in urban agglomerations, and realize the interconnection and business collaboration of regional medical business application systems [9]. Accelerate the construction of major epidemic treatment bases and other projects, jointly build an emergency medical treatment network system, and comprehensively upgrade the ability of disease prevention and control and public health emergencies.

Secondly, the integrated development of regional education. Encourage educational administrative departments, teaching and research institutions and schools in urban agglomerations to carry out various forms of cooperation and exchanges. Support the formation of vocational education alliance, and build a shared vocational skills practice training base.

Thirdly, the integrated development of human resources. Establish a service mechanism for household registration management in urban agglomerations and realize zero threshold for urban settlement in four cities [10]. Establish a flexible cooperation mechanism for attracting talents in the region, establish a comprehensive service information platform for talent integration, and establish a unified talent evaluation system to achieve talent evaluation synergy and mutual recognition of results.

Fourthly, the integrated development of public services. We will implement a new model of cross-regional government services, establish a regional housing provident fund cooperation mechanism, and promote mutual recognition and mutual loan of housing provident fund deposits in urban agglomerations.

Promote Jingzhou hospice care pilot experience and establish hospice care alliance.

#### **4.4 Eco-environmental Protection and Co-governance**

Work together to create a green development pioneer zone in the Yangtze River Economic Belt, establish a joint prevention and control mechanism for river basin ecological environment, establish a joint prevention and control mechanism for air pollution, and establish a cooperative early warning mechanism for regional geological disasters.

### **5. Conclusion**

### 5.1 Clarify the Optimization Direction of Each Industry and Focus on Important Influencing Factors

The indicators that have a significant impact on the "Yi Jing Jing En" urban agglomeration include agricultural output value, the proportion of fixed capital investment in the primary industry, the income of large-scale industrial enterprises, the added value of the construction industry, the proportion of the secondary industry's output in GDP, the added value of the transportation, storage, and postal services industry, and the revenue of the tourism industry, among others. Understanding these key factors within the primary, secondary, and tertiary sectors is essential to address the issues encountered during the development process. By improving the orderliness of each industrial subsystem, it can further promote the coordinated development of industries within the urban cluster.

### 5.2 Deepen Division of Labor and Cooperation, and Weaken Obstacles and Barriers

The member cities of the "Yi Jing Jing En" urban agglomeration should base their development on the overall planning of the urban cluster, clarify their positioning in industrial collaboration, and promote the coordinated development of local industries in each region with other industries within the urban cluster. At the same time, they should deepen cooperation and exchange in areas such as tourism, transportation, energy, and environmental protection, and vigorously promote the joint construction and sharing of public services such as healthcare, sanitation, and education. This will further weaken the institutional barriers between regions and promote the formation of regional collaboration and sharing mechanisms. In addition, it is necessary to actively promote regional industrial planning and organizational management, eliminate administrative barriers, facilitate the orderly flow of factors, and form a higher-quality model of industrial division of labor and cooperation, enhancing the synergistic effect of the regional industrial economy.

### 5.3 Enhance the Industrial Level and Value Sustainable Development

Each city should leverage its own regional

resources to vigorously develop local industries with competitive advantages. By sharing resources and engaging in economic cooperation, regional industrial clusters with competitive advantages can be formed. This will further enhance the industrial level, exert scale effects and radiating driving forces, and promote the coordinated development of the regional industrial economy. At the same time, it is also important to focus on talent cultivation and introduction to meet the talent needs arising from the optimization of the regional economic structure and coordinated development. On one hand, various higher education institutions within the urban agglomeration can serve as talent cultivation and reserve bases, promoting industry-academia cooperation and exploring talent cultivation models that meet industry demands. On the other hand, by creating green channels and intensifying efforts to attract talent, the internal flow and optimal allocation of talent resources within the urban cluster can be promoted, providing vitality for the sustainable development of the urban agglomeration.

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