

Exploring the Development Path of “Three Districts and Three Prefectures “from the Perspective of Urbanization

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Abstract: At the time of winning the fight against poverty in the “three districts and three prefectures”, we need to pay attention to how to ensure that the people of these regions will embark on the road of prosperity and obtain the driving force of sustainable development, thus realizing the revitalization. Gradually increasing the level of urbanization in the “three districts and three prefectures” is one of the ways to enhance its development capacity. From the perspectives of density, distance and segmentation, the urbanization level, resident population density and regional market potential of the “three districts and three prefectures” are used as reference factors for the urbanization development path, and the urbanization development rules of cities and states across the country are The commonality and specificity analysis of the three districts and three states shows that the urbanization of different regions of the three districts and three states should be stable and not urgent. It should be based on government investment and take the industrial orientation as the development path.

1. Introduction

Density, distance, and segmentation are three important components of regional integration research that are of concern to the new economic geography. Reasonable regional economic density is an important factor for regional coordinated development, and distance is the distance between other regions and the core region. It is an important reason for the barrier between regions. The main reason for the division in China lies in the circulation obstacles caused by the geographical differences and the geographical conditions. The “three districts and three states” are located in China with poor natural conditions, weak economic foundation and poverty. In areas with high rates and relatively backward economy, more than 80% of the regions are located in the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau. They mainly include the Tibet Autonomous Region, four prefectures in southern Xinjiang, and the Linxia, Liangshan, and Nujiang prefecture. In addition to the Tibet Autonomous Region, Qinghai, Sichuan, Yunnan, Gansu Province and other four provinces and other ethnic groups living together in ethnic autonomous areas, divided into Qinghai Tibetan Area, Sichuan Tibetan Area, Yunnan Tibetan Area, Gansu Tibetan Area. “Three Districts and Three prefectures “include 25 cities and prefectures.

The “three districts and three states” are relatively remote, with complex topography and geomorphology. Their geographical characteristics include high, cold, large, sturdy, far and edge features (Zheng Changde, 2017), which has a low economic density and a long economic distance. As a result, the regional economic division has a large development resistance. However, it is also rich in natural resources, tourism resources, health resources, and national cultural resources (Zheng Changde, 2017), which has become an effective driving force for regional development. The three districts and three prefectures will be able to fully realize the sustainable development of the region in the historical period of comprehensive poverty alleviation, and the rational use of the geographical first and second advantages to effectively resolve the development obstacles in the region. To solve the problem of small density, long distance and large division in these areas, we can start from the rational promotion of urbanization. The towns can concentrate the scattered industrial resources and human resources to form a gradual transition from small areas to large

areas. Active trading of agricultural and livestock products and reduction of transaction costs. The concentration of human resources can release idle labor resources, improve labor efficiency, and can be concentrated through skill training, resulting in spillovers caused by crowd concentration. The role is to improve the quality of the overall workforce, forming a pattern of small towns driving regional development.

2. Overview of Urbanization and Development of “Three Districts and Three Prefectures”

With the “three districts and three prefectures” coming out of poverty as a whole, urbanization has become an unavoidable issue for the sustained and healthy development of the regional economy. Urbanization can effectively eliminate the development obstacles caused by the density, distance and division of these regions, and ensure that the residents of these regions continue to perform well. However, the urbanization development path of “three districts and three prefectures” still faces certain difficulties and obstacles. The unfavorable factors such as small population density, low economic density and long economic distance require these regions to develop a localization with local characteristics.

The urbanization development of “three districts and three states” needs internal and external promotion. The internal motivation lies in industrial support. The external power lies in the urban attraction formed by the perfect infrastructure. The internal industry support can adopt diversified and multi-form industrial structure and tradition. The industrialization-led urbanization development model does not necessarily apply to ethnic areas(Yang Xiaoliu,2019). If the characteristic agriculture and animal husbandry drives the development of regional tourism, agricultural product processing industry, retail and wholesale industry, the formation of population promote the increase of urban population and improve the level of urbanization in ethnic areas. Focus on the guiding force of the market and form a regionalized urbanization model with regional adaptability(Gao Xincai et al., 2002)

The role of tourism in ethnic areas in promoting urbanization should not be underestimated. The urbanization of tourism resources in ethnic areas of China has more mature theoretical mechanisms and practical experience. “Three districts and three prefectures “ are areas inhabited by ethnic minorities in China. Unique national cultural characteristics, such as the knife festival of the Nuijiang Lisu people, the darts custom of the Dulong people. These national cultures and nationalities have a role in promoting the formation of special urban cultures, such as Li Hang et al(2019) that the “slow city mode” has become a new idea of urbanization development in ethnic areas, and the development of slow cities in ethnic areas has positive practical significance and unique advantages. The cultural characteristics displayed by the characteristic agriculture and animal husbandry in ethnic areas are integrated into tourism resources. Establish a tourist town with ethnic characteristics, realize the three-dimensional organic combination of agriculture, animal husbandry and tourism in the “three districts and three prefectures”. Zhang Wan(2019) analyzed the synergistic development mechanism of rural tourism and new urbanization in ethnic areas. Taking Mao County as an example, it is concluded that rural tourism and new urbanization have certain synchronization and consistency. In general, the national cultural characteristics of the “three districts and three states” region have become the important driving force for the development of ethnic areas, playing well with the tourist cards, forming a characteristic town with the support of agriculture and animal husbandry and the extension of tourism services will become an important way of urbanization of “three districts and three prefectures”.

From the average township area of the “three districts and three prefectures”and the population density, the overall distance and density of the cities and states can be obtained, and the degree of convergence is found. Generally speaking, the higher the degree of aggregation, the lower the transaction cost in the region, the higher the degree of industrial integration, the stronger the spillover effect between individuals, and the higher the regional market potential, and vice versa.

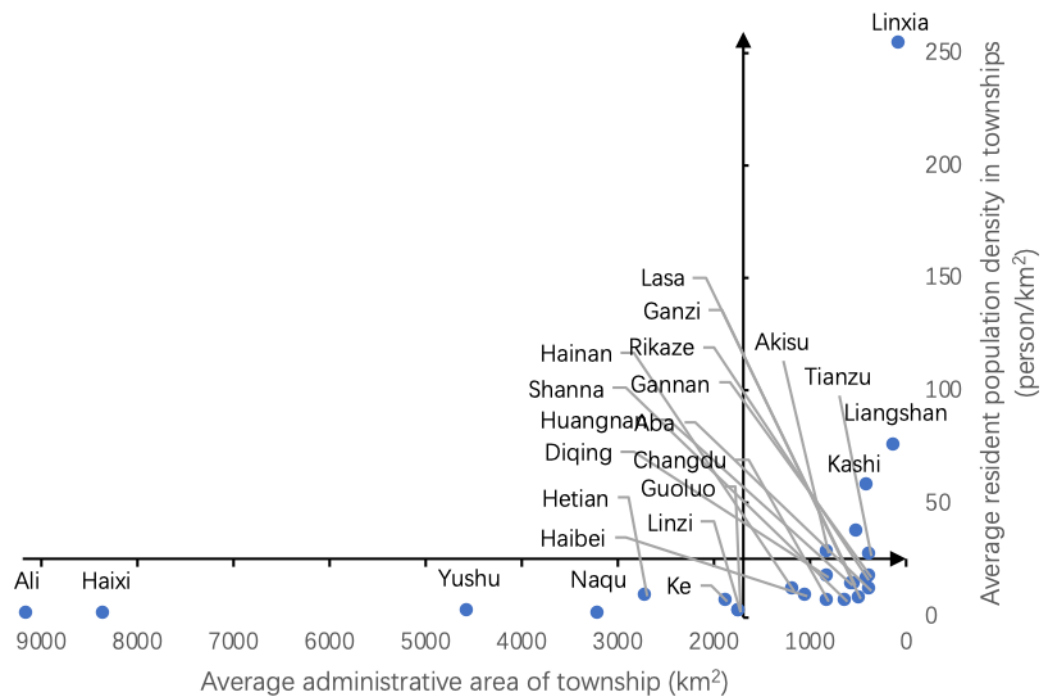


Fig.1 “Three Districts and Three States” Density and Distance Relationship

Data source: “2018 China County Statistical Yearbook”, population density, regional market potential is calculated by the author.

In 2017, the average administrative area of the “three districts and three prefectures” townships is 1704.2 square kilometers and the average population density of townships and towns is 25.4. The “three districts and three prefectures” cities and states are placed in the Descartes quadrant. The first quadrant is a city with a large population density and a small administrative area, that is, a region with a relatively high density and a small distance. This area mainly includes Linxia, Liangshan, Kashgar, Nujiang and Tianzhu counties. The overall regional market potential level of this type of region is relatively high, the number of regional enterprises is large, and the level of economic development is relatively high. The second quadrant is a region with a large population density and a large administrative area, that is, a region with a large density and a long distance. No region falls in this quadrant. It can be seen that the vast area of administrative areas in China is often accompanied by a low population density. The third quadrant is a region with a large administrative area and a small population density, that is, a region with small density and large distance, including Ali, Haixi, Yushu, Naqu, Kezhou, Hotan, and Guoluo. Nyingchi City. These areas face a development dilemma of greater distance and lower density. The fourth quadrant is an area with a small administrative area and a small population density, including most areas of the “three districts and three prefectures”, such as Lhasa, Shigatse, Changdu, Nyingchi, Shannan, Ganzi, and Aba. State, Hainan, Gannan, Huangnan, Haibei. The division caused by these areas is relatively small, and it is necessary to improve the overall development level of the region by increasing the population and economic density, and to achieve the improvement of regional market potential.

3. The Analysis of the Urbanization Patch of “Three Districts and Three Prefectures”

Measuring the density, distance, and degree of division of the “three districts and three prefectures” can be examined through regional market potential, urbanization rate, and population density. The Market Potential level integrates the regional economic development level and geographical location, and can evaluate the regional development capability more objectively and comprehensively. It is a comprehensive indicator that integrates the distance and economic development level. The regional market potential was first proposed by Harris(1954).Based on Harris market potential and Liu Xiuyan(2007) calculation method, this paper calculates the market

potential level of 336 prefectures and cities nationwide.^① And match the level of regional urbanization. The regional urbanization level, the resident population density, and the average number of township enterprises reflect the regional economic density.

3.1 The Law of Urbanization Distribution in Various Regions of the Country.

To study the urbanization and market potential of the “three districts and three prefectures”, we should look at the overall situation from the development of different regions of the country to learn from the future development direction and mode, and find the turning point after the matching of urbanization level, population density and regional market potential. Analyze the location of these cities at the turning point, three industrial structures and other factors, and propose the direction of urbanization development in the “three districts and three prefectures”.

Table 1 Density, Distance and Division of Townships and Towns in Various Regions of China

project	Distance, segmentation		density			
	Average township area (km ²)	Average resident population (person)	Resident population density (person / km ²)	enterprise Number	Number of industrial enterprises	Above the scale
National	270.88	29227.10	107.90	194.67	66.94	6.78
East	105.81	42921.45	405.64	473.22	185.90	17.01
Central	117.61	34511.54	293.44	155.82	53.63	6.33
West	450.70	19990.65	44.35	82.22	17.03	2.20
Northeast	265.33	21929.29	82.65	109.33	30.21	2.94
Three districts and three prefectures	991.14	8894.55	8.97	16.67	3.50	0.36

Data source: Calculated through the “2018 China County Statistical Yearbook”.

On the whole, the level of economic density based on the density of permanent residents and the number of enterprises has gradually declined from the east to the west. The average area of towns and villages is similar to the east and the middle, which is about 110 square kilometers. The area of townships in the western region is about 3.5 times that of the central and western regions, which reflects the large division of the western region due to the distance. In terms of resident population density, there is a clear decline in the eastern, central, northeastern, and western regions, especially in the “three districts and three prefectures” region. The resident population density is one-fifth of the eastern region, which is the national average. One twelfth. The same trend in the number of enterprises reflects the low level of economic density in the “three districts and three prefectures”.

Through the multivariate local Geary cluster test, the market potential of 335 prefectures and cities, the urbanization rate of resident population and the density of resident population were tested. The results are as follows:

Table 2 Geary Clustering Test Results

Significant situation	Number of cities
Significant positive correlation	235
Not obvious	97 (mainly concentrated in Heilongjiang Province, Hubei Province, Shaanxi Province, Shanxi Province, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, Anhui, Guangdong, Fujian, Sichuan, Qinghai, Gansu, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region city)
No field	3 (Haikou, Sanya, Zhoushan)

The positive correlation between the three shows that the regional market potential level, the resident population urbanization rate and the resident population density are at the same high or low concentration. The above results can be used to calculate the urbanization rate, resident population density and market potential level of the resident population in prefecture-level cities. The

^①Due to space limitations, the specific calculation method and process of regional market potential value are not written, and can be requested from the author.

combination is divided by the average of all cities and states. The above-average level is expressed by “H”, and the lower than average is expressed by “L”. It is the result of the combination of the three cities in the country.

Table 3 Urbanization Rate, Resident Population Density, Regional Market Potential Distribution

combination	LLL	HLL	LHL	LLH	HHL	LHH	HLH	HHH
East	2	3	2	4	1	11	20	44
Central	4	1	1	17	0	29	22	12
West	77	25	17	3	4	2	0	2
Northeast	11	0	5	0	1	0	0	1

Sources of data: statistical yearbooks of various provinces and regions, statistical bulletins for national economic and social development of cities and states, permanent population density, regional market potential calculated by the author.

From the distribution of the above-mentioned cities and states, it is known that the improvement of regional market potential shows the general trend of increasing the density of the first-time resident population and improving the level of post-urbanization. The increase in the level of urbanization is not the primary condition for the improvement of regional market potential, and the increase in the resident population of the region has a more significant impact.

3.2 The Distribution Law of Urbanization in the “Three Districts and Three Prefectures “

The level of urbanization has a significant relationship with regional market potential, resident population density, and regional administrative area. Through the distribution of 235 prefectures and cities in china, the agglomeration of state urbanization rates and other variables can be found through two-variable Moran's I found the “three districts and three prefectures” in 2017.

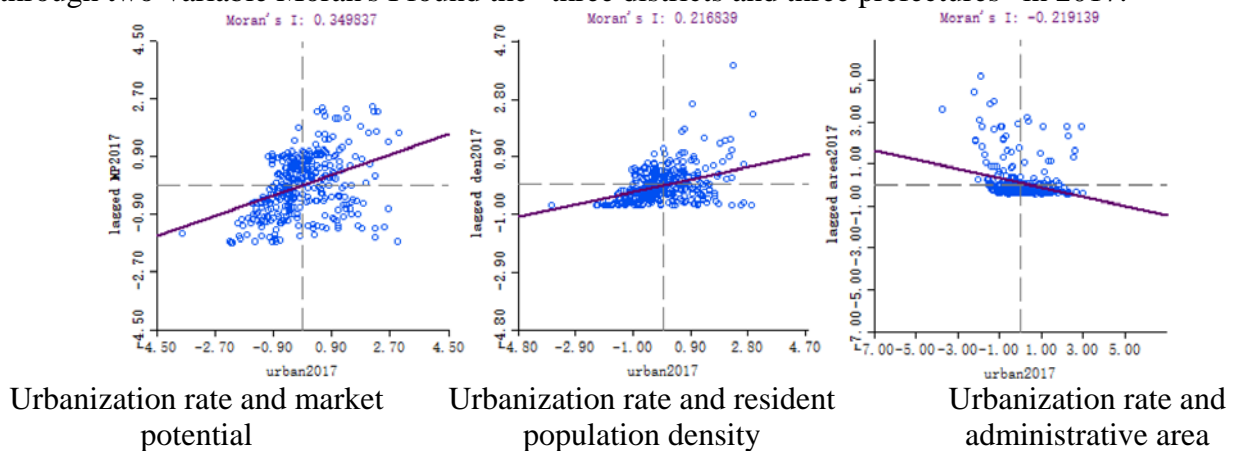


Fig.2

The overall urbanization level of “three districts and three prefectures “ is relatively low, and the development level is not balanced. The average value of each index of these regions is the demarcation point, and the upper and lower average values are “H” and “L” respectively. The distribution of urbanization rate, resident population density and regional market potential of the resident population in the region is shown in the following table.

Table 4 Distribution of Urbanization Rate, Resident Population Density and Regional Market Potential of “Three Districts and Three Prefectures”

combination	LLL	HLL LHL	LLH	LHH	HLH	HHH	HHL	
City	Ali, Changdu, Nagqu, Shigatse, Shannan, Kezhou	Haixi, Yushu, Lhasa, Nyingchi	Aksu, Hotan, Hotan, Kashgar	Guoluo, Huangnan, Nuzhou	Ganzi	Gannan, Haizhou, Hainan, Aba, Diqing	Linxia, Wuwei, Liangshan	no

Sources of data: Statistical yearbooks of provinces and autonomous regions in 2018, statistical bulletins on national economic and social development of cities and counties, permanent population density, and regional market potential are calculated by the author.

The areas with low urbanization rate, population density and market potential (LLL) are mainly concentrated in the Tibet Autonomous Region and Xinjiang's Kezhou. These regions are vast and sparsely populated, mainly in remote areas of China, with poor natural conditions. The development of the region can promote the level of infrastructure such as transportation, education, culture and health through policy support and government investment, and improve the local market potential level, thereby attracting the gradual entry of external population and industry, upgrading the local industry level, and optimizing Industrial structure. Gradually attract rural population into the regional high-level industrial system, and become an urban human resource with industrial support.

The “LLL” type areas are mostly in the border areas. The stability and development of the areas are related to major national interests. Continued and stable investment and assistance to these areas can not only enhance the regional economic development capacity, but also strengthen the border and enrich the people. The frontiers have a beneficial impact. The pace of urbanization in this type of area should be stable and not urgent. With urban infrastructure construction and industrial optimization as the guide, farmers and herdsmen will be forced to move into towns spontaneously, so that the population of these new towns will continue to increase and become connected to the countryside. The bond with the town continues to drive the rural population to participate in the town-centered production system.

For areas with relatively high levels of urbanization, but low population density and low market potential (HLL), such as Haixi, Yushu, Lhasa, and Nyingchi. Such urban areas are relatively high, and regional economic development The level is relatively good, but due to factors such as large geographical area and small population, the market potential level does not appear relatively high. For such areas that have entered the fast lane of urbanization, efforts should be made to improve the level of urban infrastructure. To attract foreign populations through tourism, culture and other industries. Use better urban service systems to attract foreign industries, improve local resources, deep processing capacity of agricultural and livestock products, and achieve the growth of resident population and regional market potential. It is necessary to pay attention to the phenomenon that the transition depends on a single industry, and to avoid the decline of the comprehensive potential of the city brought about by the shrinkage of the single industry.

For areas with relatively high population density but low levels of urbanization and low market potential (LHL), such as Aksu, Hotan, and Kashgar, these regions have a large population, relatively abundant labor resources, and a good overall economic development trend. The development potential of urbanization in the region is relatively large, and the market potential level is increasing rapidly. We will focus on optimizing and supporting the industrial development of these regions, giving play to advantageous industries, upgrading the commercialization level of agricultural and livestock products, and establishing an online trading platform and market town for agricultural and livestock products. The market will improve the transaction convenience of agricultural and livestock products, and thus increase the income level. Through the improvement of education and medical facilities, the rural population will be concentrated in towns.

For the state of Guoluo, Huangnan and Nujiang, where the market potential is relatively high, these areas have made great achievements in policy assistance and their own industrial upgrading. These results need to be translated into an increase in urban population. Continuous optimization of the three industries. At the same time, the sustainable development of these regions under the support of policies needs to be paid attention to, and we must pay attention to improving the self-development capabilities of these regions.

For areas with low degree of urbanization, but with high population density and regional market potential (LHH), such as Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, this area needs to optimize the industrial structure, focus on the development of market towns, and enhance the awareness of commodity exchange between farmers and herdsmen. The level of knowledge and skills of farmers and herdsmen, transforming their educational concepts, and guiding rural population into towns

through children's education and medical care.

For areas with high degree of urbanization and low population density, areas with high market potential (HLH, such as Gannan, Haibei, Hainan, Aba, and Diqing. These areas are large in area and overall development. The degree is good and has a good potential for sustainable development. In the future, these regions will attract more people to enter and increase the density of permanent residents in the region.

For Linxia Prefecture, Wuwei City and Liangshan Prefecture with high urbanization level, population density and high market potential (HHH), we will continue to promote the benign development of these cities and counties, attract new industries to enter the region, and reduce the cost of production factors. Improve the convenience of local corporate financing, and support rural entrepreneurs to innovate and start businesses.

4. Conclusion

The gradual improvement of the level of urbanization is the only way for regional economic development. Improving the level of urbanization in the “three districts and three prefectures” will promote its economic development. At the same time, we must also see that these regions needs to form an urbanization method and method suitable for the region based on the urbanization path of other regions.

4.1 The Urban Population Formed by the Relocation of Poverty-Stricken Areas Needs Continuous Assistance

For the “three districts and three prefectures” with poor poverty and poor natural conditions, the promotion of poverty alleviation has become one of the important ways of urbanization of farmers and herdsman. The relocation for poverty alleviation has solved the problem of production and living of the poor in the “one side of the water and soil can not afford one person”, and released the labor force to participate in the urban industry. However, after the relocation of the land to the poor, the farmers and herdsman who entered the city were slow to rebuild the social network, and the lack of social network welfare system caused some people to adapt to it for a long time, which may lead to livelihood difficulties. Compared with the urbanization formed by spontaneous relocation, it has the problem of faster process but poor stability. One of the reasons for these problems is that the urbanization process does not match the industrial structure and industrial quality upgrade. From the characteristics of the region with low economic density in the “three districts and three prefectures”, it is necessary to continuously introduce external access to local migrant workers and healthy population. From the geographical environment of “three districts and three prefectures”, the overall housing suitability is relatively poor, but the characteristics of agriculture, animal husbandry and tourism are rich in resources. Through the development of green agriculture and animal husbandry, the characteristic tourism industry attracts outside populations and gradually expands the permanent residence. The population will increase the vitality of regional production and consumption. For the problem of long distance and serious division, it is necessary to improve the accessibility of the area by constructing high-grade highways, high-speed railways, and regional civil airports. In short, the promotion of poverty alleviation will bring the poor farmers and herdsman together as the beginning of the upgrading of the urbanization level of the “three districts and three prefectures”. With the industry as the guarantee and the infrastructure as the cornerstone, the revitalization of the “three districts and three prefectures” will be revitalized.

4.2 Enhance the Attractiveness of the Region and Increase the Level of Urbanization through Continuous Population Inflows

By promoting the commercial service functions of the towns, the health and recuperation function attracts foreigners, and it is not simply relying on local farmers and herdsman to enter the towns. By upgrading the commercialization of the characteristic agriculture and animal husbandry, the trading market is commercialized, attracting more foreign populations to participate in the local market transactions, forming the entry of the floating population and increasing the number of

permanent residents. Improve the level of compulsory education in cities and towns, and use educational resources to improve the level of urbanization in urban areas. The transformation of educational concepts and the promotion of urbanization are crucial. In order for children to have more and better educational opportunities, farmers and herdsman will move into towns with their children's educational resources. In addition, it is more common to see intergenerational migration, where children move to towns and parents stay in their original place of residence to continue living. For example, the illiterate proportion of adult labor in Songpan County of Aba Prefecture is about 90%. However, with the promotion of precision poverty alleviation, the enrollment rate of children reaches 100%. Some farmers and herdsman have better educational resources for their children to move to towns and counties. The number of permanent residents in the town has played a certain role in promoting the economy of the active region.

4.3 Improve the Construction of Central Market Towns and Promote the Entry of Farmers and Herdsman into the Urban Commodity Circulation System

Li Yining (2012) proposed that farmers and herdsman participate in market activities and commercialize their own products, which is also a way to participate in urban life. That is to say, to establish a central market town that promotes commodity trading, from point to point. It is convenient for farmers and herdsman to sell the agricultural products they produce to the market, and at the same time, they can easily obtain the goods they need from the market. Therefore, the urbanization development mode of “three districts and three states” should be targeted, and the urban population should be abandoned. The assessment method with the proportion of quantity as the only indicator should be from the industrial integration and the construction of commodity trading system as the starting point, and promote the farmers and herdsman to enter the product trading system and become the “quasi-urban population”.

4.4 Both Policy Orientation and Urbanization Formed by Spontaneous Relocation Are Indispensable

The urbanization path formed by the policy-oriented process of “three districts and three states” can be expressed as “LLL-HLL”. Under the promotion of relocation for poverty alleviation and the construction of characteristic towns, the level of urbanization in the region has rapidly increased. However, due to the relatively small population migration, the population of permanent residents has not increased much, and the population density has not increased significantly. Due to the improvement of infrastructure, the attraction and convenience of cultural tourism facilities have increased, and the regional market potential has improved. However, from the market potential to the entry of foreign populations, there will be a certain time difference may lead to the evolution of HLL. At the same time, the entry of the foreign population is related to the attractiveness of the local market, and is related to the level of economic development and activity of the surrounding areas. If the consumption in the foreign countries is slow, the local towns there will be a “HLL” status in the market and market potential. If the region's higher market potential level continues to be maintained, the investment in the region needs to be sustainable. As the surrounding regions and the entire large regional market potential increase, the spillover effect will lead to human resources, capital and consumption will enter the market with high level of market potential and good urbanization construction, which will further improve the overall development of the backward areas. At the same time, due to the deviation of regional development strategies and methods, regional development may be involved. For example, the level of urbanization is stagnant, and policy immigrants return to the original production area due to insufficient industrial support. The urban population gathered in the form of urban areas will return to the agricultural and livestock production areas, causing the urban to wither, the population concentration to decline, and even fall back to the “LLL” state.

Due to the lack of regional industrial capacity development ability and poor geographical location, urbanized immigrants rely too much on financial bottoms and local public welfare jobs. The regional market potential cannot be effectively improved, resulting in a continuous hll state. This state increases the local financial burden. However, for ecological conservation areas,

protected areas, due to their special geographical location, can be achieved through scientific ecological compensation mechanisms.

In short, the development of “three districts and three prefectures” is inseparable from the improvement of urbanization level. This process should be stable and not urgent. It is appropriate for the industry to be guided first. It should be guided by the government. It is advisable to establish an agricultural population to enter the urban mechanism spontaneously.

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