Regional Resource Allocation and Regional Intergovernmental Cooperation

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Abstract: The scarcity of resources and the accelerated process of regional integration have caused complex regional intergovernmental cooperation to receive much attention. In order to effectively produce and supply regional public goods and solve regional public issues in regional economic development, it is necessary to form normal regional governance to ensure timely and effective governance of regional public affairs. To this end, a series of regional cooperation with bilateral and multilateral coordination and cooperation as the basic content has been carried out among local governments in the region. Regional cooperation has effectively promoted regional coordination and cooperation, but there are also inherent shortcomings. This article studies the impact of intergovernmental cooperation on regional resource utilization from the perspective of regional resource allocation.

Keywords: Regional Intergovernmental Cooperation, Regional Resource Allocation, Regional Resource Utilization Rate

1. Introduction

Resource allocation can be divided into non operational resources (mainly social public resources), operational resources (mainly industrial resources), and quasi operational resources (mainly urban resources). Mesoeconomics believes that regional governments are the main research subjects of mesoeconomics. Regional governments not only undertake the macro regulatory functions of the region, but also fully compete with other regions. They create regional core competitiveness through policy and institutional leadership to maintain regional economic growth [1]. The allocation of operational resources belongs to the purely market mechanism regulation category, while the allocation of non operational resources is under the direct control of regional governments. Only the allocation of quasi operational resources can best reflect the leading role of regional governments. Therefore, studying interregional government cooperation from the perspective of quasi operational resource allocation has more practical significance. Regional intergovernmental cooperation will provide society with more efficient public goods and services, and make limited resources more effective. At present, the existing research on regional intergovernmental cooperation in China is mainly based on establishing and improving the coordination and cooperation system between regional and local governments. However, from the perspective of the new regionalism that emerged in developed countries in Europe and the United States in the 1990s, regional governance should be a political process that addresses regional macro and micro issues through the establishment of cooperative governments or specialized institutions, the use and mobilization of social and non-governmental organizations, with full respect and encouragement of public participation. Therefore, the ongoing cooperation among various regions in China is a lack of coordination and cooperation among local governments that lacks governance, overemphasizing the central role of local governments in regional cooperation. The topic of regional cooperation only revolves around the needs of local governments at all levels in the region, and cannot cover all public affairs in the region. Ultimately, it is impossible to solve many key issues in the process of regional integration.
2. Literature Review

Currently, there are literatures that have analyzed regional resource allocation and regional intergovernmental cooperation, and the analyzed regional resources mainly involve quasi operational resources. Liu Huanzhang (2008) and others took the the Pearl River Delta as an example to carry out relevant analysis and proposed that to improve the quality of regional cooperation, it is necessary to gradually adjust from coordination and cooperation among regional local governments to regional governance in the perspective of new regionalism. Research was conducted on how to coordinate the allocation of information resources within our government architecture [2]. Li Yao (2014) divided four different combinations of scientific and technological resources allocation based on the different positions and roles of the market and the government in the allocation of scientific and technological resources, and constructed a collaborative working mechanism between the government and the market in different scientific and technological allocation links based on the analysis of the roadmap for scientific and technological innovation [3]. Yu Sha et al. (2017) attempted to answer how the cooperative relationship between local governments affects their land transfer behavior from the perspective of local cooperation. Through a case study of Anhui Province's participation in regional cooperation in the Yangtze River Delta and Guangdong Province's promotion of intra-provincial cooperation, as well as an empirical test of provincial panel data from 2003 to 2011, the article finds that local governments are more enthusiastic about the cooperative model of jointly building parks to achieve industrial transfer; Such cooperation will promote local governments to agree to transfer land, and may crowd out bidding, auction, and listing for transfer. This trend is even more significant in the allocation of new land. In addition, the impact of cooperation on the industrial structure of both sides is different, and indirectly supports the above-mentioned impact mechanism [4]. Li Miao (2019) analyzed the mechanism of government subsidies and technology diffusion on resource allocation efficiency from the perspective of industry-university-research collaborative innovation. The research finds that technology diffusion and government subsidies are mutually endogenous variables, and government subsidies significantly promote technology diffusion in collaborative innovation. Conversely, technology diffusion also increases the opportunities for enterprises to obtain government subsidies; Government subsidies have increased the intensity of technology diffusion, thereby improving the efficiency of resource allocation [5].

3. Theoretical Analysis

In recent years, China has made certain achievements in regional coordinated development, and regions such as the Yangtze River Delta have also made many achievements in eliminating regional barriers and promoting regional integration and development. However, in general, China's cross regional collaborative governance and government cooperation still face many challenges in institutional mechanism reform, implementation of cooperation plans, and improvement of governance capabilities [6]. The allocation of operational resources belongs to a purely market mechanism regulation category, while the allocation of non operational resources is a category under the direct control of regional governments. Only the allocation of quasi operational resources can best reflect the leading role of regional governments. Therefore, studying interregional government cooperation from the perspective of quasi operational resource allocation has more practical significance. Regional intergovernmental cooperation will provide society with more efficient public goods and services, and make limited resources more effective. The main reason why the issue of regional intergovernmental cooperation has received widespread attention is that the current situation of public affairs governance has undergone significant changes, presenting different characteristics than in the past. Firstly, the value connotation in governance issues is becoming increasingly diverse, which means that the "normative" proposition in public affairs governance needs to face more interest demands and resolve more value conflicts. Therefore, the tension of value orientation in public governance has further expanded compared to the past. Secondly, the temporal and spatial boundaries of governance issues have greatly expanded. The impact and derivative effects caused by an increasing number of governance issues are no longer limited to the boundaries of "territory", nor are they limited to one or two administrative cycles, but rather exhibit significant "cross time" and "cross border" characteristics. Resolving these thorny governance issues requires relevant institutions or entities with different functions, types, and regions to address the complexity of the issue itself based on a holistic perspective. No single department or administrative entity has all the resource endowments and strategies to address these governance issues that have multiple values and span time and space boundaries. Faced with the confusion brought about by the new situation of public affairs governance, both theoretical and practical aspects have focused on regional intergovernmental cooperation in the process of seeking governance reform. One important reason is that this governance approach provides a new structure that is inclusive, rich in information, and can jump out of the shackles of the bureaucratic system, This structure allows the public sector to "leverage" intelligence and resources beyond its control when solving public problems.
Vigorously promoting coordinated regional development, solving the problem of uneven regional development, and narrowing regional development gaps are both the essence of adhering to coordinated development and the essence of adhering to shared development. At present, China's economy has shifted from a stage of rapid growth to a stage of high-quality development, based on the internal basis that the main social contradictions have been transformed into a contradiction between the people's growing need for a better life and unbalanced and inadequate development. To promote high-quality development is to work hard to address the imbalance and inadequacy of development. Large regional disparities and uneven regional development are not only the basic national conditions of China, but also one of the prominent manifestations of the imbalance and insufficient contradiction in development. Regional economy is an important component of the national economic system. Only by vigorously implementing the strategy of coordinated regional development, cultivating and exerting regional comparative advantages, strengthening regional complementarity, deepening interregional division of labor, strengthening regional cooperation, conducting fair and reasonable regional competition, and shaping a new pattern of coordinated regional development can we enhance the synergy and integrity of economic development and improve the development quality of the entire economic system. Drawing on successful practices at home and abroad, it is necessary to focus on solving problems in the construction of cooperative mechanisms, effective evaluation and supervision, and application of governance technologies in cross-domain collaborative governance in the future. Through pilot experiments, actively explore and innovate in regional governance mechanisms and methods, and promote regional coordination towards high-quality development.

The cooperation between local governments in China can be divided into three levels: first, the formation of urban government consortia, which refers to the economic, administrative, and cultural cooperation between urban governments. The second is the collaboration between local governments within the economic zone. For example, the integrated cooperation practices between governments in the Yangtze River Delta region have taken various cooperation methods and made beneficial attempts to handle different cross-regional affairs. Thirdly, local government cooperation across economic zones. The cooperation between local governments is no longer limited to economic regions, but extends beyond them, forming cross-regional cooperation and strengthening the breadth and strength of cooperation. These different levels of cooperation have enabled local governments to break the limitations of their original administrative regions, making it more conducive to forming a unified cooperative and competitive situation. From the current regulations and national conditions in China, intergovernmental cooperation agreements or administrative contracts are high-level institutional arrangements for cross-regional cooperation. Due to differences in resource endowments and socio-economic foundations, there objectively exists a mutual need among regions to achieve maximum benefits through mutually beneficial cooperation. Therefore, the government cooperation agreement is worthy of recognition and should be actively promoted and utilized.

4. Conclusion

Therefore, regional governments have both the "quasi macro" role of macro regulation and the "quasi micro" role of participating in market competition. Different resources have different allocation principles and policies. Operational resources should be operated and managed in accordance with market allocation principles, market operation mechanisms, and market operation rules. Regional governments can plan more and lead more in industrial policies. For non-operational resources, regional governments should be duty-bound to undertake the allocation, management, and development of such resources in a comprehensive manner, ensuring basic security, and supporting policies in accordance with the principles of "basic trust, fairness, justice, and effective promotion.". For quasi-operational resources, it is necessary to determine whether they should be developed and allocated as operational resources or operated and managed as public welfare undertakings based on factors such as regional development, financial situation, capital flow, market demand, and social acceptance and affordability. The principles of market regulation, regulation of market operation, and participation in market competition should be followed. The allocation of quasi-operational resources adopts a series of leading policy measures, and the leading policy formed by the PPP model is the most important: the legal and regulatory system, the contract culture system, the innovation and leading of financial models, and the improvement and guidance of supervision and management mechanisms. In order to promote regional government cooperation, it is necessary to further establish and improve relevant systems, strictly protect the interests of partners, and provide a basis for resolving conflicts between local governments, which helps to break local divisions and establish a unified market. In terms of cooperation content, it is also possible to increase the breadth of cooperation with different local governments and explore the depth of cooperation based on the comparative advantages of both parties according to local conditions. In addition, the government cooperation agreement should be used as a benchmark and platform to guide the active participation of enterprises, vigorously promote the development of non-governmental organizations, cultivate a cooperative mixture of multiple entities including local governments, enterprises, non-governmental organizations, and citizens, and form a multi-center cooperation model. In terms of choosing the form of government cooperation organizations, one can choose between project cooperation, market operation, and non-governmental organization cooperation. In the application of government cooperation methods and means, both administrative intervention and fully market-oriented methods and means can be chosen, and a combination of administrative and market methods and means can also be
adopted. In the future, local governments in China should continuously strengthen regional cooperation and promote coordinated resource allocation.

References