

URBAN INSIGHT

Vol.94, No.6, 2024

ABSTRACTS

STUDIES ON CHINESE MODERNIZATION

The Theoretical Implications, Performance Evaluation and High-Quality Development of Youth Development-Oriented Cities Under the Belt and Road Initiative: On the Perspective of the Next Golden Decade of BRI Cooperation 4

Liu Yang, Yang Dongping, Cui Minmou, Li Chuan

Abstract: The study of youth development-oriented cities under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) seeks to identify universal principles for constructing such cities while respecting the cultural uniqueness and resource endowments of different nations. By exploring the contemporary value of diverse urban practices, this study advocates for “practical, people-oriented, cost-effective, and sustainable” approaches to promoting high-quality youth development in cities. Building on China’s experience in developing youth development-oriented cities, this paper proposes an evaluation framework and indicator system tailored to the high-quality development of such cities within the BRI context. The framework aims to reflect the distinctive strategies employed by BRI partner countries to advance youth development, summarize replicable and scalable practices, and provide systematic, practical guidance for future BRI projects. By fostering collaboration and mutual progress in addressing youth development challenges, this study aspires to contribute to the global exploration of modernization pathways and offer fresh perspectives on advancing human development.

Keywords: the Belt and Road Initiative; youth development-oriented cities; high-quality development; Chinese modernization; theoretical consensus

GUANGDONG-HONG KONG-MACAO GREATER BAY AREA

Joint the Regulations: Constructing an Economic Integration Index for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area 18

Zhao Junhao, Lai Ruibiao, Yang Sirui

Abstract: Accelerating economic integration within the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) is of great significance in optimizing the functional layout and building the GBA into an open, integrated and sustainable world-class bay area. This study constructs the GBA Economic Integration Index (GBA EII) based on principles of international acceptance and comparability and alignment with major national strategies. The index com-

prises 24 indicators across four dimensions: macroeconomic convergence, industrial restructuring, trade and investment, and financial connectivity. The results reveal significant progress in macroeconomic alignment, steady advancements in industrial restructuring, enhanced trade and investment cooperation, and positive developments in financial integration. However, challenges persist, including widening disparities in inflation and economic growth and the complexity of industrial restructuring. To address these challenges, the study recommends promoting social integration, attracting foreign investment to the region, and strengthening regulatory and institutional coordination to support Hong Kong and Macao's deeper integration into national development strategies.

Keywords: Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area development; regional integration; economic integration index; indicator system; regulatory and institutional coordination

Exploring Land Readjustment Models for Large-Scale Industrial Space Supply in Megacities: A Case Study of Zhangbei Area, Shenzhen 34

Lü Xiaohan, Zhou Dawei, Deng Chunlin, Liu Yanping

Abstract: Large-scale industrial spaces are pivotal for driving industrial transformation, fostering clusters, and facilitating the concentration of headquarters economies. In the era of stock-based development, the supply of incremental industrial space in megacities has nearly reached its limit. Existing redevelopment projects tend to offer only small-scale and fragmented spaces, highlighting the urgent need to develop strategies and methods for coordinating and integrating large-scale, contiguous industrial spaces at the district level. This study, based on Shenzhen's industrial development practices, examines the significance and challenges of supplying large-scale industrial spaces within a redevelopment framework. It proposes a large-scale space supply strategy centered on government-led coordination, balanced land rights allocation, and the comprehensive application of diverse policy instruments. A case study of the Zhangbei area in Longgang District, Shenzhen, demonstrates a coordinated approach to large-scale industrial space readjustment that aligns multiple stakeholders, addresses diverse demands, and integrates various policy measures. This serves as a reference for other cities seeking to adapt large-scale industrial spaces to foster industrial cluster development and achieve multi-stakeholder benefits.

Keywords: megacities; large-scale industrial space; space supply; land readjustment models; redevelopment

CITY TALKS

Advancing Water Governance for the People and Prosperity: Carrying Forward the Modernization of Water Governance 49

Yu Minjiang, Chen Tianxiang, Zhou Xinmin, Luo Gang, Yan Haina, Liu Shenglei, Peng Minggang, Ren Min, Ma Liang, Dai Shengli, Yu Zifan, Yu Gangqiang, Zeng Dong, Fu Chengzhe, Tang Bin, Lai Ruwen, Chen Yuxin, Peng Xiangeng, Ye Lin, Wu Yongzhao, Liu Jinyu

URBAN ECONOMY

Can the Integration of Manufacturing and Services Alleviate the “Cost Disease” in the Service Sector? — A Test Based on a Dynamic Spatial Durbin Model 79

Kang Si, Pan Hailan

Abstract: As service functions increasingly play a pivotal role in modern manufacturing, the boundaries between industries are becoming blurred, and the Advanced Manufacturing and Modern Service Industry has emerged as a vital pathway for driving economic growth. This study utilizes Stochastic Frontier Analysis and an Evaluation Indicator System to measure service industry productivity and the degree of manufacturing-service integration across 30 Chinese provinces from 2012 to 2021. A dynamic spatial Durbin model is employed to investigate the direct effects and spatial spillovers of such integration on total factor productivity (TFP) in the service sector. The findings reveal a persistent rise in the share of the service industry in the economy, coupled with slowing overall economic growth, reflecting the presence of a “cost disease” in the service sector. Manufacturing-service integration significantly enhances local service sector TFP in the short term and exerts stronger long-term spatial spillover effects on neighboring regions. This integration is particularly effective in boosting productivity in both eastern and western regions, primarily through improvements in technical efficiency and scale effects.

Keywords: manufacturing-service integration; service industry; manufacturing industry; total factor productivity; spatial spillover

A Comparative Study on the Spatial Agglomeration Characteristics of Traditional Auto Parts Enterprises and New Energy Auto Parts Enterprises 98

Chen Jiaping, Wen Yaohong, Wang Qian

Abstract: Due to the differences in automotive components, the spatial layout of China's new energy vehicle (NEV) industry has changed considerably compared with that of the traditional vehicle industry. With the robust growth of NEVs and China's progress toward ‘dual carbon’ goals, it is of great significance to further the research and understanding of the spatial layout of the NEV industry. Drawing on the theoretical framework of global production networks (GPN), and by collecting and analyzing the spatial distribution of OEMs and major parts suppliers of traditional vehicles and NEVs, this study conducts a comparative analysis on the layout of the production network of typical automobile enterprises, and finds that influenced by the composition of the automotive products, traditional automotive firms preferred the actor strategy of inter-firm control, whereas NEV firms preferred to opt for inter-firm collaboration. Correspondingly, the spatial response manifests itself in the fact that the traditional vehicle industry will form a relatively tightly-knit production network within a certain range around the OEM, while NEV industry will form a relatively decentralized production network by ‘embedded growth’ on top of the production network of traditional vehicles.

Keywords: automotive industry, new energy vehicles, global production network, spatial agglomeration

URBAN GOVERNANCE

New Directions in Urban Transportation Governance: Ways and Challenges in Implementing Sustainable Multimodal Mobility Strategies 112

Huang Yan, Ma Liang

Abstract: As the environmental and health challenges of mechanization-driven urban development become increasingly prominent, multimodal mobility has emerged as a preferred solution for meeting the complex and diverse travel needs of urban residents. This paper examines the core principles of multimodal mobility and systematically summarizes the key considerations for planning and implementing urban multimodal transportation systems. It further explores strategies for constructing and optimizing these systems. The study emphasizes the pressing need to address current urban transportation challenges, including mode connectivity, service integration, and data-sharing barriers. To overcome these obstacles, it is essential to strengthen collaboration among end users, service providers, and government authorities, develop an inclusive multimodal transport service system, explore innovative business collaboration models, and enhance policy guidance and support. This study bridges theoretical insights with practical applications, aiming to provide a robust foundation for building sustainable, efficient, and user-centric multimodal transportation systems.

Keywords: multimodal mobility; multimodal transportation systems; travel service integration; shared mobility

URBAN CULTURE

An Analysis of Guangzhou's City Diplomacy: The Case of the Guangzhou Award 128

Wan Xiaohong, Huang Weifan

Abstract: Gaining deeper insights into the ways and functions of Guangzhou's city diplomacy and summarizing the patterns and trends of it are of great significance in serving China's overall diplomatic strategy and promoting urban development. Taking the Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation ('Guangzhou Award') as an example, this study applies the analytic hierarchy process from the international - national - local dimension to deeply analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of Guangzhou's city diplomacy. The study finds that, relying on the Guangzhou Award as a brand of city diplomacy, Guangzhou not only showcases China's governance wisdom on the global stage but also embodies the principles and values of major-country diplomacy at the national level while enhancing Guangzhou's urban image locally. It suggests that Guangzhou should continue to expand the influence of the Guangzhou Award, promote multilateral sister-city cooperation, improve the agenda setting of Guangzhou's city diplomacy, and set up strategic think tanks for its city diplomacy, so as to promote Guangzhou to become a central global city with classic charm and vitality of the times.

Keywords: city diplomacy; Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation; urban governance; international sister cities; central global city

AT THE FOREFRONT

Should Urban Sentiment Issues Be Considered in Urban Planning?

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Liu Zhi

Abstract: Cities are full of human sentiment. From the perspective of urban planning, urban sentiment pertains to the emotional reaction of urban residents to their built-environment and urban planning implementation. Urban sentiment is becoming increasingly elaborate and important in the age of information technologies and at the stage of high-quality urban development. However, urban planning grounded on reasoning generally finds it technically difficult to consider urban sentiment. This paper discusses the importance of considering urban sentiment in urban planning, and explores ways for planners to understand, measure and mainstream urban sentiment in planning. It proposes a conceptual framework for planners to sympathize and understand urban sentiment, the application of big-data ‘sentiment analysis’ and other tools for measuring urban sentiment, and pilot experiment of mainstreaming urban sentiment into the planning process through the emerging practices of community responsibility-planners.

Keywords: urban sentiment; rational urban planning; emotional cost; empathy; sentiment analysis

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Translation and Revision: Yunping Niu, Professor at Renmin University of China.)*