

# Long-Term Governance Mechanisms Against Large-Scale Re-Impositionment of Previously Alleviated Groups: A Case Study of City C

Qian Li<sup>1</sup>, Yingli Zou<sup>1</sup>, Tingfeng Xiang<sup>1</sup> & Yuhua Luo<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> School of Politics and Public Administration, Guangxi Minzu Normal University, China  
Correspondence: Yuhua Luo, School of Politics and Public Administration, Guangxi Minzu Normal University, China.

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## Abstract

Holding the bottom line of not returning to poverty on a large scale is the foundation and prerequisite for consolidating and expanding the results of poverty eradication in the stage of rural revitalization, and to realize the effective connection between precise poverty alleviation and rural revitalization. Taking C city of Guangxi border area as an example, the article understands the risk of returning to poverty and poverty-causing factors of the poverty-stricken households through field research, and the problems of constructing the governance mechanism, and puts forward corresponding countermeasures, including the development of regional featured industries, the optimization and allocation of educational resources, and the collaborative governance of multiple main bodies, in order to construct the mechanism of preventing the return to poverty of the long-lasting governance as well as the mechanism of helping the poverty-stricken households, so as to form the mode of rural revitalization with the characteristics of the border. Consolidate the results of poverty eradication through rural revitalization.

**Keywords:** poverty reduction, poverty prevention, long-term governance

## 1. Background of the Study

City C has achieved remarkable results in poverty eradication, with a large number of poor people successfully lifting themselves out of poverty. However, due to various factors such as geography, history and culture, City C faces the risk of a large-scale return to poverty for groups that have been lifted out of poverty. The 20th Party Congress clearly stated that the completion of the fight against poverty and the building of a moderately prosperous society in all aspects is one of the three major historic

victories that will enrich the history of the development of the Chinese nation. However, the vulnerability and marginalization characteristics of poverty-stricken people and marginalized households cause them to remain in a disadvantaged position in socio-economic development. (Huang Chengwei, 2021) Therefore, this study aims to analyze the reasons for the return to poverty of the poverty-stricken groups in City C, and to construct a long-term governance mechanism in line with the local reality, so as to provide powerful support for

consolidating the results of poverty alleviation and promoting rural revitalization.

## 2. The Current Situation of the Scale of Return to Poverty Among Groups that Have Escaped from Poverty

### 2.1 Basic Information on the Groups that Have Been Lifted out of Poverty

The basic situation of the anti-poverty groups in City C is diverse. Most of these groups come from economically underdeveloped areas with poor natural conditions and lack stable sources of income. With the in-depth implementation of poverty alleviation policies, many areas have seen significant improvements in infrastructure, education, and health care. According to the National Poverty Eradication Census, 98.5% of towns and villages in poverty-stricken areas have elementary schools, and all counties have junior high schools. The proportion of townships with middle schools is 70.3%, and the proportion of townships with boarding schools is 94.1%, with an increase in the number of students. Cultural service facilities have been further improved, with 98.1% of counties having public libraries and 99.4% of towns and villages having comprehensive cultural stations, and the cultural level of the masses has been upgraded simultaneously. However, these improvements have been based on policy support, and the self-development capacity of poverty-eradication groups is still insufficient.

### 2.2 The Phenomenon of Poverty Reduction on a Large Scale

The scale of poverty is the result of the combined effects of external risk shocks and internal vulnerability. For natural and historical reasons, China has escaped from absolute poverty, and although the battle against poverty has been won, the basis for poverty eradication in some areas and among the masses is not yet solid, and it is difficult to maintain a non-poverty situation in terms of health care coverage, education levels, and social security facilities, making it easy for the phenomenon of large-scale poverty to return to the forefront.

## 3. Analysis of the Problem of the Return to Poverty on a Large Scale for Groups that Have Escaped from Poverty

### 3.1 Problems with Groups that Have Been Lifted out of Poverty

#### 3.1.1 Single Source of Income and Insufficient Skill Levels for Groups that Have Escaped Poverty

Most of the poverty-eradication groups' family incomes are mainly dependent on traditional agricultural production or low-skilled labor, and their own skill levels are insufficient for them to engage in more diversified occupational fields. According to Wu Hongyao, full-time deputy director of the Central Agricultural Office, in 2022, net income from family business accounted for 34.63% of farmers' income, with more than 60% of it coming from agricultural business income.

#### 3.1.2 The Prevalence of Poverty Due to Illness

Inadequate publicity of the policy has led to a lack of understanding of the health-care policy among some groups that have escaped poverty and are unable to make full use of the policy's resources to reduce their health-care burdens. As a result of incomplete coverage or insufficient implementation of the medical security policy in some areas, some poverty-eradication groups choose not to seek or delay treatment due to the high cost of medical care in the face of illness. For example, the reimbursement rates for the three special chronic diseases in City C vary at different levels of designated medical institutions, with the higher the level of medical care the higher the level of medical care, but the higher the costs to be borne by the individual.

Table of payment ratio of the coordinating fund for three outpatient special chronic diseases (renal dialysis for chronic renal insufficiency, outpatient treatment of malignant tumors, and anti-rejection treatment for organ transplantation) of basic medical insurance for urban and rural residents in C city.

**Table 1.**

Level of designated medical institution	Fund payments	personal burden
Level I and below	90%	10%
category B	85%	15%
municipal grade 3	80%	20%

Autonomous Region Level 3	60%	40%
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### 3.1.3 The Gap Between the Return of Poverty Due to Schooling and the Eradication of Poverty Through Education

According to the data in 2023, the ratio of multimedia classrooms per 10,000 students in elementary school in urban and rural areas is 303/165, and the ratio of teaching computers is 1136/689. The imbalance in the distribution of educational resources and the backwardness of teaching equipment make it difficult to obtain high-quality education and adapt to the needs of the development of modern society.

### 3.1.4 Inadequate Capacity for Self-Development After Poverty Eradication

In terms of transportation, poverty-stricken groups often face poor road infrastructure and lack of transportation. Owing to economic constraints, many of these groups find it difficult to purchase or use modern means of transportation, which further limits their range of travel and development opportunities.

Inadequate communication network coverage and poor signal quality make it difficult for poverty-stricken groups to communicate effectively with the outside world, putting them at a disadvantage in accessing market information and resources.

The results of the household verification of the low income insurance of the Civil Affairs Bureau of County T of City C in 2022 show that the verification involved 13 townships in Tianyang County, with a total of 1,404 households, of which 621 households were recommended to be included in the low income insurance, accounting for 44.2% of the completed amount. Individuals in the family were recommended to be included in 54 households, accounting for 3.8% of the completed amount; 725 households were not recommended to be included in the LPS, accounting for 51.6% of the completed amount (see Table 2 for details).

**Table 2.** Statistics of monitored households and whole households without labor force for inclusion in low income and special hardship in County T

Serial number	Administrative district	Recommended for inclusion in low income (households)	Individuals in the family recommended for inclusion in low income (households)	Not recommended for inclusion in low income (households)	Other (sudden illness, special hardship)	Total (households)
1	Township A	113	12	183	0	308
2	Township B	51	3	64	0	118
3	Township C	12	1	13	0	26
4	Township D	55	3	42	0	100
5	Township E	57	5	63	0	125
6	Country F	28	7	26	0	61
7	Country G	14	0	26	0	40
8	Country H	28	4	22	1	55
9	Township I	29	4	30	1	64
10	J-Town	78	2	81	0	161
11	Township K	52	5	56	2	115
12	Country L	59	4	45	0	108
13	M-Town	45	4	74	0	123
add up the total		621	54	725	4	1404

The verification found that 621 households need to be included in the low-income households, and the main situations of these households are: 1) many family members, with large rigid expenditures due to illness and schooling; 2) family members who are unable to go out to work due to family reasons, geographic location, and other factors, and rely only on farming to maintain their livelihoods; and 3) some families who need to be taken care of by others due to the illnesses of some of their members who are incapable of taking care of themselves. It can be seen that economic, educational, medical and other factors lead to the return to poverty of groups that have been lifted out of poverty.

### *3.2 Analysis of the Reasons for the Return to Poverty of Groups that Have Escaped from Poverty*

#### *3.2.1 Lack of Asset Accumulation and Lack of Educational Resources in a Backward Economy*

The vast majority of the groups that have escaped poverty have not accumulated assets, and their incomes are mainly dependent on traditional agricultural production or low-skilled labor, which is a single source of income, unstable, and prone to falling back into poverty in the event of an unexpected situation. Moreover, the lack of quality educational resources in some poor areas makes it difficult for most students from families that have escaped poverty to have access to good educational opportunities, leading to intergenerational poverty.

#### *3.2.2 Inadequate Medical Care*

Some medicines are not reimbursed, but they are required for long-term use for chronic illnesses, which are difficult for poverty-stricken families to bear in the long run. Although some medical, hospitalization and surgical fees are reimbursed at a very high rate, the out-of-pocket expenses are still unaffordable for poverty-stricken families that have not accumulated any assets, thus making major illnesses an important factor in causing poverty-stricken families to return to poverty.

#### *3.2.3 Inadequate Infrastructure*

City C, with its special geographic location, is relatively inaccessible to transportation, which affects the employment and industrial development of groups that have escaped poverty. The poor condition of roads and the lack of means of transportation limit the employment of local people and the investment

of foreign businessmen, as well as the export of agricultural products. Lack of communication affects the access of the poverty-stricken groups to effective market information, which puts them at a disadvantage in market transactions, thus reducing their income and increasing the risk of returning to poverty.

### *3.3 Main Problems in Preventing the Return to Poverty*

#### *3.3.1 Insufficient Self-Development Capacity of Groups that Escape Poverty and Dependence on Policies to Escape Poverty*

According to surveys, less than 20 per cent of most poverty-eradication groups have received professional skills training. In the post-poverty eradication era, the homogenization of poverty-alleviation industries, the instability of industrial development, the imperfection of the benefit linkage mechanism, and the low end of the industrial value chain have made it more difficult for industries to develop in a sustainable manner and to drive the poverty-eradication population to increase their incomes and become rich, and some of those who are relying on policy guarantees and government transfers to lift them out of poverty are not sufficiently capable of developing on their own, and have a stronger dependence on policy.

#### *3.3.2 Difficulty in Monitoring Governmental Dynamics*

First, there are difficulties in accurately identifying the monitoring targets; due to information asymmetry and the limited capacity of grass-roots workers, some households that really need help are not included in the monitoring scope in a timely manner; second, some of the monitoring targets in the process of information collection have concealed or misreported their information, which leads to information and data distortions during the monitoring process; Third, there are some shortcomings in the data itself, as some of the indicators are not strongly linked to the risk of returning to poverty and are not systematic.

#### *3.3.3 The Mechanism for Collaboration Among Multiple Subjects Is Not Yet Complete*

The work of preventing the return of poverty requires the joint participation of the Government, enterprises, social organizations and other parties to form a synergy. The monitoring of the prevention of large-scale

poverty reduction involves the Government, farmers, social organizations, enterprises and other multifaceted subjects, which are required to target the key issues of preventing large-scale poverty reduction and give full play to the advantages of all parties to support the effective operation of the dynamic monitoring and evaluation system. However, in practice, the collaboration mechanism between the parties is still not perfect, and there are barriers to resource sharing and poor information communication. Some of the main parties do not attach sufficient importance to the work of preventing the return of poverty and lack the motivation to participate in it.

#### **4. Building a Long-Term Governance Mechanism to Prevent Groups that Have Escaped Poverty from Falling Back into Poverty**

##### *4.1 Development of Regional Specialty Industries*

City C vigorously develops characteristic agriculture, promotes the industrialization of agricultural production, intensive processing, improves the added value of products, and consolidates the advantages of local characteristic agricultural products; strongly promotes the high-speed development of industry, and actively develops new energy, digital economy, electronic information and other emerging industries, while constantly optimizing the industrial structure and expanding the real economy; and finally, vigorously develops the regional tourism, builds up the tourism industry of Southern Xinjiang, and optimizes the space of cultural tourism industry. Pattern of cultural tourism industry. The government should balance the relationship between social stability and economic development, deal with the relationship between local advantages and comprehensive planning, and achieve the goal of preventing large-scale poverty through the integrated development of urban and rural industries in the county. (Chen Minlan & Li Juan, 2024) The government should optimize the spatial pattern of the cultural tourism industry.

##### *4.2 Optimization and Allocation of Educational Resources*

Achieve the equalization of educational resources, the deployment and sharing of educational resources within the city, focusing on promoting the balanced development of education in urban and rural areas, the

Education Bureau relying on existing resources to take into account the resource needs of all regions and types of schools, to build schools with special characteristics as a means of building a number of schools with quality and ethnic characteristics, and to provide key support for schools in poverty-stricken counties, such as the implementation of the township work subsidy in the county of T, and the hardship subsidies for remote areas, etc.; strengthen the construction of the teaching force, provide systematic vocational training for teachers, and continuously improve the quality of teaching in poverty-stricken areas; create a modernized education system, and make use of modern science and technology to carry out curricular reforms and the application and innovation of education technology; in 2023, there are 14 secondary vocational schools in C City with enrollment qualifications and a large student population, which should carry out innovative reforms in vocational education and establish a modern management system to promote the rapid and high-quality development of education in C city.

##### *4.3 Collaborative Governance by Multiple Actors*

###### **4.3.1 Strengthening the Collaboration of Social Forces**

In order to build a long-term governance mechanism, it is first necessary to clarify and optimize the main responsibilities of various departments, fully mobilize the strength of all sectors of society, integrate resources and ensure the formation of synergies in preventing the return of poverty. The government should play a leading role in formulating scientific policies, clarifying the responsibilities and division of labor of various departments, and strengthening supervision and evaluation to ensure the implementation of relevant policies. The masses, as the basic unit of society, should also actively participate in the work of preventing the return of poverty. Organizations in society and government departments at all levels should pay sustained attention to groups that have escaped from poverty, provide early warning of and intervention in poverty-causing factors, and provide assistance to groups that have been included in the low-income insurance scheme.

###### **4.3.2 Categorized Tracking of Marginalized Groups Returning to Poverty and Causing Poverty**

- “Ensure that there is no return to poverty



on a large scale” is a continuation of the “hold the line” mentality, and “holding the line” alone will not work. (Zhang Hongbin, 2024) It is not possible to rely solely on “guarding”. Classification and tracking of groups prone to returning to poverty is conducive to the effective construction of a long-term governance mechanism for preventing the return of poverty, and long-term tracking of the workload is extremely heavy, which requires the cooperation of all social actors. Monthly dynamic monitoring is carried out, the quality of data is strictly scrutinized, and visits are made on a regular basis to provide care and assistance in life, production and psychology. For groups that return to poverty for various reasons, such as pathology, education and natural disasters, different kinds of assistance and support are provided in a timely manner.

#### 4.3.3 Strengthening Governance Tools to Improve the Ability to Prevent the Return to Poverty

To continue to consolidate the results of the fight against poverty and establish a stable long-term mechanism for preventing the return of poverty, and secondly, to formulate more precise and effective policies for poverty alleviation, to ensure that the policies can truly benefit the groups that have been lifted out of poverty. At the same time, the publicity and interpretation of the policies should be strengthened to increase the awareness and utilization of the policies by the poverty-stricken groups. Finally, technical, financial and industrial support should be stepped up for poverty-stricken households, so that they can have a sustained and stable income, with a view to effectively transforming the mindset and improving the skills of poverty-stricken households.

### 5. Conclusion

Preventing the return of poverty on a large scale among groups that have been lifted out of poverty is a long-term and arduous task that requires continuous exploration, innovation and improvement in practice by all sectors. Despite the remarkable results of the battle against poverty in City C, the self-development capacity of groups that have been lifted out of poverty is insufficient, and there is a risk of returning to poverty on a large scale. Therefore, the construction of a long-term governance

mechanism has become an important task for current and future rural revitalization work. In the construction of the long-term governance mechanism, attention should be paid to optimizing the main responsibility of each department, classifying and tracking marginal groups returning to poverty, and strengthening the collaboration of social forces. At the same time, through the development of regional characteristic industries, optimizing the allocation of educational resources, strengthening the cooperation and governance of multiple subjects, and other measures, the long-term governance mechanism for preventing the return of poverty should be continuously improved, so as to realize the stable poverty alleviation of the poverty-stricken groups. This will promote sustainable development in poverty-stricken areas and lay a solid foundation for the comprehensive construction of a modernized socialist country.

### Fund Project

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