

Policy Research on the Construction of High Standard Farmland in China

-- A Case Study Of Small Villages in Southwest China

Qinggang Sun

School of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, West Yunnan University of Applied Sciences,
Yunnan, China;

Faculty of Humanities, Management and Science Universiti Putra, Putra, Malaysia.

Abstract

China has been laying out the construction of high standard farmland since 2012, requiring the construction of 1 billion mu of high standard farmland by 2022. What is the Purpose of the Chinese government to build high-standard farmland and how is The construction situation? This paper conducts a survey to describe the Construction of high-standard farmland in China and explore the purpose of this Policy, taking a small village in a province in southwest China as an example.

Keywords

High Standard Farmland, Policy, Purpose.

1. Introduction

Agricultural policy has always been an important policy in China. In 2023, the No. 1 Government document in China is the "Opinions on the Key Efforts to promote Rural Revitalization in a Comprehensive Way in 2023," which has been the Chinese government's practice for more than a decade to make agricultural policy the No. 1 national document. This reflects both China's status as a major agricultural country and the fact that the focus of Chinese Government policy will remain focused on agriculture.

1.1. High-standard farmland construction standards

On September 24, 2011, the Ministry of Land and Resources issued the "Specification for Construction of High Standard Basic Farmland (for Trial Implementation)" China's first specification for the construction of high standard basic farmland was introduced. Including land leveling, irrigation and drainage, field roads, farmland protection and ecological environment maintenance, etc.; encourage farmers to take various forms of participation in the construction of the project and encourage the public to participate in the whole process; after the completion of the high-standard basic farmland, the Quality of arable land should be assessed according to the agricultural land classification and grading regulations.

Later, combined with the actual, the concept has been developed and extended to the construction of high standard basic farmland, which refers to the construction of high standard basic farmland as the goal, based on the overall land use planning and land remediation planning, land remediation activities in rural land remediation key areas and major projects, basic farmland protection areas, Basic farmland whole preparation areas, etc., and through the construction of Rural land remediation to form a concentrated contiguous, supporting facilities, high yield and stable yield, good ecology, strong disaster Resistance, the construction of basic farmland to adapt to modern agricultural Production and operation methods.

It is thus clear that the most basic purpose of building high standard farmland is to improve agricultural infrastructure, increase agricultural production and guarantee China's food security.

1.2. Basic construction information

The basic situation of the village, exists 5 km southwest of the central area of the township, with 9 village groups, a total population of 2,667 and a working population of 1,221. Land resources: the village land 4811 mu, including crops (rice) more than 1221 mu, Cash crops (rape, broad beans) more than 830 mu, more than 1750 mu of forest Land, more than 1000 mu of land transfer. The villagers' income is mainly based on outbound labor and agricultural cultivation, with a per capita income of more than 6,200 yuan in 2022, 1,500 more income than 5 years ago. The current situation of high standard farmland construction in the village, from 2015, the village began to carry out high standard farmland construction and renovation project, the total construction and renovation of high-standard farmland more than 830 mu, the basic renovation and construction of farmland with slope below 25 degrees is completed, more than 1,700 meters of new and altered canals, the total investment of more than 1 million yuan.

The village continues to face problems with the renovation and construction of high standard farmland. First of all, it is difficult to construct and renovate the remaining farmland, whose slope is basically greater than 25 degrees, increasing the difficulty of renovation and construction, even if efforts are made to complete, its later soil and water conservation, is also a big problem. Secondly, the input increases, according to the current 1,600 yuan an acre renovation funding input, it is difficult to transform the remaining land, because of its slope, the renovation funding is bound to increase. Again, water resources do not match, water resources are concentrated in the flat land with small slope, and it is difficult to reach the area with slope above 25 degrees directly. Finally, the quality of the remaining land is not high, because of the large slope and little water resources, the remaining land is often planted with drought-tolerant cash crops, such as potatoes, and the value of renovation and construction is small.

2. Content

2.1. What problems can be solved by the construction of high standard farmland?

First, to solve the situation of agriculture depends on the sky to eat. We can effectively protect and build arable land, which is important for more than one billion people to eat, so that "drought can irrigate, flood can drain"(Pengfei Zhu,2020), stable and High-yielding high-standard farmland to become a solid foundation to ensure national food security. High-standard farmland is heavily invested in the construction of basic agricultural facilities, such as water conservancy, Hydropower and other basic agricultural facilities, and additional technical guidance for agricultural production, ensuring the scientific nature of agricultural production, changing the dependence of agriculture on nature, and helping to improve crop yields and ensure China's food security. Second, to promote the transformation and upgrading of agriculture, to solve the reduction of water, fertilizer and medicine to increase efficiency, and to develop green agriculture, so that the majority of the countryside.

Finally, to solve the problem of China's rural land and cultivation of fragmented and scattered arable land, China has been adhering to the family-based fragmented land model since the reform and opening up, with the help of the construction of high-standard farmland, large-scale construction of large-scale high-standard farmland to enhance the efficiency of agricultural scale, enhance the level of agricultural mechanization, enhance the degree of agricultural organization, improve the overall efficiency of agriculture, and promote the transformation and upgrading of agricultural development. To solve the long-standing problem of small farmers'

poor disaster resistance and mitigation ability, promote the organic connection between small farmers and modern agriculture, and lay a solid foundation for the development of modern agriculture. It also prepares for the problems that modern or future agriculture will face, such as "soil-borne diseases, shallow cultivation layer, poor soil structure and infertile soil"(Pengfei Zhu,2020).

2.2. What tips does the construction of high standard farmland give to agricultural growers?

The future development of agriculture should be mainly green and healthy, mainly large-scale agriculture, and mainly scientific and technological agriculture. Future agriculture will require higher and higher planting techniques, and with the gradual improvement of high-standard farmland construction projects, the red line of 1.8 billion mu of arable land will be further guaranteed. Medium-sized agricultural growers will focus on cash crop cultivation, and a number of farmers developing special agriculture and entrepreneurs engaged in deep processing of agriculture will emerge.

2.3. The existing purpose from the construction of high standard farmland

Build high-standard farmland. The construction of high-standard farmland is an important initiative to strengthen the foundation of food security in all aspects and accelerate the construction of a strong agricultural country. By the end of 2022, the country built 1 billion mu of high-standard farmland, accounting for more than half of China's 1.918 billion mu of arable land, to steadily guarantee more than 1 trillion jin of grain production capacity. This Year will continue to strengthen the construction of high-standard farmland, The new 45 million mu, renovation and upgrading of 35 million mu, for all-round solid food security foundation, accelerate the construction of a strong agricultural country to create more favorable conditions. To continue to Increase financial investment. In accordance with the planning requirements approved by the State Council, to promote the national high-standard farmland construction mu average investment gradually reached about 3,000 yuan, to Improve the sustainable use of farmland level and comprehensive agricultural production capacity. To continue to improve the institutional mechanism. All places should give full play to the main role of farmers, grasp the new project quality management throughout the whole process, the construction of a unified planning layout, construction standards, organization and implementation,

Acceptance assessment, on the map into the "five unified" farmland construction management of the new pattern. According to the "National High Standard Farmland Construction Plan (2021-2030)", from 2023 onwards, to start the built high-standard farmland renovation and upgrading, the country will renovate and upgrade an average of 35 million mu of high-standard farmland every year. Whether new or renovation of high standard farmland, everywhere in strict accordance with the standard requirements, solid improvement of farmland Infrastructure and arable land strength level, so that more "grain Field" into a good field. Manage high-standard farmland. High-standard farmland, Not only to build a good, but also to take care of, can't focus on construction, light management. To further compact the high-standard farmland management body and management responsibility, so that the good field really become "food field". From encouraging financial and social capital to participate in the construction of high standard farmland, to the village collective economic income and other channels to raise funds for post-construction management, and then to explore the combination of social and Professional management model, etc., around the world to strengthen the construction of high standard farmland management, and gradually establish and improve the long-term management mechanism to ensure that "built an acre, Management of an acre ". In accordance with the principle of clear authority and responsibility, effective operation, Establish and improve the daily management and special maintenance of the project management mechanism. To improve the policy measures to encourage the active participation

of social capital in the management of high-standard farmland, to ensure that the main body of management and care of reasonable income. To actively explore the development of high standard farmland engineering facilities disaster insurance. To improve the construction of high-standard farmland management system, clarify the responsibilities of local governments at all levels, Establish a reasonable mechanism to guarantee the funds for the management of farmland construction projects, explore innovative management models according to local conditions, build a higher level, more efficient, more sustainable national food security guarantee base, to provide strong support for the modernization of agriculture and rural areas. Use high standard farmland well. From construction and renovation, to management and maintenance, the ultimate goal is to use high standard farmland, to make high standard farmland to produce more high-quality Chinese food. All places should always adhere to the quantity and quality, construction and management, coordinated capacity enhancement and green development, to promote the high quality construction of high standard farmland, high efficiency management, high level of utilization, so that our rice bowl at all times firmly in their own hands. To play the role of food security guarantee of high-standard farmland. The implementation of high-standard farmland construction, greatly improve the conditions of agricultural infrastructure and improve the comprehensive agricultural production capacity. The improvement of infrastructure promotes the economical and intensive use of agricultural resources, and the efficiency of water, Fertilizer and medicine utilization is significantly improved. Data show that high-standard farmland can usually save 24% to 30% of water, and more than 30% and 13% of electricity and fertilizer, respectively. To play the role of high-standard farmland to increase income and wealth. From the practice around the world, compared with the construction of high-standard farmland before, farmers around the increase in land transfer income, reduce the cost of agricultural production, the average mu can save money and increase efficiency 500 yuan. In short, around the sustainable use of high-standard farmland to continue to enhance the level of comprehensive agricultural production capacity, to ensure that food production, supply, supply excellent.

2.4. The future purpose of China from the construction of high standard farmlands

Rural land is the basis of people's survival, because no matter what stage the country's overall strength has reached, the livelihood and strategic position of agriculture determines whether the foundation of a country is solid or not, And the importance of land and agriculture cannot be taken lightly at any time for China, which is a big agricultural country.

However, the current "small farmer economy" model in China has failed to provide farmers with sufficient economic support, and has also hindered the promotion and development of high-tech agricultural models.

But in fact, it seems that the current "small farmer economy" is close to the bottleneck of development, but the whole of China's nearly 1.4 billion people to feed. The farmers have steadily increased our total food production by sweat after sweat under the scorching sun. If not, even with the existence of imported food, many people would be hungry. Therefore, it is not the "Small farmer economy" model that is wrong, but this model is no longer adapted to this era. At the same time, the rice bowl of the nation depends on the farmers.

Since the current "small farmer economy" model has reached a bottleneck in development, it should be upgraded from the root, and the root of the agricultural model is land. Therefore, in the next 5 years, rural land will be "Deep reshuffle", the following is the policy release of 3 signals. One, agricultural employment will fall to about 20% in this year's rural development report, a point that has attracted the attention of many people, That is, by 2025, the number of people employed in agriculture may fall to about 20%. In other words, in the next five years, about 80% or so of farmers will be out of land production. In fact, the purpose of the state's

reduction in the number of people employed in agriculture is to improve the overall utilization of rural land resources. In order to break the current "small farmer economy" model, it is necessary to solve the problem of "more people and less land". After a large number of farmers "get rid of the land", the land will be concentrated, so that the "intensive" agricultural model has a basis for development, and then the replacement of the agricultural model will be completed.

The second, "one household, one field" will probably be vigorously implemented "one household, one field" this policy plan, in fact, as early as 2018 has been proposed, the purpose is to solve the current situation of excessive scattering of rural farmland, so that it becomes more regular. And this policy plan has been tested in many pilot areas, and in the next five years, "one household, one field" is likely to be vigorously implemented. The "one household, one field" policy plan, although on the surface it appears to be only a unit of contracted households, within the collective village land resources integration. But in fact, it is more like a transitional policy, and the ultimate goal is to integrate all the land resources in rural areas, so as to prepare for the development of intensive agriculture, and at the same time provide land elements to support future urban and rural development.

Third, the construction of high standard farmland in 2019, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs issued a "farmland construction project management approach", which focuses on the task of "high-standard farmland construction", and to ensure that by the end of 2020, the new high-standard farmland more than 80 million mu. And here the high standard farmland, the focus is not only on the area, more importantly, soil fertility to enough, water conservancy and other auxiliary facilities to complete. In Fact, this is also very understandable, because only high-quality and sufficient land exists, China's food security factor will be improved, 1.4 Billion people will be more secure food rations. Through the above 3 policy Signals, it is easy to see that in the next 5 years, rural land will be "deeply reshuffled", but before achieving the set goal, what should the country and farmers be prepared for?

First, the state must first solve the employment problem of nearly 80% of the agricultural labor force before the number of employed people in agriculture decreases to about 20%. Although the state has decided to lay out Labor-intensive industries on a large scale, centering on the county. However, In order to ensure the employment of farmers nearby, it is necessary to further improve the level of farmers' wage income. In the case of farmers, they should be prepared to work in cities on a large scale. Secondly, while implementing the "one family, one field" policy on a large scale, local governments and farmers should be prepared to face a series of problems arising from land allocation, because after all, everyone wants to be allocated land that is close to home, fertile and easy to irrigate.

In addition, the state should "lock" the new construction of high standard farmland in the specific use, both to ensure that it is used for agricultural production, but also to ensure that it is mainly used for growing food crops.

3. Literature References

3.1. Literature reference method

Through the China National Knowledge Infrastructure, soups and other chinese and foreign public literature databases, we can query the relevant papers, study these articles, and find the focus and hot spots of China 's high-standard farmland construction research, so as to find the purpose of high-standard farmland construction.

There are more than 200 articles on high-standard farmland construction in CNKI, Involving more than 200 high-standard farmland construction, more than 20 rural revitalization, more than 10 food security, 7 water conservancy and hydropower, and 5 land remediation. These

articles from 2007 to 2023, especially after 2021, a large number of articles, it is clear that this is becoming a hot spot and focus of China 's rural and agricultural research scholars.

3.2. Field survey

Based on the actual situation of the author's participation in the rural revitalization work since last year, the author personally feels and understands the actual situation of the high-standard farmland construction in the small villages responsible for participating in the southwest region, as well as the real feelings of talking with the villagers in the work. To explain and understand the original intention and purpose of the construction of high-standard farmland in rural China, especially in the southwest rural areas, as well as the feelings of the villagers in the implementation process and the actual implementation difficulties, and put forward their own suggestions.

4. Conclusion

Through the Chinese government and this year's vigorous promotion of high-standard farmland construction, on the one hand, China's rural infrastructure has been improved and the issue of food security has been guaranteed; on the other hand, a large amount of rural labor has been liberated and the urbanization rate has been increased, making industrial transformation and labor force transformation possible, and at the same time, in the face of the fragile economic situation In 2023, the government's large-scale investment in the countryside has also Made China's economic security The government's massive investment in the countryside will also guarantee China's economic security in the face of the fragile economic situation in 2023. Of course, it also has some problems, but compared to his achievements, the problems are less important.

References

- [1] Xingning Jin, Qiong Zhou: Research on the construction of the whole process supervision mechanism of high standard farmland construction, *Modern Agricultural Machinery*, (2023) No.3, p.56-58.
- [2] Xuetao Sun: The impact of high-standard farmland construction on agricultural socialized services, *Journal of Zhongnan University of Economics and Law*, (2023)No.3,p.150-160.
- [3] Yi Zhang, Bin Wang: Research on the construction and countermeasures of high standard farmland under the national food security strategy, *Price Theory &*, (2023)No.3,p.83-86.
- [4] Yun Dong, Zhenjia He: The impact of high-standard farmland construction on cultivated land quality improvement and new production capacity, *Food Science Technology and Economy*, Vol.47(2022) No.6, p.38-41.
- [5] Libin Dang: Make good use of the national infrastructure investment fund to accelerate the construction of high standard farmland, *New Finance (Government Finance)*, (2022)No.12,p.30-34.
- [6] Xiaoyun Yuan: Study on new cultivated land and dry land to paddy field in high standard farmland construction, *Heilongjiang Water Science and Technology*, Vol.50(2022)No.11,p.103-105.
- [7] Xinyan Hu, Minghong Dai: Effect of high standard farmland construction policy on grain yield increase, *Journal of South China Agricultural University (Social Science Edition)*, Vol.21(2022) No.5,p.71-85.
- [8] Wen Song: Study on the construction and monitoring of high standard farmland based on the comprehensive quality of cultivated land(Ph.D., China University of Geosciences Beijing,China2018), p54.