

A Discussion on the Safety of Urban and Rural Ecological Public Products

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Abstract

The safety of ecological public products, distinguished from traditional safety as a new type of safe, has very important and far-reaching significance on both human production and living and sustainable development of the society. In the context of ecological crisis, study on the safety of urban and rural ecological public products aims at facing the reality of the most important ecological crisis and discuss its current status and future prospects. By doing so, we can obtain a new era of experience and logic justification that is different from the traditional research perspective during the evolution process of re-understanding the dialectical unity relationship in the safety of urban and rural ecological public products.

Key words: Urban And rural integration; Ecological public products; Ecological safety; Governance approach

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The interrelationship between urban and rural areas is a widespread and common social phenomena and reflection of universal linkages, and has occupied an important position in academic research studies and national strategic heights for a long time. On one hand, the connection between industries and agricultures has become closer and closer in the modern economy; on the other hand, the separation between urban and rural has prevented the natural circulation path of the ecosystem.

The urban and rural ecological public products originally belong to a systematic and holistic organism; however, the uneven quality of the urban and rural ecological public products affects and restricts the contradictory changes of differences between the urban and rural areas, which has become an important social problem generally concerned nowadays. Therefore, to achieve a benign balance of urban and rural ecology is another important countermeasure to eliminate urban and rural ecological barriers and seek regional ecological conformity. It is also an important area for improving the quality of people's living environment and constructing society with ecological security.

1. SAFETY OF ECOLOGICAL PUBLIC PRODUCTS IN THE CONTEXT OF URBAN AND RURAL INTEGRATION

The urban and rural areas are both opposite and united, constituting a contradictory movement that opposes and interacts with each other, and eventually will move towards fusion development with urban and rural co-prosperity. During this evolution process, ecological public products play an important and irreplaceable role. It entangles closely with urban and rural integration, and together they demonstrate the complex and systematic picture of transformation. It is well known that ecological public products are the essential element for human survival and social reproduction, and it can ensure the smooth development of sustainable development of the society. Thus, enhancing the production capacity of ecological public products and strengthening ecological security will inevitably become a reasonable choice for improving the ecological productivity of urban and rural areas, improving urban and rural styles and features, developing ecological economy, optimizing urban and rural living environment and equality of urban and rural ecological rights.

A. The safe of ecological public products is the developing source of narrowing the gap between urban and rural areas. The ecological environment is an important prerequisite and lasting power of the inorganic productivity, the main and regular factor of social reproduction, and also an important foundation for regional economic development. For urban and rural areas, the interrelationship between ecological public products and productivity has become more and more significant. The phenomenon of outflow of the natural resources, productive capacity and labor supplied to areas with poor service in ecological public products is quite obvious. They all search for areas and industries with better production efficiency and higher income return, making the economic phenomenon of the original extensive production method, which is with low level of sciences and technologies, more prominent. The negative effects have seriously reduced the local economic growth potential. In the evolution of urban-rural relations, problems arise because of the development of industrial civilization derived from ecological contradictions, and the continued development of industrial civilization has always maintained an inseparable and inevitable link with the ecological status of urban and rural areas. Therefore, the ecological public products naturally become a new engine and growth point to adjust the economic differences between urban and rural areas and to ensure the steady growth of social productive forces within the scope decided by the natural ecological properties.

B. The safety of ecological public products is an important content of equalization of basic public services in urban and rural areas. When facing the serious and realistic spatial problem of the gap between urban and rural areas, among all the methods which eliminate urban and rural denunciation, the equalization of public products and services has become an important content to eliminate the gap between urban and rural areas, among which the most prominent problem is the uneven distribution of production capacity of ecological public products and supply services. 'Good ecological environment is the fairest public products, and it is the most favorable people's livelihood and well-being.' (Propaganda Department of the CPC Central Committee, 2014). In terms of basic public service equalization and supply of ecological public products, the two are included with inclusive relationship, and ecology itself is a special public product; in terms of ecological public products supply and urban and rural integration development, ecological public products is the fundamental driving force for the balanced development of urban and rural areas, for the two sides are connected with mutual promotion, mutual regulation and dialectical unity. In order to ensure cities' adequate and high-equality supply of ecological public products, it needs to protect rural ecological public products; on the other hand, the protection of rural ecological public products cannot exist without strong support from the city

(such as technology). Ecological public products security holds a fundamental and essential position in urban and rural integration. It plays a role that meets the basic needs of survival and development, and has become the 'valve' of achieving urban and rural basic public service equalization.

C. The safety of ecological public products is the ecological basis of social harmony in urban and rural areas. Ecological public products provide basic raw materials for industrial and agricultural production, life security for urban and rural residents, and ecological basis for social stability. Basic ecological public products such as sweet water, fresh air and other natural resources are ecological rights, none of the development levels, population density, or resource shortages jointly owned by urban and rural areas should become a reason for depriving this right, and the supply of ecological public products should always be viewed as a fundamental factor in the basic rights of urban and rural residents.

Rational planning and spatial distribution of urban and rural ecological public products is not only the content of economics, but also the basic rights of citizens and fair and equitable value orientation, and its ubiquitous implicit utility forms the eternal foundation of social harmony. 'Fairness is a concept of social evaluation,' and 'ecological fairness is actually an assessment of the degree of profit and loss for different subject during the process of using natural resources' (Xia and Wei, 2008). The difference between urban and rural ecological public products supply and service will lead to excessive conflicts of interest and ecological friction, and it is not conducive for urban and rural economic growth and social development. The efficiency of resources allocation and supply of ecological public productions in urban and rural areas directly affects the degree of achievement of ecological fairness in the whole society and the emotional identity of each society subject to the coexistence of others, collectives and society.

2. THE DEVELOPMENT DILEMMA OF URBAN AND RURAL INTEGRATION OF ECOLOGICAL PUBLIC PRODUCTS SAFETY

Throughout the history of economy of human society, the interdependence between urban and rural areas before the industrial revolution changes to separation and opposition and from 'rural breed city' to rural is subordinate to city', which are only stages of evolution of the development of human society. Only the urban and rural integration based on high degree of development of productive forces and 'voluntary and spontaneous' social division of labor is the inevitable trend of city and rural mutual evolution at an advanced stage. The restriction of ecological environment

on the development of urban and rural social development is apparent, which is often manifested through the uneven distribution of eco-industrial structure, ecological management mode, ecological public products production capacity and supply services, and ecological elements in urban and rural areas. This is another major factor leading to the widening of the gap between urban and rural areas.

A. The dual structure of concentrated cities and decentralized rural areas has produced the ecological interests of game in urban and rural areas. From the development of human society, with industrial development of the city and improvement of industrial production efficiency, development of agriculture has fall behind industrial development and rural areas has fall behind urban areas, and the dual structure of beneficial difference between urban and rural areas has formed. The early stages of development of industrial civilization, driven by rapid development of industrial civilization, city that 'gathered the historical power of society' 'undermines the material transformation between man and land, that is, the part of land consumed by people in form of food and clothing cannot return back to the land, thus undermining the eternal natural conditions of land sustainable fertility' (Marx and Engels, 2009), reduces rural ecological public products production capacity and self-purification capacity of environmental pollution. In this way, city with priority development rights has passed industrial pollution to rural areas and has protected city's ecological interests under such conditions. Even under the current circumstances with limited ecological public resources and cannot meet the needs of both urban and rural areas at the same time, because of the low cost of urban supply and development and high returns of benefits, giving priority to protection and improvement of urban environment and providing adequate and high-quality basic ecological public products have naturally become the rational choice of development of industry and service and indemnification of economic growth. So far, urban and rural ecological opposition has not achieved the final reconciliation because of the ever-changing science and technology and repeatedly occurring of management with time and still cannot completely alleviate the ecological interests' dilemma.

B. The difference between industrial civilization and agricultural civilization has spawned different ecological consciousness of urban and rural residents. In order to promote construction of ecological public products safety, it is inevitable to face the problem of ecological awareness difference between urban and rural residents. Ecological consciousness is not only the ideological understanding foundation of people's respect and cherish, attachment and gratitude, love and responsibility for nature, but also the important 'hub' which guides the internalization of self-conscious action to change. Furthermore, the awakening of ecological consciousness opens up the correct understanding of nature, use of nature, and maintenance of natural ecological conscience. It is a major

symbol of degree of civilization, and has irreplaceable positive significance on the proliferation of human society and sustainable development. The ability of people to behave in front of nature is limited by limitations of knowing. To what degree do people achieve the correct and full understanding of ecological pattern, it is to that corresponding extent do people show ecological moral consciousness and behavior choice.

According to historical pattern, we can find that the relationship between level of ecological consciousness and degree of civilization development determines the ability of people to understand the relationship between mankind and nature during the process of realizing the necessity of mental activity. The influence of industrial civilization has increased both the experience and knowledge of urban residents and has apparently promoted urban residents to reach a higher degree of urbanization than rural residents. The formation of ecological consciousness is closely related to the labor mode of production practice, level of economic development and social interactions; the huge cultural gap between the backwardness of rural production, decentralization of living, occlusion of life and advanced nature of urban industry, openness of communication, activeness of spirit has formed the ecological differences between urban and rural areas.

C. The management mechanism of urban and rural areas restricts the safety of ecological public products.

The fundamental problem encountered in safety of urban and rural ecological public products lies in the gap between ecological management system and dislocation of traditional urban and rural dual social structure. As mentioned above, promoted by economic development, degree of civilization and administrative forces, urban development is relatively rapid, occupying a clear advantage in urban and rural planning and ecological public services. 'The current environmental management system allows the city to have more institutional and structural power comparing with rural areas. And rural areas are at the end and tributary of the environmental management system (Lei, 2015).' The development of urban and rural ecological public products integration is impeded, which is resulted from discrete economic and governance systems in urban and rural areas, irrational restriction on overflow effect of ecological public products from regional government, over-competition between urban and rural ecology, and other regional protectionism, leading to urban and rural ecological barriers which limits the rational use of local comparative advantage. With the increasing scale of industrial and agricultural production, the complexity of promoting organic integration of ecological resources is becoming higher and higher. It is difficult to measure the scale of ecological public products supply, which brings higher requirement to urban and rural ecological management system, in terms of design and arrangement, policy management, scientific management and timely monitoring. This will need to fully utilize

comparative advantages of urban and rural areas on the basis of the national unified market mechanism, break the institutional barriers to urban and rural barriers, and realize the rational allocation of production factors including ecological public goods.

3 . T H O U G H T S A N D C O U N T E R M E A S U R E S O N T H E S A F E T Y O F U R B A N A N D R U R A L E C O L O G I C A L P U B L I C P R O D U C T S

Urban and rural areas are main bodies equally staying in the ecological system with a close contact in nature. To achieve a more advanced development integrating urban and rural ecology and to ensure the safety of urban and rural ecological public products are both times proposition of economic development and characteristics of people's ecological happiness. Under the circumstance of great industrial production mode, self-repair and renewal of ecological environment cannot be completed naturally. Environmental pollution and ecological destruction must be the managed by overall arrangement of urban and rural areas and corresponding systematic planning.

A. Establish systematic thinking and promote the overall planning of urban and rural ecological public products. Facing limited resources for ecological public products, it is difficult for cities or rural areas to deal with and cross-regional environmental governance with increasing complexity. The traditional characteristics of urban and rural ecological management paradigm are to focus on solving problems one by one and strip disposal. Solutions to ecological problems of urban and rural areas are often expedient. Therefore, to truly realize the rational distribution of ecological public products between urban and rural areas, we must jump out of the original curing thinking and traditional ideas, speed up concept conversion, fully utilize urban and rural cooperation and coordination mechanism and achieve the balance and integration of resources. Currently, overall scheme and long-term planning of urban and rural ecological public products supply service are completed, ecological public products service work has been extended to pollution prevent and control. Nevertheless, taking efforts to reconcile the interests of urban and rural ecological public products and take joint action, and gradually achieve the coordinated state of urban and rural ecological public products, is still a long-term and arduous project. The integration of urban and rural ecological public products is not only the free flow and integration of urban and rural ecological resources, but also convergence and unity of urban and rural industrial and agricultural production mode, urban and rural ecological management system, urban and rural residents' ecological consciousness and life style.

In order to promote the safety of urban and rural ecological public products, we must establish an overall view, adhere to both urban and rural areas, form comprehensive link between urban and rural ecological public products, modernized new pattern of harmonious interaction.

B. Develop ecological productivity and promote linking and coupling between urban and rural ecological industry. The division and opposition of urban and rural ecological public products are closely related to the level of productivity. The development pattern of urban-rural alternative movement suggests that only highly developed productivity is the decisive force of 'many material premises' to destroy urban and rural opposition. The traditional industrial productive forces based on the consumption of ecological public products are no longer the accelerators of the development of human society. The ecological productivity that follows the law of harmony between man and nature and the law of ecosystem operation is the advanced productive force. Ecological productivity emphasizes the use and development of renewable resources, focusing on recyclability of production process, which is able to effectively overcome the contradiction between consumption and supply of ecological resources. It suggests resource utilization with more scientific efficiency and more rational economic growth.

Ecological industry is an important symbol of ecological productivity. The ecological industry mainly relies on ecological science and technology, circular economy, etc., to resolve contradiction between various resource supply and ecological pollution, integrating production process and natural law, breaking the one-sided 'profit first' concept, promoting urban and rural ecological public energy flow and material recycling. It aims at comprehensive benefits from unity of ecological protection and economic growth, social development and personal health, carrying capacity of population and resources. Modern agriculture and industry is the main force of ecological industry, as well as important support force for achieving integrated of urban and rural ecological productivity. In process of promoting integration of urban and rural areas, it cannot sacrifice the ecological interests of agriculture to meet the modern development of urban industry, nor can the other way. It has to take into account both, combining urban and rural areas, industry and agriculture more closely, to the construct long-term mechanism including modern industry-promoted ec-agriculture and wisdom city-promoted beautiful rural.

C. Expand space of urban and rural ecological system and pay attention to mutual advance of governance system and ecological awareness. Urban and rural ecological public security is not only reflected in the economic aspects, but also related to the field of governance system. If ecological productivity solidifies economic

base of integration of urban and rural ecological public products, then improvement of urban and rural ecological management mechanism provides a standardized, impartial, and smooth system channels. The ecological governance of modern society is no longer a single top-down model from government, but a democratic consultation of multi-level interest demands, diversified participation, interactive views and collective decision-making. In cases of decision-making and implementation of ecosystems, if urban and rural areas do not access to consist or united objectives of activities based on scientific ecological awareness and clear environmental awareness, this urban and rural integration must be far-fetched and fragile. Hence, the construction of ecological integration of urban and rural areas need to involve the whole society to actively act, as well as ecological management system and ecological awareness of residents to promote in this process.

People are beneficiaries of ecological public products and implementation of ecological system. Therefore, safety of urban and rural ecological public products must be based on the consistency of ecological awareness of human being. 'Ecological security requires people's ecological security behavior. Only when everyone is focusing on strengthening ecological security and the formation of good behavior to conduct ecological security, thus ecological security behavior becomes people's conscious behavior, ecological environment pollution will be reduced and ideal situation of production development and ecological security being promoted together will be achieved (Fang, 2012).' With ecological consciousness of people avoided, only to work hard from the ecological system, policy guidance, management and other aspects, regardless of its innovation efforts and how highness of

the goal, one cannot really achieve coordination and unity of urban and rural ecological public products. Similarly, the participation of elements such as public participation and democratic consultation in the ecological management system can promote the ecological awakening of urban and rural residents through the dissemination and exchange of knowledge, technology and information, which in turn dispels the contradictions in understanding, difficulties in selections and confusion in action. It further improves ecological consciousness of participants in different backgrounds of urban and rural areas, eliminates gap and disagreement between decision-makings of urban and rural ecological public products, and expands the development space of urban and rural ecological public products safety.

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