

An Empirical Analysis of the Public Sense of Gain on YB Conservation and Development in China

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Abstract

This paper puts forward that the public sense of gain should be used as a yardstick to evaluate the effectiveness of ecological protection and high-quality development in the Yellow River Basin in China, and Based on css2019 data, an evaluation system with 5 factor dimensions and 25 indicators is constructed, and an empirical analysis is carried out by using descriptive statistics and comprehensive evaluation methods. The results show that: the sense of public gain in the middle and upper reaches of the Yellow River is lower than the national average level, while in the lower reaches of the Yellow River, Henan and Shandong provinces are higher than the national level. The public in the Yellow River basin generally have higher evaluation on government public service and social civilization, while the sense of self-realization in Henan and Shandong and the sense of economic status of the middle and upper reaches of the Yellow River are both at a lower level.

Keywords

YB Conservation and Development; Public sense of gain; CSS2019.

1. Introduction

The Yellow River Basin is a very important region in China. In order to fundamentally solve the structural contradiction between the natural ecological protection and economic and social development of the Yellow River Basin, and to further promote the harmonious development of the Yellow River, Chinese government proposed “the ecological protection and high-quality development of the Yellow River basin” (YB Conservation and Development) in 2019 [1]. At present, relevant research about YB Conservation and Development mainly focuses on two levels of strategic thinking and intellectual advice. For example, Liu Chang-ming have interpreted the philosophical basis, the connotation of the times, the significance and the promotion strategy of this national strategy [2], Xu Yong have proposed The research framework, supporting system, legislative strategy and collaborative promotion guidelines of this national strategy have been developed [3]. The current researches on YB Conservation and Development are just unfolding, presenting a good atmosphere of “letting a hundred flowers blossom and a hundred schools of thought contend”[4]. How to establish a systematic and multidisciplinary evaluation system from the perspective of major national strategies and regional economic and social development needs, to provide scientific guidance for YB Conservation and Development, has become a subject that needs to be solved. Sense of gain is a concept first proposed by General Secretary Xi Jinping in 2015. It embodies the people-centered development concept, expresses the changes of the times and the interests of the people, and is the value orientation of my country's 40 years of reform and opening up and future development achievements. It is the benchmark of good governance and the measure of good governance for national governance in the new era [5]. Since it was proposed, the logical regulation of sense of gain [6], structural connotation [7], government governance [8], the

implementation effect evaluation of rural tourism [9] etc., and has become a hot spot of extensive research in academia. In general, the sense of gain has been generally recognized by all sectors of society as an important measure for evaluating the effectiveness of social governance and the quality of life of the people.

In summary, this paper attempts to explore the logical and transmission mechanism of the connotation of ecological protection and high-quality development in the Yellow River Basin and the public sense of gain from the perspective of public acquisition in the Yellow River Basin, and use CSS2019 data to establish an evaluation index system for the public sense of acquisition in the Yellow River Basin, conduct empirical analysis on the public sense of acquisition in the Yellow River Basin, and give targeted policy recommendations

2. The Connotation of the Public Sense of Gain

At present, the academic community has not reached a consensus on the theoretical connotation of sense of gain, but scholars generally agree with the following viewpoints [4-9]: Firstly, sense of gain is a positive subjective feeling of the public after obtaining actual benefits, and there are obvious differences among different characteristic groups; Secondly, the measurement of the sense of gain should take into account the influence of the objective benefits and subjective perceptions of the individual psychology, the uneven distribution of social emotions in the group, and the dynamic variability in the time dimension of the policy implementation process; Thirdly, the sense of gain can be divided into the sense of material gain and the sense of spiritual gain. The sense of material gain includes income, medical care, pension, education and ecological environment improvement, etc., and the sense of spiritual gain includes ability improvement, self-realization, fairness and justice, value recognition and social civilization, etc; Fourthly, the government and academia should pay special attention to the improvement of the sense of gain of the disadvantaged groups and ordinary people, so as to reflect the "bottom" awareness of national governance. Therefore, the public sense of gain in the Yellow River Basin can be defined as: within a certain period of time, the social public in the Yellow River Basin effectively obtains material, health or spiritual welfare from the country's ecological protection, governance and high-quality development process, and then the increase in subjective psychological welfare.

The major national strategy for ecological protection and high-quality development of the Yellow River Basin has had a broad impact on the economic and social development of the Yellow River Basin, involving economic development, government services, ecological civilization, people's livelihood and other aspects. There is no official report on the judgment criteria and evaluation system for ecological protection and high-quality development in the Yellow River Basin, and related research is still in its infancy. According to Professor Zuo Qiting of Zhengzhou University[4], high-quality development is a high-level development model that pursues social harmony and stability, orderly economic growth, safe supply of resources, ecological health and livability, and advanced culture. It is based on ecological protection and realizes resource benefits, ecological benefits, economic benefits and social benefits in the Yellow River Basin and the overall value of cultural benefits. The ecological protection and governance of the Yellow River Basin should reflect the goal of the Happy River proposed by the Ministry of Water Resources, namely "flood control and safety, high-quality water resources, healthy water ecology, livable water environment, and advanced water culture". The ecological protection and governance of the Yellow River Basin can provide a theoretical framework and regulatory constraints for the high-quality development of the Yellow River Basin and ensure its sustainable development; at the same time, without the material basis for the high-quality development of the Yellow River Basin, ecological protection and governance cannot be carried

out smoothly. Therefore, the logical relationship between ecological protection and governance and high-quality development in the Yellow River Basin is dialectically unified.

There is a strict logical mechanism between the ecological protection and high-quality development of the Yellow River Basin and the connotation of public sense of gain. Xi Jinping said that the general requirement of the major national strategy for ecological protection and high-quality development in the Yellow River Basin is to "make the Yellow River a river of happiness that benefits the people". , "Take the road to the general happiness of the people" and other principles. Therefore, whether it is the ecological protection and governance of the Yellow River Basin or the high-quality development of the Yellow River Basin, it will return to people-oriented, which is attributed to the perception of the public in the Yellow River Basin. Therefore, this paper uses the sense of public gain as a macro criterion to test the effectiveness of ecological protection and high-quality development in the Yellow River Basin, and it is scientific and reasonable to establish a corresponding evaluation system. The scientific evaluation system of public sense of gain the Yellow River Basin can not only provide supervision and constraints, but also provide important ideas and inspirations for local governments to carry out their work. The investigation and research on the public sense of gain in the Yellow River Basin should involve a wider range of the public, including ordinary residents, government policy-making and implementation regulators, social media workers, financial and industrial enterprises, non-profit organizations and Scholars, researchers, etc., must regularly and continuously conduct large-scale social surveys to obtain basic research data.

3. Empirical Analyses

3.1. Study Area and Data Source

There are 91 prefecture-level administrative regions involved in the Yellow River Basin mentioned in the major national strategy for the Yellow River Basin, including the whole region of Qinghai, Gansu, Ningxia, Shaanxi, Shanxi, Henan and Shandong, as well as 6 cities and 1 league in western Inner Mongolia and two prefectures of Aba and Ganzi in Sichuan. Referring to the location of the demarcation points of the upper, middle and lower reaches of the main Yellow River, and considering the integrity of the surveyed administrative regions, the study area in this paper is determined as seven provinces within the national strategic scope, namely: Qinghai, Gansu and Ningxia in the upper reaches of the Yellow River, Shaanxi and Shanxi in the middle reaches of the Yellow River, Henan and Shandong in the lower Yellow River.

CSS2019 is the latest cross-sectional data released by the Institute of Sociology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. CSS is a bi-annual longitudinal survey that adopts the household interview method of probability sampling. Among them, CSS2019 interviewed more than 11,000 urban and rural households in 149 cities in 31 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities, across the country, and obtained 10,283 copies. Valid questionnaires and 11.6 million data items. The theme of CSS2019's survey is "social quality and change of social classes". It covers family, employment, economic status, living conditions, social security, social values and social evaluation, etc. According to the analysis in Section 1 above, the survey topics and survey sampling plan of CSS2019 are more consistent with the research topics. Table 1 lists some statistics of CSS2019 survey frequency and economic and social development of the seven provinces in the Yellow River Basin.

3.2. Evaluation Index System

This paper designs 25 evaluation indicators in 5 dimensions, and constructs an evaluation indicator system for empirical analysis. The weights of indicators are determined according to the analytic hierarchy process.

(1) The sense of gain in economic condition (E, 0.4534), which mainly examines the degree of satisfaction of the respondents due to the improvement of family, personal income and economic status, and economic status. Five indicators in CSS2019 are selected, the current socioeconomic status (E1, 0.0646), socioeconomic status 5 years ago (E2, 0.0338), household income and expenditure (E3, 0.1401), satisfaction with household economic status (E4, 0.2415) and overall satisfaction with current life (E5, 0.5200).

(2) The sense of gain in the living environment (L, 0.2059), which mainly examines the subjective feelings of the respondents about the improvement of the living environment in the place of residence and the positive efforts of the local government to improve the environment. Five indicators in CSS2019 are selected, air pollution (L1, 0.01590), water pollution (L2, 0.2601), noise pollution (L3, 0.0745), other pollution such as land and electromagnetic ionizing radiation (L4, 0.0369), and the local government's efforts to protect and control the living environment (L5, 0.4695).

(3) The sense of gain in the government public services (G, 0.1025), which mainly examines the convenience and balance of public services provided by the government, and the degree of recognition of the quality of public services. The basic social security in CSS2019 (G1, 0.1835, including pensions (G2, 0.4226), develop the economy and increase income (G3, 0.2302), actively serve the people (G4, 0.0400), provide high-quality education and There are 6 indicators to ensure education fairness (G5, 0.0276) and food and drug safety (G6, 0.0960).

(4) The sense of gain in the social civilization (S, 0.0433), which mainly examines the identity of the respondents due to the promotion of social civilization by high-quality economic development, and selects 5 indicators in CSS2019, namely the current level of trust among people (S1, 0.0659), tolerance to beggars, AIDS and homosexuality, etc. (S2, 0.0515), overall fairness in wealth distribution, judicial administration, public health, employment opportunities, political rights, etc. (S3, 0.1095), people's general moral level (S4, 0.2369), and people's level of compliance (S5, 0.5362)

(5) The sense of gain in the self-fulfillment. (I, 0.1949), which mainly examines the degree of satisfaction of the respondents due to the improvement of their personal work environment, development opportunities, development ability and development potential, etc., and selects 4 indicators in CSS2019, that is, the overall satisfaction degree of the current job (I1, 0.1511), degree of fit between reality and ideal (I2, 0.0757), belief in success through hard work (I3, 0.3014), and socioeconomic status in the next 5 years (I4, 0.4718).

3.3. Data Preprocessing

In the raw data of CSS2019, some indicator data is missing, the evaluation criteria and polarity are inconsistent, and the evaluation data exceeds the given scale (data overflow), etc. In order to facilitate further comparative analysis, this paper designs the following rules to preprocess the original data.

(1) Fill in missing data. If the missing data of an indicator accounts for less than 10% of the total survey frequency in the region, the missing data can be filled according to the "moderate" and "general" conditions of the evaluation scale of the indicator, such as "6" in the "10-point scale", "3" in "1-5 scale"; if the missing data of an indicator accounts for more than 90% of the total survey frequency in the area, the indicator can be removed from the indicator system in Table 2; otherwise, no longer Perform missing data imputation.

(2) Remove overflow data. There are relatively few cases of overflow data in CSS2019. For example, 8-hard to say, 98-unclear, these overflow data can be removed from the original data of the indicator.

(3) Consistent evaluation criteria and polarity. According to the "10-point system" evaluation rules and scale categories, the evaluation criteria and polarity of CSS2019 raw data are consistent.

3.4. Empirical Analysis Results

Using SPSS22.0 statistical software, descriptive statistical analysis was carried out on the preprocessing survey data of public sense of gain in A1 in the upper Yellow River, A2 in the middle Yellow River, A3 in Henan and A4 in Shandong, and the scores of each index were divided into 1-3 points, 4-6 points and 7-10 points, and the proportion of each grade in the valid sample is counted respectively. The central tendency of the survey data is represented by the average score, and the dispersion degree of the survey data is represented by the standard deviation index. In addition, the "Other Pollution (L4)" index has been removed from the index system because the frequency of missing data does not meet the prearranged rules. At the same time, the weight vector of each secondary index of this layer to the factor layer "the sense of living environment (L)" is updated as $W_l = (0.1651, 0.2701, 0.0774, 0.4875)$.

In order to analyze the comprehensive conditions of public sense of gain in each region of the Yellow River Basin and compare it with the national comprehensive level, the whole country is regarded as a study area A_c , and the rules of this paper are used to preprocess and descriptively analyze the data of A_c (analysis results are omitted); Then, according to the weight of each index and factor, the comprehensive score and ranking of public sense of gain at different factor levels and overall level (T) in each district are calculated. The evaluation results are shown in Table 1. In Table 1, if there is an approximate comprehensive score (Such as $A_{2I}=A_{3I}=6.44$), The principle of ranking is that the smaller the comprehensive dispersion (standard deviation), the higher the comprehensive ranking. It can be seen from Table 1 that the public sense of gain in Shandong and Henan is higher than the national average level, with Shandong ranking first; The public sense of gain in the upper and middle Yellow River is lower than the national average, and the middle Yellow River are at the bottom; However, the public's sense of living gain in the upper Yellow River and the public's sense of self-realization gain in the upper and middle Yellow River are higher than the national average.

Table 1. Regional ranking results of public sense of gain in the Yellow River Basin

Factor layer	Weights	Yellow River Basin				National A_c	Comprehensive sorting results
		Upstream A_1	Midstream A_2	Henan A_3	Shandong A_4		
sense of economic status (E)	0.4534	6.11	6.07	6.47	6.85	6.29	$A_{2E} \in A_{1E} \in A_{cE} \in A_{3E} \in A_{4E}$
Sense of living environment (L)	0.2059	6.44	6.15	6.56	6.74	6.36	$A_{2L} \in A_{cL} \in A_{1L} \in A_{3L} \in A_{4L}$
Sense of government public service (G)	0.1025	6.97	6.91	7.17	7.70	7.08	$A_{2G} \in A_{1G} \in A_{cG} \in A_{3G} \in A_{4G}$
Sense of social civilization (S)	0.0433	6.96	6.51	7.02	7.46	6.88	$A_{2S} \in A_{1S} \in A_{cS} \in A_{3S} \in A_{4S}$
sense of self-actualization (I)	0.1949	6.39	6.44	6.44	6.62	6.29	$A_{cI} \in A_{1I} \in A_{3I} \in A_{2I} \in A_{4I}$
Public sense of gain (T)		6.355	6.262	6.579	6.894	6.412	$A_{2T} \in A_{1T} \in A_{cT} \in A_{3T} \in A_{4T}$

Further, regardless of the weight distribution of each factor layer, a comprehensive evaluation of the public's sense of economic status, living environment, government public services, social civilization, and self-realization in the study areas of the Yellow River Basin was conducted. The results are shown in Table 2. It can be seen from Table 2 that the general public in the Yellow River Basin has a high sense of gain of government public services and social civilization. The public in Henan and Shandong are generally dissatisfied with their own working environment, development opportunities and potential.

Table 2. Factor dimension ranking results of public sense of gain in the Yellow River Basin

Yellow River Basin	sense of economic status (<i>E</i>)	Sense of living environment (<i>L</i>)	Sense of government public service (<i>G</i>)	Sense of social civilization(<i>S</i>)	sense of self-actualization(<i>I</i>)	Comprehensive sorting results
Upstream A_1	6.11	6.44	6.97	6.96	6.39	$A_{1E} \in A_{1I} \in A_{1L} \in A_{1S} \in A_{1G}$
Midstream A_2	6.07	6.15	6.91	6.51	6.44	$A_{2E} \in A_{2L} \in A_{2I} \in A_{2S} \in A_{2G}$
Henan A_3	6.47	6.56	7.17	7.02	6.44	$A_{3I} \in A_{3E} \in A_{3L} \in A_{3S} \in A_{3G}$
Shandong A_4	6.85	6.74	7.70	7.46	6.62	$A_{4I} \in A_{4L} \in A_{4E} \in A_{4S} \in A_{4G}$

4. Discussions

Through the empirical analysis of the public sense of gain in the Yellow River Basin, the following conclusions are obtained:

(1) Both Shandong and Henan in the lower Yellow River have a higher public sense of gain than the national average, which may be related to the overall situation of national economic in the two provinces. In 2019, the total GDP of Shandong and Henan reached 7,106.753 billion Yuan and 5,425.920 billion Yuan, ranking 3rd and 5th among 31 provinces (municipalities and autonomous regions) in the country respectively. It will bring about an overall improvement in the public sense of gain. However, according to the "10-point system" scoring rule, the comprehensive score of public sense of gain in the two provinces is less than 7 points, indicating that there are still many problems that need further improvement. For example, the per capita disposable income and per capita household consumption expenditure of the two provinces in 2019 were both lower than the national average (although the per capita disposable income of Shandong Province was slightly higher than the national average), and the public sense of economic gain was low. For a province with a large population, the overall living standard of the people still needs to be improved; In particular, the public sense of self-realization gain in the two provinces ranks at the bottom of the Yellow River Basin, indicating that the people of the two provinces are generally dissatisfied with their personal self-efficacy, development opportunities and development capabilities, which should be highly valued by local governments.

(2) In the middle and upper Yellow River, the public sense of gain of economic status, living environment, government public services, social civilization, and overall sense of gain are all lower than the national average. Due to historical and natural conditions, the ecological environment in this region is fragile and natural disasters (especially flood and drought) occur frequently, the level of productivity, infrastructure construction, urbanization and other slow development, national economic and social development is still behind the national average level, and it is a relatively concentrated area of the poor population, it covers 4 of China's 14 contiguous poor areas. However, the people in the middle and upper Yellow River are "advancing despite difficulties", and the country has continued to strengthen measures to promote the development of the western region over the years. People are generally confident in a better life in the future and are willing to make efforts, which is reflected in the public sense of self-realization gain in this region. Higher than the national average, even higher than the public sense of gain economic status (upstream and mid-stream regions) and the public's sense of living environment (middle-stream regions), local governments should pay attention to guiding and stimulating the development of people's personal potential, and promoting personal value and social development Organic unity .

(3) The public in the Yellow River Basin generally gave a relatively high evaluation of the government's public services and social civilization. This should be attributed to the unremitting efforts of the Chinese government in government governance and spiritual civilization construction for a long time, especially since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of my country. Efforts have made remarkable achievements in the construction of a clean government, the reform of "delegating power, regulating services", and improving people's livelihood, and socialist values, civilization, and morality have been deeply rooted in the people. Governments at all levels in the Yellow River Basin (especially in the middle and upper) should insist on modernizing the government governance system and governance capacity, continue to deepen reforms in an all-round way, focus on providing more public services to the people, and strive to improve the quality of the people and the level of social civilization. In addition, on the basis of the empirical analysis results of this paper, it is recommended that local governments at all levels carry out more in-depth social investigations for the existing weak links to obtain more detailed and scientific decision-making support, and formulate targeted improvement measures to protect the ecology of the Yellow River Basin. Taking the national strategy of high-quality development as an opportunity, innovative development will comprehensively enhance the public sense of gain in the Yellow River Basin.

5. Conclusion

This paper proposes to take the public sense of gain as the criterion for judging the implementation effect of the major national strategies for ecological protection and high-quality development of the Yellow River Basin, and explores the logic and transmission mechanism of the connotation of the public sense of gain in the Yellow River Basin. The public sense of gain in the Yellow River Basin can profoundly reflect the general requirements of the national major strategy "making the Yellow River a river of happiness for the benefit of the people", embody the "people-centered" principle of national governance and the obvious "bottom level" awareness, and carry out the evaluation of the public sense of gain in the Yellow River Basin. Continuous investigation can provide better guidance for ecological protection and high-quality development in the Yellow River Basin.

In addition, based on the CSS2019 data, an evaluation system with 25 indicators including five factor dimensions including economic status, living environment, government public services, social civilization and self-realization was constructed, and descriptive statistics and comprehensive evaluation methods were used for empirical analysis. The results show that the public sense of gain in Henan and Shandong provinces is higher than the national average level, while the middle and upper Yellow River are lower than the national average level. The public sense of self-realization gain in the two provinces is relatively low, and the public sense of gain in the economic status in the middle and upper reaches of the Yellow River needs to be enhanced the most.

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