

Measurement and Regional Differences of Rural Revitalization in Jiangsu Province from the Perspective of “Strong, Prosperous, Beautiful, and Highly Civilized”: An Entropy Method Approach

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Abstract

Rural revitalization is a key strategy for promoting agricultural and rural development and an essential component of coordinated urban–rural development. Although Jiangsu Province enjoys a relatively high level of economic development, considerable disparities persist among its regions. Adopting the “Strong, Prosperous, Beautiful, and Highly Civilized” framework as the theoretical lens, this paper applies the entropy weight method to panel data from 13 prefecture-level cities in Jiangsu Province over the period 2006–2024. The results indicate that rural revitalization in Jiangsu has progressed steadily, whereas regional disparities remain pronounced and have tended to widen. Northern Jiangsu consistently ranks at the forefront of the evaluation by virtue of its abundant agricultural resource endowment, while Southern Jiangsu falls behind as agriculture accounts for a declining share of its economic structure. Based on these empirical findings, the paper proposes targeted policy recommendations for promoting coordinated regional development.

Keywords

Rural Revitalization; “Strong, Prosperous, Beautiful, and Highly Civilized”; Entropy Weight Method; Regional Disparities; Jiangsu Province.

1. Introduction

At the end of 2014, General Secretary Xi Jinping visited Jiangsu Province and delivered an important speech, expressing the earnest hope that Jiangsu would rally closely around the glorious mission of the “two pioneering goals” and strive to build a new Jiangsu characterized by a strong economy, prosperous people, a beautiful environment, and a high level of social civilization; it was on that occasion that “Strong, Prosperous, Beautiful, and Highly Civilized” became the overarching proposition and general program^[1]. It comprises four dimensions: the level of development and overall competitiveness, which underpins “a strong economy”; the income and living standards of residents, which underpin “prosperous people”; the quality of the ecological environment and of human settlements, which underpin “a beautiful environment”; and the strengthening of spiritual civilization, public services, and social governance, which underpins “a high level of social civilization.” Over the years, guided by this overarching proposition and general program, Jiangsu has coordinated its various endeavors in the face of an increasingly complex and severe macroeconomic environment, and its economic and social development has ascended to a new stage, thereby providing an objective framework for the province’s development.

The implementation of the rural revitalization strategy is a major decision and deployment made at the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, a major historic task for securing a decisive victory in building a moderately prosperous society in all respects and for comprehensively building a modern socialist country, and the overarching lever for work

relating to agriculture, rural areas, and farmers in the new era^[2]. Rural revitalization is a key strategy for promoting agricultural and rural development and an important component of coordinated urban–rural development. Although Jiangsu enjoys a relatively high level of economic development, marked differences persist among its regions. Regional development disparity has long been a core concern of economic geography. According to Friedmann’s (1966) core–periphery theory, any complete spatial system consists of a core region and a periphery region, between which an unequal development relationship exists: the core region occupies a dominant position, whereas the periphery is dependent upon the core in the course of its development^[3]. Southern Jiangsu is located in the economic core of the Yangtze River Delta; its locational advantages and the advance of urbanization have attracted substantial resources, leaving agriculture relatively marginalized. Northern Jiangsu, by contrast, has for a considerable period occupied a peripheral position as a recipient of industrial relocation, and has therefore retained and reinforced its land resources devoted to agriculture. The basic proposition of the gradient transfer theory is that the rise and decline of a region’s economy are determined by the sophistication of its industrial structure and of its leading sectors. Innovation and activities that drive economic development—including new products, new advanced technologies, emerging industries, new institutions, and new management methods—occur mainly in high-gradient regions and then diffuse sequentially toward low-gradient regions^[4]. Southern Jiangsu began investing in non-agricultural industries and rural infrastructure earlier and at a higher level, whereas in recent years the growth of investment in Northern Jiangsu in such areas as agricultural mechanization and high-standard farmland construction has accelerated, exhibiting the characteristic of factors shifting from high-gradient to low-gradient regions; Northern Jiangsu can thus achieve accelerated development by drawing on its late-mover advantage. According to the theory of comparative advantage, different regions develop distinct comparative advantages as a result of differences in resource endowment. Northern Jiangsu, with its vast arable land and abundant agricultural resources, possesses a natural advantage in developing modern agriculture, whereas Southern Jiangsu, with its solid economic foundation and rapid industrialization and urbanization, has seen the space available for agricultural development progressively squeezed. Central Jiangsu occupies an intermediate position between the two. Based on an entropy-weight analysis of data from 13 prefecture-level cities in Jiangsu Province over the period 2006–2024, this paper finds that rural revitalization in Jiangsu is developing along a steadily upward trajectory, while regional disparities remain pronounced and have tended to widen. In 2017, the 19th National Congress formally proposed the implementation of the rural revitalization strategy and specified the general requirements of “thriving businesses, pleasant living environments, civilized rural customs, effective governance, and prosperity.” The No. 1 Central Document of 2018 further established it as a major historic task for securing a decisive victory in building a moderately prosperous society in all respects and for comprehensively building a modern socialist country. The “Strong, Prosperous, Beautiful, and Highly Civilized” framework and rural revitalization are highly congruent in terms of their goals, and together they constitute the value basis for evaluating the level of rural revitalization in Jiangsu. Against this backdrop, how to scientifically measure the level of rural revitalization, accurately identify the differences among regions, and thereby formulate targeted policy measures has become an issue meriting in-depth research.

2. Measurement Principle based on the Entropy Weight Method

This study conducts an empirical analysis using rural revitalization indicators for 13 prefecture-level cities in Jiangsu Province over the period 2006–2024. All data are drawn from the Jiangsu Statistical Yearbook (2006–2024). The entropy weight method is a commonly used technique among objective weighting approaches, in which the magnitude of entropy

determines the weight assigned to each indicator. This paper adopts the entropy weight method to determine indicator weights, as it yields relatively objective results.

Step 1: Standardization of the data. The range standardization (min-max normalization) method is applied to standardize the raw data of all indicators, and a constant of 0.0001 is added to the standardized formula to avoid the occurrence of zero values that would render the assignment meaningless. Let i denote the year ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$), k the city ($k = 1, 2, \dots, m$), and j the indicator ($j = 1, 2, \dots, p$); then x_{ikj} denotes the value of indicator j for city k in year i . Positive indicators are standardized using Equation (1), and negative indicators using Equation (2).

Standardization of positive indicators:

$$x'_{ikj} = \frac{x_{ikj} - x_{\min}}{x_{\max} - x_{\min}} + 0.0001 \quad (1)$$

Standardization of negative indicators:

$$x'_{ikj} = \frac{x_{\max} - x_{ikj}}{x_{\max} - x_{\min}} + 0.0001 \quad (2)$$

where x'_{ikj} denotes the standardized value of the indicator, x_{ikj} the raw value, $x_{\min}$ the minimum value of the indicator, and $x_{\max}$ the maximum value of the indicator.

Step 2: Determine the proportion of each indicator:

$$Y_{ikj} = \frac{x'_{ikj}}{\sum_i \sum_{ikj}} \quad (3)$$

Step 3: Calculate the entropy value of indicator j :

$$E_j = -r \sum_i \sum_k Y_{ikj} \ln(Y_{ikj}), \quad r = \ln(in) \quad (4)$$

Step 4: Calculate the divergence coefficient of indicator j :

$$G_j = 1 - E_j \quad (5)$$

Step 5: Calculate the weight of each indicator:

$$W_j = \frac{G_j}{\sum_j G_j} \quad (6)$$

Step 6: Calculate the composite score of the rural revitalization development level of each region in Jiangsu Province:

$$H_{ik} = \sum_j W_j x'_{ikj} \quad (7)$$

3. Measurement of the Rural Revitalization Level and Analysis of Regional Differences in Jiangsu Province

Based on the entropy-weight estimation of the rural revitalization index for 13 prefecture-level cities in Jiangsu Province over the period 2006–2024, the overall level of rural revitalization in the province exhibits a steadily rising evolutionary trajectory. Up to 2022, the trajectory can be further divided into stages: during 2006–2014, the gaps among cities widened slowly, with Northern and Central Jiangsu gradually gaining momentum on the strength of resource inputs; during 2015–2021, Yancheng and Xuzhou accelerated into the lead, while growth in some Southern Jiangsu cities stagnated or even reversed, as in the case of Zhenjiang, whose index fell from 0.179 to 0.132. From 2022 onward, the series experienced an end-period inflection and subsequently resumed its rise. A mutation of such wide scope occurring simultaneously across cities far exceeds the range of any plausible real economic fluctuation, and points strongly to an adjustment in the entropy-weight indicator system or in the statistical caliber around 2022 rather than to an actual regression in the level of development. The overall trend therefore remains upward. The conventional perception that “Southern Jiangsu is developed and Northern Jiangsu is backward” is overturned in the domain of rural revitalization. The reason lies in the fact that the entropy weight method measures a composite development index; using the indicators selected in this paper (gross output value of agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, and fishery; gross agricultural output value; total power of agricultural machinery; rural electricity consumption; grain sown area; grain output; and volume of domestic waste collected and transported), Northern Jiangsu, relying on dedicated inputs, scores prominently on these specific indicators and consequently obtains a higher index. The level of rural revitalization in Jiangsu thus displays a pattern of Northern Jiangsu > Central Jiangsu > Southern Jiangsu.

As the final year of the sample, 2024 epitomizes the ultimate outcome of the long-term trends described above. The ranking of the 13 cities, from highest to lowest, is as follows: Yancheng, Xuzhou, Huai'an, Suqian, Nantong, Lianyungang, Nanjing, Suzhou, Yangzhou, Taizhou, Wuxi, Changzhou, and Zhenjiang. Among them, the two core cities of Northern Jiangsu, Yancheng and Xuzhou, take the lead. Yancheng relies on its coastal agricultural and ecological resources, and Xuzhou on the agricultural hinterland of the Huaihai Economic Zone; together they constitute the “Jiangsu model” of rural revitalization. Huai'an, Suqian, Nantong, and Lianyungang in Northern and Central Jiangsu follow in close succession and are relatively balanced in their development. Cities in Southern Jiangsu rank comparatively low, with Zhenjiang, Changzhou, and Wuxi at the bottom. The ability of Northern Jiangsu to surpass Southern Jiangsu in the final results is attributable, on the one hand, to agricultural positioning: as a major grain-producing area, Northern Jiangsu enjoys an advantage in such indicators as grain sown area and grain output, which aligns more closely with the weight allocation of the entropy weight method employed here. On the other hand, it also reflects policy support: cities in Northern Jiangsu and in the Jianghuai Ecological Economic Zone benefit from national-level plans and provincial-level key functional zone strategies such as the Jianghuai Ecological Economic Zone and coastal development, which have effectively financed and followed up on agricultural infrastructure in Northern Jiangsu. Southern Jiangsu has by now undergone de-agrarianization; with a higher urbanization rate, the share of agriculture has fallen substantially, so that it scores poorly on these agricultural indicators—even though factors such as capital and technology, which it possesses in abundance, are not fully captured by the index. It follows that this result does not indicate that rural areas in Southern Jiangsu are genuinely backward; rather, it is a consequence of the weight allocation under the entropy weight method. With a high urbanization rate and a low share of agriculture, Southern Jiangsu naturally receives a lower weight on indicators such as “agricultural output value” than Northern and Central Jiangsu. It can thus be seen that the

imbalance that still exists within Jiangsu has become the principal contradiction in the province’s rural revitalization, and that the regional gap on the path of urban–rural integration remains an issue requiring careful consideration.

Table 1. Entropy Weight Measurement of Rural Revitalization in Jiangsu Province by City, 2006–2024

City	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Nanjing	0.2016	0.2027	0.2067	0.2109	0.2240	0.2358	0.2506	0.2641	0.2711	0.2673	0.2611	0.2883	0.3009	0.2991	0.3010	0.2884	0.2802	0.2918	0.3029
Wuxi	0.2385	0.2558	0.2598	0.2679	0.2880	0.3054	0.3114	0.3190	0.3253	0.3267	0.3301	0.3418	0.3469	0.3466	0.3432	0.3587	0.3611	0.3653	0.3689
Xuzhou	0.3078	0.3151	0.3337	0.3514	0.3682	0.3919	0.4118	0.4250	0.4496	0.4675	0.4843	0.5072	0.5239	0.5250	0.5320	0.5794	0.5346	0.428	0.5469
Changzhou	0.1934	0.1837	0.1924	0.2014	0.2122	0.2146	0.2209	0.2307	0.2329	0.2378	0.2429	0.2541	0.2644	0.2666	0.2481	0.2558	0.2544	0.2572	0.2611
Suzhou	0.3205	0.3315	0.3435	0.3650	0.3831	0.4028	0.423	0.4413	0.4672	0.4844	0.4916	0.4971	0.4813	0.4932	0.5063	0.5252	0.5318	0.415	0.522
Nantong	0.2620	0.2678	0.2825	0.2961	0.2998	0.238	0.386	0.483	0.585	0.687	0.755	0.866	0.991	0.888	0.185	0.323	0.366	0.434	0.417
Lianyungang	0.2133	0.2194	0.2288	0.2480	0.2596	0.2750	0.2922	0.3030	0.3163	0.3287	0.3352	0.3418	0.3547	0.3574	0.3683	0.3637	0.3294	0.3366	0.335
Huai'an	0.2453	0.2488	0.2704	0.2827	0.2924	0.3125	0.3257	0.3417	0.3550	0.3701	0.3762	0.3844	0.3962	0.3984	0.4054	0.4215	0.427	0.4959	0.4032
Yancheng	0.3489	0.3594	0.3903	0.4048	0.4241	0.4424	0.4561	0.4739	0.4933	0.5055	0.5095	0.5184	0.5273	0.5285	0.525	0.525	0.508	0.564	0.5678
Yangzhou	0.1879	0.1932	0.2059	0.2145	0.2254	0.2424	0.2492	0.2588	0.2648	0.2725	0.2765	0.2703	0.2786	0.2787	0.2825	0.2949	0.439	0.512	0.518
Zhenjiang	0.1351	0.1404	0.1470	0.1506	0.1543	0.1650	0.1690	0.1762	0.1808	0.1828	0.1838	0.1826	0.1824	0.1798	0.1816	0.1888	0.304	0.304	0.318
Taizhou	0.2096	0.2164	0.2285	0.2363	0.2423	0.2536	0.2657	0.2765	0.2837	0.2867	0.2910	0.2979	0.3010	0.3053	0.3071	0.249	0.415	0.467	0.505
Suqian	0.2333	0.2355	0.2745	0.2858	0.2975	0.3117	0.3207	0.3313	0.3421	0.359	0.417	0.474	0.598	0.633	0.734	0.881	0.452	0.504	0.558

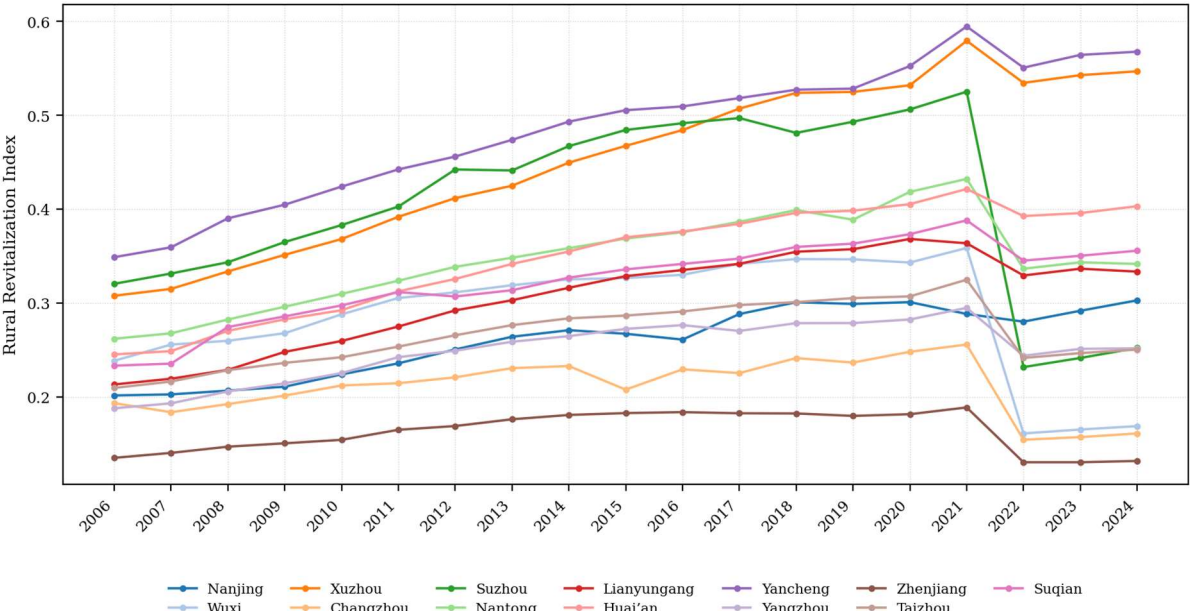


Figure 1. Entropy Weight Measurement of Rural Revitalization in Jiangsu Province by City

The empirical results show that although the composite index presents a pattern of “Northern Jiangsu > Central Jiangsu > Southern Jiangsu,” the high scores of Northern Jiangsu derive mainly from rigid indicators of thriving businesses and resource inputs, such as the advantages of Yancheng and Xuzhou in gross agricultural output value and mechanization. In Southern

Jiangsu, cities such as Wuxi, Changzhou, and Zhenjiang obtain low scores on indicators of agricultural scale, while in fact holding advantages in such implicit dimensions as urban–rural integration, farmers' income, and public services. This divergence between a scale-oriented and a quality-oriented pattern indicates that, in order to understand the concrete situation of high-quality development in Southern Jiangsu and high-volume development in Northern Jiangsu, one cannot rely on the composite index alone; the gaps among Southern, Central, and Northern Jiangsu must also be explored with reference to other detailed data. In 2024, the disparity in the province's rural revitalization index widened further, and the regional gap has become the principal short board constraining the improvement of Jiangsu's overall level of rural revitalization. Narrowing the regional gap should therefore be made the priority objective of rural revitalization in Jiangsu. Priority should be given to guiding high-quality resources—capital, technology, and management experience—from Southern Jiangsu toward Central and Northern Jiangsu, so as to support the latter in developing high-efficiency agriculture, deep processing of agricultural products, and rural tourism, and to organically combine the “market advantage” of Southern Jiangsu with the “resource advantage” of Central and Northern Jiangsu, thereby achieving complementary strengths and narrowing the gap between them. For Southern Jiangsu cities such as Zhenjiang and Changzhou, whose indices have remained low over the long term and whose growth lacks momentum, investment should be directed in priority to the construction of rural infrastructure and the optimization of rural public services. In response to the problems of rural population aging and hollowing-out in these areas, the supply of public services such as rural elderly care, medical care, and education should be increased, so that, alongside prosperity in living standards, the deficiencies in the dimension of effective governance may be remedied. Through upstream–downstream collaboration along the industrial chain, Northern Jiangsu should consolidate its advantage as a “raw material base,” extend the industrial chain, and raise added value, consolidating its index advantage while simultaneously strengthening its genuine competitiveness; Central Jiangsu should reinforce integration in “processing and distribution,” make rational use of its geographical advantage, play a “hub” role, and promote industrial alignment between Nantong, Yangzhou, and Taizhou and Southern Jiangsu so as to create exemplary models; Southern Jiangsu should develop “brand marketing” to optimize its indicators and “smart agriculture” to highlight its distinctive features. In this way the value of the province's entire agricultural industry chain will be raised and rural revitalization developed as a whole. From an overall perspective, cross-regional collaboration should be strengthened, capital and technology from Southern Jiangsu should be guided northward, and internal gaps should be narrowed, while at the same time focused attention must be paid to rural population aging and to the problems of social hollowing-out implied by the sluggish growth of some cities in the table, so as to raise the level of prosperity and achieve effective governance.

4. Policy Recommendations for Promoting Rural Revitalization and Coordinated Regional Development in Jiangsu Province

From the perspective of “Strong, Prosperous, Beautiful, and Highly Civilized” and on the basis of the empirical conclusions presented above, although the level of rural revitalization in Jiangsu has risen steadily, the regional gap has continued to widen. Accordingly, efforts should be made in four respects: people-centered new urbanization, ecological utilization of resources, demand-driven development of the entire agricultural industry chain, and institutionalized regional coordination. On this basis, this paper proposes the following policy recommendations.

4.1. Adhering to a People-centered Approach and Promoting the Coordinated Advance of Rural Revitalization and New Urbanization

The key to rural revitalization lies in people. The deep-seated constraint currently facing rural Jiangsu is not simply insufficient capital investment, but rather the continuing outflow of talent and the imbalance of population structure: large numbers of laborers from Northern and Central Jiangsu migrate to Southern Jiangsu and to other provinces, and rural aging and hollowing-out have weakened the endogenous momentum of thriving businesses and effective governance. Local authorities should therefore take “people” as both the starting point and the ultimate goal, advance new urbanization with county towns as important carriers in line with local conditions, abandon the one-sided pursuit of speed, and follow a high-quality, sustainable path matched to the stage of regional development. Southern Jiangsu, with its high urbanization rate, should focus on urban–rural integration and on extending public services to rural areas; Northern and Central Jiangsu should strengthen the industrial carrying capacity and population agglomeration capacity of county towns and central towns, thereby creating space for returnee entrepreneurship and nearby employment. At the same time, the cultivation of talent must be accorded priority. On the one hand, fiscal investment should be increased and a multi-tiered talent cultivation mechanism improved, so as to enhance the capabilities of local farmers in agricultural technology, management and operation, and e-commerce marketing. On the other hand, university–local government collaboration should be deepened, and preferential policies such as tuition compensation, entrepreneurship support, and professional title preferences should be used to guide university graduates and professional and technical personnel toward rural areas, so as to build a number of county-rooted talent training bases and ensure that talent can be “attracted, retained, and put to good use,” thus fundamentally resolving the human-resource bottleneck of rural revitalization.

4.2. Improving the Efficiency of Natural Resource Utilization and Empowering Rural Construction through an Ecological Path

“A beautiful environment” is an indispensable component of rural revitalization. Jiangsu possesses an excellent ecological endowment: the coastal tidal flats of Northern Jiangsu, the Lixiahe wetlands, and the Huaihai agricultural hinterland are rich in resources, while Southern Jiangsu is close to urban consumer markets where demand for rural tourism is strong, providing conditions for the conversion of natural resources into economic value. Local authorities should adhere to the priority of protection and to regulated development, transforming ecological resource advantages into ecological industry advantages: relying on pastoral scenery, local culture, and distinctive farming practices to develop service formats such as ecological agriculture, leisure and sightseeing, and wellness and homestay accommodation, and extending the value chain of “lucid waters and lush mountains,” so that the village collective economy and farmers’ incomes grow in tandem with ecological protection. At the same time, vigilance is required against the risk of environmental damage arising from development: the control of ecological red lines must be strictly enforced, facilities for the treatment of rural domestic waste and domestic sewage must be improved, and the prevention and control of agricultural non-point source pollution must be advanced. For regions endowed with both ecological and agricultural resources, such as Yancheng and Xuzhou, mechanisms for realizing the value of ecological products may be explored, allowing protectors to benefit through market-based instruments such as carbon sink trading, green certification, and brand premiums, so as to genuinely unify ecological and economic benefits and consolidate the foundation of “pleasant living environments.”

4.3. Using Urban Consumption to Drive the Optimization of Rural Industrial Structure and Building an Integrated Agricultural Industry Chain

Southern Jiangsu, with its high urbanization rate and low share of agriculture, is inherently disadvantaged with respect to aggregate indicators; it should therefore not simply pursue the expansion of agricultural scale, but should instead leverage its market advantage to drive structural adjustment in reverse. Northern and Central Jiangsu, for their part, should convert resource advantages into industrial advantages, follow the trend of upgrading in the structure of urban consumption, guide rural areas to adjust their cropping and breeding structures in line with local conditions, develop high-efficiency agricultural products oriented toward urban markets-such as vegetables, fruits, specialty livestock and poultry, and high-quality rice-and improve the effectiveness of agricultural technology extension services, so that, through dedicated funds, rural industrial parks, and the introduction of agricultural technical talent, farmers master modern agricultural production techniques. Northern Jiangsu should consolidate its capacity to supply grain and specialty agricultural products and advance the construction of high-standard farmland together with agricultural mechanization and intelligentization; Central Jiangsu should strengthen the deep processing of agricultural products and cold-chain logistics to improve distribution efficiency; Southern Jiangsu should exploit its advantages in capital, technology, and markets, concentrating on brand operation, standard-setting, and channel development. Through upstream-downstream synergy along the industrial chain, traditional agriculture will be propelled toward modernization, scale, and branding, raising the value of the province's entire agricultural industry chain as a whole.

4.4. Improving the Mechanism for Coordinated Regional Development and Striving to Narrow Intra-provincial Regional Disparities

The empirical results show that in 2024 the gap in the province's rural revitalization index widened further, and regional imbalance has become the principal short board constraining the improvement of the overall level. It is therefore necessary to accelerate the establishment of an effective mechanism for coordinated regional development, promote the linked development of the three major blocs of Southern, Central, and Northern Jiangsu, and facilitate the equal exchange and two-way flow of factors such as capital, technology, and management between urban and rural areas. Priority should be given to guiding the transfer of capital, technology, and management experience from Southern Jiangsu to Northern and Central Jiangsu, and to supporting the latter in developing high-efficiency agriculture, deep processing of agricultural products, and rural tourism. At the same time, the upgrading of rural infrastructure should be advanced, and the unification of standards, the merging of institutions, and the inclusive sharing of basic public services should be accelerated; in particular, the short boards in rural infrastructure and public services in areas where indices have long remained low and growth lacks momentum-such as Zhenjiang, Changzhou, and Wuxi-must be addressed, and the supply of elderly care, medical care, and education increased, so as to meet the practical challenges arising from rural population aging and hollowing-out. In addition, the radiating and driving functions of central cities should be strengthened, modern service industries and high-tech industries should be undertaken on the strength of the locational advantages of urban-rural fringes, the regional economic structure should be optimized, and the capacity of cities to drive rural development should be enhanced. Only through the dual drivers of institutionalized regional collaboration and targeted remediation of short boards can Jiangsu's rural revitalization be guided from a differentiated pattern of "Northern Jiangsu leading and Southern Jiangsu lagging" onto a high-quality development track characterized by overall coordination and common improvement.

5. Conclusion

From 2006 to 2024, rural revitalization in Jiangsu Province advanced steadily; however, regional disparities continued to widen, and narrowing intra-provincial regional development gaps has become the primary objective for elevating the overall level of rural revitalization in Jiangsu. In the future, the market, capital, and technological advantages of southern Jiangsu should be integrated with the resource endowments of central and northern Jiangsu, achieving complementary strengths through talent repatriation, ecological industrialization, and full-industry-chain collaborative cooperation. By relying on institutionalized regional coordination mechanisms and targeted measures to shore up weaknesses, rural revitalization in Jiangsu can be propelled from regional divergence toward holistic coordination and collective advancement.

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