

The Problems and Countermeasures of Current Rural Ecological Environment Governance

Man Lu^{1*}

¹ Tianjin University of Commerce, Tianjin, China

Email Address

1925290254@qq.com (Man Lu)

*Correspondence: 1925290254@qq.com

Received: 23 January 2023; Accepted: 12 February 2024; Published: 8 March 2024

Abstract:

Strengthening the governance of rural ecological environment is of great practical significance for promoting the harmonious development of China's rural economy and society, and advancing the process of rural modernization. Therefore, governments at all levels should increase their attention to this issue, have a clear understanding of the ecological environment pollution situation in rural areas, improve corresponding policies, regulations, and management systems, scientifically plan the development of rural economy, vigorously promote green ecological agriculture, improve the quality and efficiency of ecological environment governance, create a livable living environment for rural residents, and promote the harmonious development of rural economy and ecology.

Keywords:

Rural Areas, Ecological Environment Governance, Problems and Countermeasures

1. Introduction

In the process of rural economic development, the idea of ecological agriculture development is increasingly accepted by people. At present, ecological agriculture in China is facing serious ecological and environmental problems. Through reasonable and effective policies and measures, the rural ecological environment can be improved and the sustainable and stable development of ecological agriculture can be promoted.

2. The Importance of Strengthening Rural Ecological Environment Governance

In the process of rural development and construction, it is necessary to do a good job in ecological environment governance and establish a long-term management mechanism, mainly by implementing the new development concept. Rural areas are the main battlefield for ecological environment governance and protection. To implement the development concept of green environmental protection, it is necessary to establish a long-term governance mechanism to promote sustainable development

in rural areas in the long run. Secondly, promote the goal of rural revitalization. China is currently at a critical juncture in rural revitalization, and ecological livability is one of the main goals. Therefore, in the current process of rural development and construction, it is necessary to establish a long-term ecological environment governance mechanism, take targeted measures according to the actual situation, control environmental pollution, and create the most suitable living environment for the general public in the process of developing green agriculture and green industries. [1]

3. Issues Related to Rural Ecological Environment Governance

3.1. Weak ecological environment protection concept

In order to pursue economic development, the government often overlooks ecological environment protection. In production, construction, and economic development, the lack of effective promotion of ecological environment protection work and knowledge leads to farmers ignoring the green production industry, overly focusing on economic benefits, and pursuing short-term development. To strengthen the public's sense of responsibility, it is necessary to pay attention to the use of environmentally friendly production models and technologies in daily production and life, starting from some details. However, currently, relevant enterprises and the general public have not taken energy conservation and environmental protection work seriously, and the concept of ecological environment protection is weak. [2]

3.2. Relatively low ecological environment governance capacity

Although government departments have established various incentive mechanisms to encourage private enterprises and the general public to increase their efforts in environmental governance. However, due to inadequate infrastructure construction, the effectiveness of environmental governance is not significant. At the same time, due to inadequate infrastructure, tasks such as garbage treatment and waste recycling cannot be effectively implemented, which has also led to the continuous deterioration of the rural ecological environment. Moreover, due to the relatively late start of environmental protection work in rural areas, various departments often shift their responsibilities to each other and have not established a good working method to carry out environmental protection work. So, it is difficult to achieve the goal of ecological environment governance in rural areas.

3.3. Imperfect ecological environment governance mechanism

At present, there is a lack of effective mechanisms to support the governance of rural ecological environment in China, as well as corresponding laws, regulations, and production systems. As a result, a large amount of household waste and pollutants are still discharged arbitrarily in rural areas. The relevant residents lack sufficient understanding of the legal system, and some rural cadres still abuse their power, resulting in poor effectiveness of environmental governance work. These phenomena will have adverse effects on rural ecological environment governance.

3.4. Insufficient governance funds

At present, the funding for rural ecological environment governance in China is still mainly based on fiscal revenue. In recent years, although local governments have continuously increased their funds for environmental governance, the lack of

sufficient funds for environmental governance has hindered the further deepening of governance work due to the need for a large amount of funds. Although farmers are beneficiaries of rural ecological environment governance, many people are unwilling to invest in environmental governance due to their income level and ideological limitations, which to some extent results in insufficient funding needs for ecological environment governance. In addition, many regions have not yet established market-oriented mechanisms for rural ecological environment governance, which cannot effectively attract social funds. [3]

3.5. Insufficient collaboration among multiple stakeholders

At present, environmental work in China is mainly led by various functional departments, while the participation of other parties is relatively low, making it difficult to achieve the goal of collaborative governance. Due to the lack of clear definition of responsibilities for diverse subjects, there are frequent occurrences of government overstepping and social organization vacancy.

3.6. Difficulty in implementing the governance leadership responsibility system

Due to the remote location of rural areas in our country and the limited financial budget of townships, if effective planning cannot be carried out, increasing fiscal transfer payments, and increasing tax and financial support, it will face a difficult situation to sustain. Currently, due to the complex ecological environment in rural areas of China, there are many environmental risks and hidden dangers, and the division of responsibilities among relevant departments still needs to be further improved. In addition, in some rural areas, due to poor economic benefits, some grassroots units attach low importance to rural environmental protection work, and some even sacrifice the ecological environment to promote rural economic development.

3.7. Weak links in environmental supervision of rural enterprises

As an important force in promoting rural revitalization, rural enterprises enjoy certain preferential treatment in terms of land use, business licenses, and some heavy pollution projects have also received government support, which is a major hidden danger faced by current rural ecological environment governance. The technology and equipment of traditional township enterprises are relatively backward, and the extensive production methods will inevitably bring about high pollution and high energy consumption problems. In addition, most township enterprises are small-scale and adopt a family style and extensive management approach, which makes it difficult to timely and effectively disclose their environmental governance information. At the same time, due to the lack of mandatory disclosure and supervision of environmental protection information by the government on township enterprises, the pollution discharge behavior of enterprises is prone to exceeding the standard.

4. Strategies for Rural Ecological Environment Governance

4.1. Enhancing the concept of ecological environment protection

To achieve the long-term goal of rural ecological environment governance, it is necessary to enhance the concept of ecological environment protection. Therefore, at this stage, it is necessary to strengthen the publicity and education of ecological environment protection awareness. Firstly, it is necessary to establish a publicity and

education system. On the one hand, it is necessary to regularly hold special activities related to ecological environment protection, mainly focusing on current environmental hot topics, environmental festivals, etc. On the other hand, we use pictures, videos, WeChat official account and other ways to publicize ecological environment protection. In addition, it is also possible to maintain contact with the environmental protection department and regularly release some environmental monitoring data to villagers. For example, changes in water quality, air quality, etc. have made villagers aware of the harm caused by ecological pollution and enhanced their awareness of protecting the ecological environment. Secondly, we should focus on developing green agriculture. By promoting technology to rural areas and promoting agricultural technology, we aim to popularize green agricultural technologies to villagers, enabling them to master green and scientific planting and breeding methods, reduce pollution and energy consumption in agricultural production, and promote the development of green agriculture.

4.2. Increase the enforcement and supervision of ecological environment

At present, there are very few legal provisions on the protection of agricultural and rural ecological environment in China. This requires relevant departments to formulate corresponding laws and regulations as soon as possible, increase the supervision of ecological environment law enforcement, and enable law enforcement personnel to have legal basis during law enforcement. In addition, comprehensive law enforcement departments for agricultural and rural environmental protection can be established according to the agricultural and rural environments in different regions, and ecological and environmental protection supervision and management systems suitable for local agriculture and rural areas can be formulated. Scientific and reasonable supervision and management can be implemented, and relevant personnel can be organized to regularly inspect the local agricultural and ecological environment. Those responsible for violating regulations will be punished and warned accordingly.

4.3. Improving the Environmental Governance System

In the implementation of rural ecological environment governance, in order to better improve its work quality, it is necessary to adhere to the long-term management and control policy, ensure that relevant work content and management standards can be implemented, achieve the goal of long-term supervision and control, and maintain diversified management effects.

Firstly, based on the actual situation in rural areas, improve the operation and management system of rural ecological environment governance facilities, and establish a corresponding protection and management system to ensure the smooth progress of related work. More importantly, the relevant institutional models need to be practical and scalable. At the same time, specific long-term control plans and mechanisms can also be handed over to more professional personnel through purchasing services and other means.

Secondly, based on the actual situation, the rationality of the evaluation and supervision mechanism should be ensured, and a controllable evaluation and supervision system should be constructed by drawing on third-party participation in management. In the process of supervision and evaluation, the effectiveness of rural ecological environment governance, farmer satisfaction, and the rationality of regular evaluations are refined in stages, so as to better construct a dynamic policy regulation and management mechanism, improve the timeliness of related work, and thus

improve the service quality of rural ecological environment governance.

Thirdly, we should actively expand the scope of guidance for the participation mechanism. Due to the involvement of many aspects in rural ecological environment governance, including government, enterprises, farmers, etc. Therefore, it is necessary to further improve the boundary content of relevant entities, establish a parallel control method of participation and collaboration, ensure that relevant parties can participate in ecological environment governance work, and build a feasible long-term regulatory mechanism to the maximum extent.

Fourthly, we need to improve the assessment system. In the context of the comprehensive transformation of phased management in rural areas, the supervision and assessment of cadres should be gradually implemented, and the relevant content of rural ecological environment governance should be included in the assessment scope. It can not only enhance the competitiveness of staff, but also mobilize their work enthusiasm, and effectively establish a more standardized, scientific, and effective long-term regulatory system for ecological environment governance. Therefore, in the process of building a long-term management mechanism, specific work should be implemented from the perspective of diversified development, ensuring the determination of participating entities, effective implementation of corresponding work content and institutional constraints, enhancing the effectiveness of collaborative management of rural ecological environment governance, and promoting the harmonious unity of economic and environmental benefits.

4.4. Establish a governance funding guarantee mechanism

In rural ecological environment governance, funding is an important factor, so it is necessary to increase financial investment and broaden financing channels in order to achieve sustainable development of this work. Given the current situation of insufficient financial investment and single financing channels in China, it is necessary to further improve the funding guarantee mechanism to ensure that funds are invested in place. Firstly, we need to expand financing channels. According to the goals and plans for rural ecological environment protection, the state can set up special funds to continuously increase investment in rural governance. Grassroots governments should formulate preferential subsidy policies and actively guide enterprises and other relevant entities to actively participate. At the same time, local environmental and resource advantages can be fully utilized to formulate suitable development plans for characteristic industries, such as rural tourism and rural e-commerce. While promoting rural economic development, more social forces should also be involved in rural environmental governance. Meanwhile, farmers are the main body of social security and an important component of the social security system. To this end, various regions should strengthen publicity and education for rural residents, so that they have a certain understanding of ecological environment governance, and encourage them to make contributions to rural ecological environment governance through direct investment, labor investment, and other means based on actual situations. Secondly, it is necessary to manage limited funds. Each region should effectively follow the principle of "dedicated funds for specific purposes", allocate and utilize funds reasonably according to the needs of rural ecological environment governance, and prioritize the weak links and urgent problems in environmental governance as investment targets. At the same time, it is necessary to establish a sound fund management responsibility system and hold accountable those who use funds in violation of regulations.

4.5. Strengthen the collaborative governance of diverse forces

To improve the effectiveness of rural ecological environment governance, it is necessary to define the responsibilities of various governance entities, strengthen communication and cooperation among them, and promote the diversification of rural ecological environment governance. Firstly, we need to start from two aspects: top-level design and coordination guidance. The government regulatory department should formulate remediation plans based on the current situation of environmental pollution in the region and the remediation plan, following the principle of "adapting measures to local conditions", and on this basis, fully utilize administrative functions to strengthen environmental governance. Conduct a comprehensive investigation into the status of rural environmental governance, organize data and materials, identify existing problems, and summarize advanced management experience to construct a distinctive rural governance model. At the same time, government departments should strictly implement the system of engineering information disclosure, and timely and completely disclose environmental protection information to farmers through official websites and authoritative media. In addition, government departments should expand public supervision and feedback channels, encourage farmers to provide feedback on various harmful behaviors that damage the ecological environment to rural residents, and encourage them to provide valuable opinions for current environmental governance policies and plans. Secondly, we must fully leverage the regulatory and coordination functions of social organizations. Local governments should fully leverage the role of social organizations and their advantages in flexibility, professionalism, and other aspects to make up for deficiencies in management. On the one hand, government departments should incorporate social organizations into the ecological environment governance system, provide funding and technical support, formulate reasonable support policies, and promote their healthy development. At the same time, social organizations should also recognize their responsibilities, conduct investigations at the grassroots level, collect a large amount of real information, and supervise the environmental governance behavior of relevant functional departments, enterprises, and rural residents.

4.6. Improve the leadership responsibility system for rural ecological environment governance

Firstly, improve the leadership responsibility system of the central, provincial, municipal, county, and township governments, and carry out governance of the rural ecological environment. On the one hand, it is necessary to coordinate and coordinate the governance of rural ecological environment from aspects such as goal planning, funding arrangement, and institutional reform. On the other hand, we should start from the characteristics of rural areas and highlight the responsibilities of county-level and township governments. On the basis of continuously improving the management system, clarify the protection responsibilities for rural rivers, lakes, mining environment, farmland ecology, etc., and supervise and hold village cadres accountable. Secondly, it is necessary to improve and implement the assessment system for rural ecological environment protection goals. Government departments should formulate rural ecological environment governance indicators in accordance with the requirements of "ecological livability", and incorporate them into the target evaluation system of ecological civilization construction, and include them in the evaluation of party and government work. Various regions can formulate binding or long-term development goals based on the natural conditions and industrial

development status of local rural areas.

4.7. Ensure the implementation of environmental governance responsibilities for rural enterprises

Rural enterprises are the main force in modern rural ecological environment governance. In the process of market entry, operation, and exit, the government should provide institutional guarantees for them to assume the main responsibility. Firstly, a system of pre prevention and post compensation for agricultural enterprise engineering construction should be established. One is to combine the natural ecological environment characteristics of rural areas and improve the rural environmental impact assessment system and pollutant discharge permit system. At the same time, it is necessary to dynamically adjust the standards for the remediation of rural mines, water bodies, and land based on the development status of different regions, and implement ecological compensation when rural enterprises close or exit. Secondly, research on green production in rural areas. Improve the environmental safety evaluation standards for agricultural production materials such as pesticides and fertilizers, and promote the green development of agricultural production processes. Conduct research on clean production standards in rural areas, strictly eliminate outdated production processes and technologies, and promote technological innovation and updates in rural enterprises. Explore the organic integration of organic environmental protection certification and green product certification, improve the rural pollution discharge permit trading system, fully tap into the value of rural ecological environment, and encourage farmers to reduce pollution emissions. Thirdly, a system for environmental protection information disclosure in rural enterprises should be established. Through government websites, WeChat mini programs, Weibo and other channels, disclose the ecological environment pollution and prevention measures of enterprises in accordance with the law. At the same time, it is necessary to accelerate the establishment of an ecological environment credit evaluation system for rural enterprises and carry out graded management.

5. Conclusions

Overall, the necessity of rural ecological environment governance is becoming increasingly evident, especially in the face of the current serious ecological environment pollution problem. It is even more necessary to enhance the concept of ecological environment protection, increase efforts in ecological environment prevention and control, and improve the environmental governance system and mechanism to promote the sustainable development of rural ecological environment.

Conflicts of Interest

The author declares that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this article.

Funding

This research received no specific grant from any funding agency in the public, commercial or not-for-profit sectors.

References

- [1] Xin, M.R. Improving the Rural Ecological Environment and Promoting the Development of Ecological Agriculture Economy. *Rural Science and Technology*, 2021, 6, 279.
- [2] Wang, Y.F. Improving the Rural Ecological Environment and Promoting the Development of Ecological Agriculture Economy. *Tropical Agriculture Engineering*, 2020, 44 (5), 74-75.
- [3] Li, X.G. Improving the Rural Ecological Environment and Promoting the Development of Ecological Agriculture Economy. *New Agriculture*, 2019, 19, 71-72.



© 2024 by the author(s); licensee International Technology and Science Publications (ITS), this work for open access publication is under the Creative Commons Attribution International License (CC BY 4.0). (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>)