

Sharing and Research on China's Anti-poverty Experience¹

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Abstract: Poverty is a thorny issue that has plagued mankind for thousands of years. Both domestic and foreign Academics have done a lot of research on poverty since the early 20th century, and concluded that, rather than being single dimension-dominated results, poverty is related to various factors, such as individual or family assets, risk resistance capability, mental dimensions, feasibility ability, psychology and so on. Therefore, any anti-poverty decisions based on single dimension-dominated view of poverty are flawed and ineffective. Conversely, to work out decisions based on in-depth research into complex poverty causes and in the light of various factors, including national or regional resource endowments, social systems, top-level designs and poverty reduction models, is the only workable option to promote the sustainable development of global poverty reduction cause.

Keywords: Poverty Reduction Experience, Poverty Reduction Wisdom, Chinese Story, Case Sharing, International Contribution

Part I: China's Poverty Reduction Drive and its Contributions

1. Review on China's Poverty Reduction Efforts

The history of poverty reduction in China can be divided into five stages:

(1). The broad-based anti-poverty stage under the planned economy system

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(1949–1977). The main achievements in this stage include: completing land system reforms, establishing the collective economic system in the form of people's communes, establishing the public ownership of rural properties, and initially establishing the rural basic social security system mainly anchored on the community's five-guarantee system and the severely impoverished rural resident relief system, as a result, greatly enhancing rural productivity growth;

(2) The system-led anti-poverty phase (1978–1985). In the beginning of reform and opening-up era, the people's commune system featuring “being large in size and collective in nature” under the planned economy system was transformed into a household contract responsibility system characterized by “remuneration being linked to output”. This transformation greatly motivated rural farmers to increase production, and in turn, resulted in narrowed income gaps between urban and rural areas and a booming rural economy;

(3) The anti-poverty stage focusing on being free of food and clothing worries (1986–2000). This period stood out in various achievements: China set up a national anti-poverty agency, put out related policies, and shifted in a systematic and phased manner away from the temporary relief anti-poverty pattern toward the regional anti-poverty model. In the 7th Five-year Program for National Economic and Social Development of the People's Republic of China released in April, 1986, a separate chapter was added for addressing “economic development issues in former revolutionary base areas, areas inhabited by minority nationalities, poverty-stricken areas and remote border areas”, designating 18 pervasively poor localities and a number of national and provincial poor counties as key anti-poverty areas, and proposing the anti-poverty development pattern focusing on promoting anti-poverty undertakings through regional development;

(4) The anti-poverty phase of consolidating free-of-food-and-clothing-worry achievements (2001–2010). During this period, the development anti-poverty tactics much improved in the relevance and precision, that is, more highly targeted, with the anti-poverty focus being shifted from the county level down to the village level. Nationwide, 150,000 poor villages were identified as basic units to fully implement anti-poverty development strategies, focusing on anti-poverty by facilitating the economic development of villages as a whole;

(5) The anti-poverty phase of building an overall well-off society (2011 – present). The Anti-poverty Development Outlines for Chinese Rural Areas (2011–2020) enacted in 2011 by the CPC Central Committee and the State Council set the new anti-poverty goal and laid down new anti-poverty tactics: identifying contiguous poor areas as the main battlefield for anti-poverty development, raising the anti-poverty standards and lifting the base of people being out of poverty. In 2011, the Central Committee decided to adopt the RMB 2,300 per capita net income of farmers as the new national anti-poverty standard. During this period, the anti-poverty system has matured, and the income gap between urban and rural areas obviously narrowed, for example, the per capita disposable income ratio of urban and rural residents was 2.69 in 2018, down by 0.64 from the figure for 1956.

2. China's Poverty Reduction Contributions

1. Domestic Contributions

(1) The poor rural population in poor rural areas has shrunk significantly: according to the National Rural Poverty Monitoring Survey of the National Bureau of Statistics, there were 1.47 million poor rural residents in eastern China, 1.53 million fewer than in the previous year; 5.97 million in central China, 5.15 million fewer than in the previous year; and 9.16 million in western China, 7.18 million fewer than in the previous year.

(2) Agricultural and rural economic development has greatly been promoted: the anti-poverty development strategies vigorously advocated by the government have brought new vitality into rural areas, leading to steady growth in agriculture and a broader rural economy. The combined output value of agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry and fisheries has risen to RMB 11.357953 trillion in 2018 from RMB 9.7822 trillion in 2014, and of which, the total output value of agriculture has increased to RMB 6.14526 trillion in 2018 from RMB 4.484572 trillion in 2012. At the same time, the broader rural economy has also improved to a certain extent.

(3) National economy has grown significantly: long-term and rapid economic growth is the most fundamental and important driving force behind anti-poverty push, and the other way round, a reduced poverty and a less poor population will also react on economic development. Based on comparable prices in 1978, China's GDP grew to RMB 90.03095 trillion in 2018 from RMB 367.8 billion in 1978, and along with the rapid GDP growth, the poverty incidence slid sharply to 1.7% in 2018 from 97.5% in 1978.

International Contributions

China's poverty reduction campaign delivers two major contributions to the world: first, China has pushed its poverty incidence on its own to 1.7% in 2018 from 97.5% in 1978, registering a jaw-dropping fall of 95.8% over a short span of 50 years and leapfrogging in the forefront of all the world, as a result, making a great contribution to the global poverty reduction push; and second, over its course of poverty reduction efforts, China has pioneered a series of effective measures, and has amassed a series of practical experiences, providing a plethora of well-proven practices and exemplary models for developing countries to learn from in solving their own poverty problems. Meanwhile, China has completed a lot of fact-based argumentation for development economics and poverty reduction-related research, contributing to the development of economics.

Since the founding of the new Republic in 1949, China has provided supports to over 120 developing countries in their accomplishment of the Millennium Development Goals, and has been tapped by a large number of developing country officials for sharing China's anti-poverty experiences. In October 2016, anti-poverty officials from 15 developing countries, including Malawi, Ghana and Kenya, attended the 2016 Workshop for Public Service & Poverty Reduction Officials from Developing Countries in Beijing.

Part 2: The Context of China's Anti-poverty Experience

Poverty is a general term for all backward phenomena in economic, social and cultural dimensions. In essence, the history of human development is a history of the struggle against poverty, and eliminating poverty is a shared important mission for all mankind. In the long history of conquering and transforming the nature, human beings have tried on various ideas and practices to get rid of poverty, amassing a lot of wisdom.

1. China's Anti-poverty is in a Critical Period, with a Tight Schedule and Daunting Tasks

Since the reform and opening-up, China has made great achievements in the anti-poverty front, with marked improvements in all aspects accomplished in poverty-stricken areas, including the scientific and cultural qualities and the ideological and moral levels of residents. While on the other hand, as the times are advancing, the society is developing, come along with new realities, new contradictions and new problems, bringing about new problems, new difficulties and new challenges to China's anti-poverty drive.

The 19th National Congress of CPC's Report required that overall poverty alleviation for the rural population by the current poverty thresholds will should be achieved by 2020. By now, China's anti-poverty drive has been in a critical phase of tackling key problems. However, to achieve the scheduled goal as scheduled, China still has to address has still a lot of daunting challenges to be

addressed:

First, the anti-poverty pace must be quickened in some regions: at present, China's anti-poverty drive has been in the home stretch, meaning it is the last-minute time to crack the hardest nuts and tackle the most knotty issues, especially in southern Xinjiang (3 prefectures) and Shanxi, where there are daunting tasks to be completed, and more input in resources and manpower is needed.

Second, the anti-poverty tasks in severely impoverished areas are still daunting: the poverty incidences in the 14 poverty-stricken areas across the country (especially in Tibet, Tibetan areas in Sichuan, 3 prefectures in southern Xinjiang, Luliangshan region, Liupanshan region, Wumengshan region and 7 border areas in western Yunnan) remain extremely high, and poor populations in 3 regions and 3 prefectures (Tibet, Tibetan areas in Sichuan, 3 prefectures in southern Xinjiang, Liangshan prefecture in Sichuan, Nujiang River prefecture in Yunnan, and Linxia Prefecture in Gansu) remain large. In these areas, the poverty incidences are far higher than the national average or those in their adjoining areas, the disposable incomes of the poor are also lower, and non-income poverty metrics, such as education, health and housing, are also far below desirable levels. The anti-poverty efforts in these areas need to be coordinated and aligned with solving other complex issues, including ethnic nationalities, religions and border security.

Third, the growth in poor farmers' incomes is slowing, and the risk of slipping back into poverty is rising: impacted by worsening international economical situations and domestic growth mode transformations, the growth in incomes for low-income rural populations has been slowing obviously in recent years, resulting in a mounted risk of sliding back into poverty.

2. Poverty is Looming Larger Amid a Deepening Globalization

With the deepening economic globalization, countries are more closely related. Some issues and challenges have also snowballed into global ones, and are looming larger. For example, the domestic poverty in some underdeveloped countries are becoming more serious due to economic globalization.

Impacted by various factors, such as a weakening global growth, fluctuations in financial markets and worsening climate changes, over 800 million people across the world live below the poverty line, and come along with poverty hunger, diseases and even social conflicts, complicating the global poverty governance. In developing countries, the issue of poverty is even more complex. First of all, amid deepening economic globalization, the unequal political and economic relations between developing and developed countries lead to the unfair distribution of resources across the world, making anti-poverty efforts in developing countries even more difficult. Secondly, serious unfair distribution exists within many developing countries. Due to the quadratic element, there are huge gaps in social and economic development levels and social wealth between urban and rural areas as well as different regions in the same countries, and such huge gaps have led to political crises and social conflicts in developing countries since the 1960s.

Given poverty in developing countries took place in the context of rapid economic development and social custombackground changes, there are many similar features: first, low employment rates and high unemployment rates. Taking Latin American countries as an example. The unemployment rates in many Latin American (LA) countries in the 1990s were almost over 10%, leading to widespread poverty. Second, low labor incomes. Unstable employment and low incomes inflict obvious negative effects on poverty. Taking LA countries as an example. The debt crisis and economic structure adjustments in the 1980s landed laborers in non-regular employment, and

the resultant instability and lower incomes thrust them into poverty. Third, serious inequality in the distribution of incomes. Globally, the equality levels of income distribution in developing SEA countries are higher, while the levels in developing countries in Africa and Latin America very lower, leading to the serious poverty in their populations.

Developing countries are in urgent need of practical anti-poverty experience to learn from. As the largest developing country in the world, China has many similar characteristics in terms of poverty issues with other developing countries. A series of practices and experiences China has explored and accumulated in its anti-poverty and development process since the reform and opening-up, including development-driven anti-poverty and targeted anti-poverty, not only contribute to domestic poverty eradication and the overall well-off society building, but also have a high reference value for other developing countries in their anti-poverty efforts.

Part 3: China's Anti-poverty Concept and Program

1. China's Anti-poverty Concept

Since 1949, China has made great efforts, and also made remarkable achievements in anti-poverty. To respond to anti-poverty requirements in the new era, China's targeted populations have been evolving from "inclusive" to "preferential", its mode from "blood transfusion" to "blood generation", and its agents from the "solo" to "diverse". In the process of the continuous evolution of China's anti-poverty concept, the current targeted anti-poverty thought, which is of great significance to the world, has taken shape and matured. Derived from this thought, many important anti-poverty measures, such as "five batches", have been put forward and implemented, promoting the sustainable development of poverty reduction both in China and even across the world.

Fundamental Goal

The fundamental goal of targeted anti-poverty efforts is to build an overall well-off society and to achieve common prosperity for all the national population. At a workshop of leading comrades from the Party Committees in some provinces, municipalities and regions, MrPresident. Xi Jinping made it clear that it is the essential requirement of socialism, and also an important mission of the CPC to eliminate poverty, improve people's livelihood, and gradually realize common prosperity.

Principle of Being Highly Targeted

(1) Highly Targeted Anti-poverty Beneficiaries: through overall indicator control and community democratic evaluation, the government has established records for poor rural populations since April, 2014 to identify poor villages, families and individuals. And then, based on the review on these records from August 2015 to June 2016, the government added and dropped some potential anti-poverty beneficiaries to have a highly targeted anti-poverty beneficiary base.

(2) Highly Targeted Project Arrangements: right project arrangements depend upon singling out right issues and needs to be badly addressed. Therefore, poverty causes for the poor had to be identified accurately in the beginning so as to determine differentiated anti-poverty support projects for effectively tackling different poverty causes and different types of poverty at the roots.

(3) Highly Targeted Use of Anti-poverty Funds: to strengthen the management of special anti-poverty funds, the Ministry of Finance (together with other governmental agencies) set out the Management Measures for Special Anti-poverty Funds from the Central Government Budget. These measures and the like further regulated the use and management of special anti-poverty funds, improving the pertinence and effectiveness of such funds.

(4) Highly Targeted Anti-poverty Measures to Different Households: the aim is to rectify the poor mismatching between anti-poverty measures and beneficiary households in the past anti-poverty efforts. For example, in the past, measures were simplified, generalized, inaccurate, or less pertinent to beneficiary households. Since the targeted anti-poverty tactics were introduced, almost all the policy decisions from the central government emphasized the basic requirements that “measures should be tailored to households and individuals”, and “measures should be implemented pointedly based on different classifications”. So, anti-poverty measures are required to be made accurate to households through the establishment of accurate records for poor beneficiaries and accurate identification of target populations, their implementation suitable to local conditions and their guidance given to specific situations.

(5) Highly Targeted Anti-poverty Staffing to Villages: to take up the slack from relatively weak and loosely organized rural grass-roots Party organizations, 775, 000 cadres have been dispatched to post at poor villages since April, 2015, including 195, 000 standouts appointed to be first secretary at poverty-stricken villages and weak grass-roots organizations, as a result, effectively strengthening the anti-poverty governance capacity of grass-roots organizations.

(6) Highly Targeted Anti-poverty Effectiveness: to solve the problem that anti-poverty effectiveness is not clear, and exits from anti-poverty are not accurate in the past, the General Offices of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council issued the Opinions on Establishing Antipoverty Exit Mechanisms in April 2016, requiring that the principles of being true to facts, hierarchical responsibilities, standardized operation and positive incentives must be followed to ensure that the effectiveness of poverty eradication can be truly recognized by the masses, and can stand the test of practice and history.

Core Contents

Targeted anti-poverty focuses on defining and addressing four issues: Whom to be Supported, Who to Support, How to Support and How to Exit. First, Whom to be supported: to identify accurately the right beneficiaries, and shift from the former scattergun approach of “broad irrigation”, which is characterized by indiscriminately flooding whole regions or populations, into the targeted pattern of “drip irrigation”. Second, Who to Support: with the constant evolution of anti-poverty mode in China, the composition of anti-poverty agents is becoming more diversified. With targeted antipoverty, the agents are broadly composed of governmental agencies, enterprises and private-sector organizations. Third, How to Support: first of all, to make a balanced and aligned planning and scheduling on mitigating immediate, near-term poverty and achieving sustainable long-term prosperity before project implementation; then, to use anti-poverty funds based on comprehensive considerations and arrangements of various factors, including supply and demand, input and output, supervision and management; finally, to focus on how to maximize the actual effectiveness of relevant measures to poor households. Innovative methods may be explored. For example, to promote harmony and reduce resistance by pairing anti-poverty agents and beneficiaries, to tackle poverty at the roots through strengthened education and training programs, and to eliminate poverty causes and environments through shanty town redevelopment or resettlement. Fourth, How to Exit: The key is to develop “3 mechanisms”. The improved assessment mechanism is the institutional guarantee to achieving the goal of anti-poverty efforts, the exit mechanism is the basis for orderly and targeted implementation of anti-poverty measures, and the third-party evaluation mechanism is the guarantee to achieving fairness and awareness of anti-poverty efforts, which will greatly contribute to the credibility and integrity of anti-poverty efforts.

2. China's Anti-poverty Program

(1). Emphasizing the Central Role of the Leadership System

The remarkable achievements in poverty reduction would not be obtained in China without the strong leadership of the Communist Party of China. On the one hand, the CPC has the strong political will to lead anti-poverty undertakings: since its birth, the CPC has been committed to leading the nation to go out of poverty and backwardness to a common prosperity. On the other hand, the CPC has a strong capability in organization and mobilization needed to lead the cause. To mobilize necessary resources for great undertakings is an important advantage of the socialist system.

(2). Forging the Management System with the Central Government Being Responsible for Overall Planning, Provinces for Organization and Leadership, and Counties for Project Implementation.

Provincial party committees and governments take the full ownership of antipoverty undertakings within their respective jurisdictions, formulating policy measures in the light of the provincial realities, and drawing out, and organizing the implementation of, rolling and annual anti-poverty plans for their respective provinces according to the goals and tasks of poverty eradication. Municipal party committees and governments coordinate cross-county anti-poverty projects within their respective jurisdictions, and prompt, monitor, inspect and supervise project implementation, the use and management of antipoverty funds and resources, and the performance of antipoverty tasks. County party committees and governments are the principal agents of antipoverty undertakings, conducting assessments and reviews on the accurate identification and exit of poor villages, families and individuals, strengthening policy publicity, mobilizing the enthusiasm and creativity of poor populations in taking part in related activities, and ensuring related anti-poverty measures to be implemented down to the levels of households and individuals.

(3). Broad-based Working Pattern Integrating 3 Anti-poverty Fronts

Anti-poverty campaign is a highly integrated project. The Chinese government has devised a broad-based anti-poverty working pattern, which integrating

“Special Anti-poverty”, “Industry Anti-poverty” and “Social Anti-poverty” efforts. Special Anti-poverty is mainly financed by special funds earmarked by the state from the central government budget, and organized and implemented by dedicated governmental agencies tasked with anti-poverty missions; Industry Anti-poverty takes place mainly within particular sectors, such as agriculture, water conservancy, transportation, housing, education and health, and is overseen by administrative departments in related industries according to the division of functions to accomplish industry-specific anti-poverty tasks, and social anti-poverty refers to the participation of social forces (non-governmental units) in the cause of anti-poverty.

(4). Working Mechanism of China's Anti-poverty Program

The targeted anti-poverty mechanism is orientated to fulfilling the purpose of eliminating poverty through targeted anti-poverty actions, that is, to help poor beneficiaries get out of poverty and then achieve self-development by providing targeted supports to them. So, in the process, various individual mechanism elements, including target identification, help & support, management, and assessment, depend upon and interact with each other. In short, in the working mechanism of targeted anti-poverty, specific components of the mechanism function in independent and correlated relationships.

Part 4: China's Anti-poverty Experience and Wisdom**1. China's (Macro-level) Anti-poverty Experience****(1). Establishing a Full-Fledged Top - Down Anti-poverty Development Institutions Anchored on China's Administrative System**

Modeling on and corresponding to China's administrative system, the mode of hierarchical responsibilities is adopted in anti-poverty and development in China. The Chinese government has established a full-fledged top - down anti-poverty development institutions anchored on China's administrative

system, whereby the government led and dominated poverty reduction action, resulting in a highly efficient performance. The Leading Group of the State Council's Anti-poverty and Development was established at the central government level. Being composed of relevant administrative departments, this leading group is responsible for coordinating national anti-poverty and development affairs. Governments at all levels have also set up corresponding anti-poverty and development institutions for centralized leadership and coordination of related works within their regions.

(2). Stimulating Farmers' Production Enthusiasm Through Land Reforms

In the early days of the new Republic, China had completed land reforms, the establishment of socialist public land system, and the equal distribution of rural lands, eliminating the problem of excessive land concentration from the private ownership of lands. With the implementation of land contract responsibility system in the era of reform and opening-up, all farming households were granted the long-term right to use their contracted lands, and retain the bulk of earnings from their independent operation and production.

(3). Accomplishing Great Achievements in Sinicization of Marxism

On the innovative integration of economic growth and ecological development, Xi Jinping pointed out that it is necessary to duly handle the relationship between "development" and "preservation" of productive forces, and drawing on the adage that science and technology are the primary productive forces, he proceeded with a series of poverty reduction ideas, such as "to vigorously unleash and stimulate the huge potentials of science and technology as the primary productive forces". With the further productivity development and the deepening reforms of production relations, the anti-poverty campaign in China has reaped real results, but also aggravated imbalances in regional development and widening wealth gap between the rich and the poor. Xi Jinping stressed many times that the socialist distribution system should be

improved, and affirmed that the establishment and improvement of a series of systems and mechanisms are important institutional innovations for China to eliminate poverty at the roots, including the minimum living security system for urban residents, the minimum living security system for farming residents, the five-guarantee supply system in rural areas, and medical assistance system for urban and rural residents.

(4). Integrating Poverty Reduction Undertakings into the Overall Planning for Economic and Social Development

Over past 40 years, China has experienced a healthy and rapid social and economic growth, providing a solid material foundation for massive poverty reduction efforts. In medium/long-term plans for economic and social development, promoting coordinated development of regions and narrowing income gaps of residents has been a key goal. Since the mid-1990s, China has formulated three medium/long-term anti-poverty plans: Seven-Year Priority Anti-poverty Program (1994-2000), the Outlines of China's Rural Anti-poverty Development (2001-2010), and China's Rural Anti-poverty Development Program (2001-2010), clearly articulating the overall goals by 2020, organization guarantee, anti-poverty mode options, the sources of funds, anti-poverty measures, exit mechanisms, supervision and evaluation systems.

2. China's (Micro-level) Anti-poverty Experience

(1). Innovating Diversified Anti-poverty Mode Options

In the process of promoting anti-poverty work, the Chinese government has responded to the developments of the times, and constantly explored new anti-poverty modes, such as labor transfer training-focused anti-poverty, relocation-focused anti-poverty, eastern-western regional cooperation-focused anti-poverty, designated area-focused anti-poverty, industry anti-poverty, education anti-poverty, science & technology anti-poverty, pro-

ecological development-focused anti-poverty, minimum social security anti-poverty, tourism anti-poverty, photoelectric anti-poverty, asset income anti-poverty, financial anti-poverty, e-commerce anti-poverty, etc. As the times go on, science and technology develop, anti-poverty modes are constantly innovated. This is the basic experience from anti-poverty practices with Chinese characteristics, and also an inevitable requirement on further anti-poverty development with Chinese characteristics.

(2). Establishing Multidimensional Poverty Evaluation Criteria

Both the Outlines of China's Rural Anti-poverty Development (2001-2010) and the Resolution on Winning the Anti-poverty War set the "Being Free of 2 Worries and Having 3 Guarantees" (To make steady progress in poverty alleviation to have rural poor residents be free of worry about foods and clothing, and be guaranteed with access to compulsory education, basic medical care and housing security by 2020) as the criteria for getting rid of poverty. These criteria are, in fact, a set of multidimensional poverty indicators. The goal of "Being Free of 2 Worries and Having 3 Guarantees" reflects the subjective understanding and measurement of poverty, signifying a shift from simple economic indicators, such as incomes, to multidimensional indicators, covering financial status, education, health, medical services, housing and so on. As far as social institutions are concerned, the goal of "3 guarantees" fully reflects the fair playing field for poor populations to enjoy their rights, avoiding the poverty of rights arising from regional, economic, ethnic, information and other causes.

(3). Replacing Relief-focused Anti-poverty with Development-driven Anti-poverty

By leveraging natural resources in poor areas to developmental production activities, development-driven anti-poverty approach is aimed to build up the capabilities in bootstrapping and endogenous development of poor rural areas and households so as to solve on a sustainable basis the issue of lacking

foods and clothing, helping them climb out of the poverty valley and live a well-off life. This new mode is broadly characterized with some features: first, to facilitate sustainable industry cultivation, development, growth and prosperity so as to enable poor populations to have employment security and sustainable incomes; second, to emphasize improved self-development capabilities among poor populations and focus on increased human capital inputs; Third, higher priority given to the improvements on regional environments and the elimination of poverty factors.

(4). Establishing and Progressively Improving Multilevel and Multiclass Social Security Systems

In implementing a series of minimum social security measures in targeted anti-poverty priority programs, the three systems that has played a central role are social relief, social insurance and social welfare. At present, the social security systems for rural poor residents play the most basic anti-poverty role. To be specific, the social relief system has the most immediate and fundamental role of targeted anti-poverty, the social insurance system is playing an increasing role in targeted anti-poverty, and the social welfare system also plays, to a lesser degree, a significant role in maintaining the minimum social security for poor populations.

3. China's Anti-poverty Wisdom

(1). China's Anti-poverty Wisdom is Full of Philosophical Connotations

On the significance of eliminating poverty, the CPC has affirmed since its 18th National Congress that it is an essential requirement of socialism. The General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out that "eliminating poverty, improving people's livelihood and gradually realizing the common prosperity of all the people are the essential requirements of socialism", suggesting poverty eradication is a part and parcel of common prosperity. We must develop our economy, and generate sufficient social wealth for the broad masses, having

them get rid of poverty and live a life free of worries about foods and clothing. The CPC has extended the improvement of people's living standards to all aspects of poor populations' life: having security in foods, clothing, housing, education, culture, health, medical services and so on, and having all the poor rural residents out of poverty. This anti-poverty goal is strongly operable in practice, enabling our anti-poverty work to be a quantifiable mission. As far as the anti-poverty methodology is concerned, apart from upholding the view that development is the most direct approach of eradicating poverty, the CPC has further drawn the conclusion that development is the ultimate approach of eliminating poverty, noting that poverty will be solved ultimately through development. These insights are the inheritance and development of anti-poverty theories of Marxism.

(2). China's Anti-poverty Wisdom Upholds the Concept of Sharing

Addressing the Fifth Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee, the General Secretary commented that the essence of common development is to attend to the most direct and actual concerns and interests of all the people, improve and share public services, implement anti-poverty project, improve education, push ahead with compulsory education, employment and entrepreneurship, and promote balanced development. Not only being a constraint to social and economic development, poverty is also the most realistic problem in rural areas. Historic breakthroughs that China has achieved in its anti-poverty drive since the reform and opening-up, in many ways, are indispensable to building a prosperous society. To make a greater contribution to promoting global anti-poverty cause, upholding the concept of shared development, and sharing anti-poverty experience with the world, China doesn't stop at domestic efforts only, but also promote its anti-poverty reduction experience globally, exchanging and sharing its practices and experience with other countries, contributing "China's wisdom", and having more skin in the game of the global anti-poverty undertakings.

(3). China's Anti-poverty Wisdom Endorses the People-Centered Guiding Thought

China's targeted anti-poverty doctrine sticks to the people-centered guiding thought. By rallying the whole party and society and galvanizing the endogenous impetuses of the poor, China stepped up anti-poverty efforts, and implemented highly targeted anti-poverty measures to promote the development of poor rural areas and populations. Only by respecting the historical role of the masses of people and staying true to the initial aspirations of the CPC can China make major breakthroughs in its anti-poverty drive, and accomplish its historical missions. First, targeted anti-poverty was designed originally for creating a good life for poor rural residents. However, despite an universal increase in incomes in the country today, there are still a small number of poor populations stuck in absolute poverty. To continue anti-poverty under the leadership of the CPC and the government to work for common prosperity for all the people is the essential requirement of socialism. A well-off society must have each citizen included. To strive for a better life for all the people is the necessity to the socialist system and the ruling party in China. The task of targeted anti-poverty is to achieve targeted poverty alleviation, and it is only having every Chinese included in an overall well-off society that is meaningfully a better life for the Chinese people as a whole.

Secondly, targeted anti-poverty entails a full play to the endogenous impetuses of poor populations in poor areas. Besides being beneficiaries, poor areas and populations are, all the more, agents in any anti-poverty pushes. On numerous occasions, Xi Jinping emphasized the value of giving full play to the endogenous impetuses, saying that anti-poverty should start with a change of the thoughts and perceptions of poverty. Therefore, anti-poverty should start by helping poor populations develop their ambition and willpower to get out of poverty, and then, empower them by helping them enhance their intellectual competences in a bid to have internal causes play a decisive role. Only when poor populations have the aspiration and the gut to make a change and get rid

of poverty, can it be possible that they build a good life of and by themselves through their practical actions. Therefore, it requires the active and effective participation of poor populations in the entire process of targeted anti-poverty, including the test of anti-poverty effectiveness.

Part 5: Recommendations on Sharing China's Anti-poverty Experience and Wisdom

1. Recommendations on Sharing China's Macro-level Anti-poverty Experience and Wisdom

(1). To Establish China's Macro-level Anti-poverty Wisdom and Experience-sharing System under the Auspice of Government

To better share and promote China's macro-level anti-poverty experience and wisdom, the government should establish such a system. To this end, special attention should be given to the following two aspects: first is a top-level design, that is, based on specific sharing and promotion objectives and following the principles of external sharing and publicity, a sharing and promotion program should be formulated to ensure the systematicness and forward-lookingness of such efforts; while the second is a coordinated arrangement for aligning actions of various actors, including governmental agencies, enterprises, social organizations and individual citizens, and centrally planning the approaches of external sharing and publicity, such as economic interaction, political dialogue, cultural exchange and person-to-person engagement. In short, such a system should be structured in such a manner that it has a distinct structural hierarchy, complementary contents and a consistent functional orientation, and accommodates diversified actors and different forms of interaction.

(2). To Share and Promote China's Macro-level Anti-poverty Wisdom and Experience Through International Events

International events on anti-poverty and development are an important venue,

so we can host or participate in such international or regional conferences to exchange and disseminate China's macro-level anti-poverty wisdom and experience. At these workshops, fora, international conferences and related meetings, China can effectively publicize its wisdom and experience.

(3). To Disseminate China's Macro-level Anti-poverty Wisdom and Experience Through Mass Media

China should share its macro-level anti-poverty wisdom and experience through its internationalized media. First, China should speed up the translation of its anti-poverty information, including research reports, network information, books and electronic conference proceedings, and establish a unified and robust foreign publicity and discourse network consisting of International Poverty Reduction Center in China (IPRCC), renown Chinese universities and international research institutions so as to harmonize views and understandings among the country and speak with the same one voice. Second, China should actively use the mass media in other countries. China should consciously influence foreign media to make a positive coverage of anti-poverty practices in China so as to increase the appeal of its wisdom and experience to peoples and governments in other countries.

2. Recommendations on Sharing China's Micro-level Anti-poverty Experience and Wisdom

(1). To Disseminate China's Micro-level Anti-poverty Experience and Wisdom by Encouraging Enterprises to Develop Anti-poverty Project with Chinese Characteristics

The government should play an important leading role in the process of enterprises "venturing abroad", and develop a nationwide mechanism for enterprises to play a role in anti-poverty and developmental assistance so as to take advantage of their advantages in funds, technology, expertise and human resources. In implementing anti-poverty and assistance projects

both at home and in other developing countries, China should roll out related policies, and encourage enterprises to participate in and undertake anti-poverty and foreign assistance projects by integrating enterprises' overseas social responsibilities and China's act of state in anti-poverty exchanges and cooperation with other countries.

(2). To Improve China's Micro-level Anti-poverty Wisdom and Experience-sharing System by Involving NGOs

In the context of its relationships with the government, the NGO Sector in China is broadly composed of government-backed NGOs, quasi-government-backed NGOs and private-sector NGOs. To a significant extent, government-backed NGOs represent the Chinese government in the international community, and are promoters in building china's micro-level anti-poverty wisdom and experience-sharing system. Thanks to their ubiquitous presence in almost all the fields and a strong capability in accessing information and promoting international exchanges, government-backed NGOs are in a well position to effectively promote anti-poverty experience exchanges and project cooperation between China and other countries. Also due to the extremely extensiveness and flexibility of government-backed NGOs' involvement in anti-poverty fields, they can share and apply china's micro-level anti-poverty wisdom and experience in various forms and manners, such as media campaigns, direct dialogues, personal lobbying and so on, and thus, can effectively supplement, or make up for weaknesses of, the publicity and promotion campaigns launched by the government.

(3). To Optimize China's Micro-level Anti-poverty Wisdom and Experience-sharing Approach by Enlisting the Help from Think Tanks

Think tanks, namely thinking banks, are professional research institutions focusing on take social responsibilities as their research criteria. They actively introduce international anti-poverty think-tank resources, and draw on good anti-poverty experience in other countries. For example, they invited international anti-poverty

experts to participate in China's anti-poverty activities, organized foreign experts to conduct field researches in poor areas, and had foreign experts take part in working out anti-poverty programs in China. Meanwhile, they also disseminated China's targeted anti-poverty experience globally. For example, on the strength of BRI programs, they extended China's experience overseas, benefiting other developing countries.

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