

# Analysis on Construction and Recommendations for Development of Yiwu Economic Corridor

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**Abstract** Yiwu Economic Corridor is located in the core area of western Jiangxi Province. It is an important part of the middle reaches of the Yangtze River city clusters and the open cooperation pilot zone of Jiangxi and Hunan provinces. The construction of the Yiwu Economic Corridor is an important measure to implement the strategy of "revitalizing and strengthening cities through developing industries". It is required to deepen the understanding in ideology, grasp the orientation in the thought, and properly deal with relationship in the promotion process. This paper evaluated the advantages and challenges in the construction of Yiwu Economic Corridor, and came up with some recommendations for development of Yiwu Economic Corridor.

**Key words** Yiwu Economic Corridor, Planning, Advantages, Challenges, Recommendations

## 1 Introduction

With the issue of the strategy of "two wings flying together" and "western Jiangxi economic transformation and upgrading" by Jiangxi Provincial Party Committee and Provincial Government, Yichun City of Jiangxi Province faces the challenge of falling behind if not rising. It is necessary to build a new development model through the construction of Yiwu Economic Corridor (Yiwu refers to Yichun City and Wanzai County), foster new pillar industries, and steadily lay the foundation for the construction of a regional central city in western Jiangxi. Besides, It is necessary to take the opportunity of the construction of Yiwu Economic Corridor to actively deploy a new economy and enhance the new kinetic energy of development, realize the transformation and upgrading through the platform promoting the innovation and boosting the transformation through innovation, optimize resource allocation, enhance the aggregation effect, and promote the orderly and coordinated development of the regional economy.

## 2 Advantages in the construction and development of Yiwu Economic Corridor

**2.1 Outstanding strategic position** Yiwu Economic Corridor is located in the Central Rising Planning Area, the Yangtze River Economic Belt, the Yangtze River Middle Reaches Tourism Urban Planning Area, and the Xinyiping (Xinyu, Yichun, and Pingxiang) Town Cluster Development Strategic Planning Area. In addition, Yuanzhou District was included in the revitalization and development scope of the former Central Soviet Area in southern Jiangxi. Wanzai County enjoys the policy of the western regions. In summary, Yiwu Economic Corridor is within the radiation range of many national and regional strategies, and has excellent

policy superposition advantages.

**2.2 Superior location conditions** Yiwu Economic Corridor is located in the core area of western Jiangxi Province and is the common hinterland of Jiangxi, Hubei and Hunan provinces. It is situated in the center of "Golden Triangle" surrounded by Beijing – Guangzhou Railway, Shanghai – Kunming Railway, and the new Gansu – Shaanxi – Hubei – Jiangxi – Fujian Railway. Yichun downtown is an important pivotal area of western Jiangxi Province. The superior location conditions provide a solid foundation for Yichun to participate in the construction of the "One Belt One Road Initiative", integrate into the Yangtze River Economic Belt, build a regional central city in western Jiangxi Province, and lead the economic development of the western Jiangxi Province.

**2.3 Relatively developed traffic** Located in the common hinterland of the Jiangxi, Hubei and Hunan provinces, Yiwu Economic Corridor has excellent traffic conditions and has Mingyueshan Airport within its territory. The airport has flights to large cities all over the country and the traffic is convenient. The Zhejiang – Jiangxi Railway, Hangzhou – Changsha High-speed Railway, and the planned Xianning – Yichun – Jinggangshan Railway and Nanchang – Changsha Intercity Railway form the railway network of Yiwu Economic Corridor, connecting Shanghai in the east, Yunnan in the west, Wuhan in the north, and Guangzhou in the south, showing developed railway network. In addition, many expressways cross Yiwu Economic Corridor, such as Shanghai – Kunming Expressway, Nanchang – Shangli Highway, making Yiwu Economic Corridor connecting Nanchang and Changsha; Tonggu – Yichun Highway makes Yiwu Economic Corridor connecting Yichun downtown and Tonggu County; National Highway 320 goes through the north and south, so the network of highways connecting the city, counties and towns has been established.

**2.4 Beautiful ecological environment** The air quality in Yiwu Economic Corridor is high all the year round, and two main

rivers in the corridor have reached the drinking water standard. In recent years, Yichun City comprehensively responded to the construction of the National Ecological Civilization Experimental Zone, firmly set up the development concept of "lucid waters and lush mountains are invaluable assets", and adhered to taking the ecological-oriented and green development road to create a beautiful business card of Yichun. Excellent ecological environment is not only favorable for the development of green industry, but also has unique advantages in attracting outside investment. Thus, adhering to ecological development and green development is the core development idea of Yiwan Economic Corridor.

**2.5 Solid industrial foundation** Within the Yiwan Economic Corridor, there are national-level Yichun Economic and Technological Development Zone and many large scale industrial parks, which have basically formed pillar industries such as lithium-ion new energy, biomedicine, electronic information, electromechanical and new materials. The modern service industry is developing rapidly, and Wanzai County organic (green) food industry has begun to take shape, and the modern agriculture has better foundation.

**2.6 Profound cultural deposits** Yichun has a long history and profound cultural deposits and is an important birthplace of western Jiangxi culture. A group of characteristic cultures represented by Chinese lunar culture, Zen theme culture, hot spring culture and farming culture have created Yichun local characteristic cultural brand. The tourism slogan of "The Capital of the Moon, Zen Holy Land, Hot Spring Town" gradually enhance the competitiveness of the cultural tourism industry. Yichun culture provides a steady stream of power for regional leapfrog development.

**2.7 Precious resources enrichment** Yiwan Economic Corridor is rich in resources, among which selenium-enriched hot springs and antimony ore are the most precious. Wentang hot spring has strong physiological activity and is a rare selenium-enriched hot spring. It is the only high-quality hot spring in China that can compete with the French Aix Hot Spring. It has obvious physical fitness and anti-cancer effects. The antimony ore of Yichun is the largest mining enterprise in China and the production base of lithium-ion raw materials. The deposit contains various metals such as lithium lanthanum, which is characterized by good mining conditions, large reserves, and comprehensive utilization value of useful metals.

### 3 Challenges in the construction of Yiwan Economic Corridor

**3.1 Challenge of transforming location advantages into competitive advantages** Yiwan Economic Corridor has superior location advantages, but the overall strength of Yichun downtown is not strong, and the radiation driving capacity is insufficient. At the city level, there appears the problem of "small horse pulling the big cart". It is particularly important to find

out how to use the location advantage to strengthen the downtown and raise the competitive advantage of the downtown. *Outline of the Twelfth Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development of Jiangxi Province* clearly determined Shangrao City as the provincial deputy center city. East Jiangxi and south Jiangxi regions lead the regional development as the deputy center city, only west Jiangxi region fails to become the deputy center city of Jiangxi Province. In the *Decision on In-depth Study and Implementation of the Spirit of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China to Write a New Chapter of the Socialist Jiangxi with Chinese Characteristics* issued at the fifth session of the 14th Party Committee of Jiangxi Province, it clearly proposed supporting Yichun City to become west Jiangxi regional central city. Yichun City should give full play to its location advantages and set out higher positioning and requirements. It should not only be satisfied with the positioning of regional central city, but also should be targeted to become a provincial deputy center city in the west Jiangxi region.

**3.2 Challenge of transforming ecological advantages into economic advantages** Excellent ecological environment is the scarcest resource and the most important productivity. At present, however, Yiwan Economic Corridor is still very low in exploring the ecological advantage. The green low-carbon industrial system has not yet been established. Besides, there is still no strong brand in the green agricultural products, eco-tourism and healthy elderly care industry. The market share is not high, and the ecological resources are still to be further explored. It is required to deeply implement the development concept of "lucid waters and lush mountains are invaluable assets", take the new industrialization as the core, jointly promote the development of modern agriculture and modern service industry, strive to build a green industrial system, explore the institutional mechanism of ecological civilization construction, take the lead in embarking on a new path of green recycling and low-carbon development, so as to transform ecological advantages into economic advantages.

**3.3 Challenge of transforming resource advantages into development advantages** Yiwan Economic Corridor is still very weak in developing the two precious and advantageous resources of Wentang selenium-enriched Hot Spring and Yichun Antimony Mine. Under the premise of not sacrificing the environment, Yiwan Economic Corridor is faced with great challenges in how to bring into full play the resource advantages, rely on high-quality resources, promote the development of related industries, promote the development of related industries, so as to drive comprehensive development of all areas in the Yiwan Economic Corridor.

### 4 Recommendations for the construction and development of Yiwan Economic Corridor

**4.1 Connecting with industrial development** It is recom-

mended to adhere to the principle of "industrial agglomeration and technology intensification", take transforming traditional advantageous industries, cultivating strategic new industries, developing modern agriculture and service industries as the main projects, and establish new pattern of science and technology based, agricultural brand oriented, tourism centered, and commodity information based industries.

**4.2 Promoting the incubation function for innovation and entrepreneurship development** Yiwan Economic Corridor

should focus on new technologies, new materials, and new industries, take the enterprise research and development as the center and the makerspace in the corridor as the carrier, introduce and incubate projects, attract and incubate talents, make efforts to get breakthrough in the technological innovation, realize adding value in the brand construction, and obtain benefits in the transformation of scientific and technological achievements.

**4.3 Connecting with the agricultural development and ecological advantages** Yiwan Economic Corridor

should transform the ecological advantages of Yichun City and Wanzai County into the driving force of economic development, conform to the rules of future population development, and build a high-standard farmland demonstration zone, a modern agricultural demonstration zone, an agricultural sightseeing zone, and make efforts to develop towards the integration of three industries. In planning urban health complexes along Yiwan Economic Corridor, it is recommended to make effort to place agricultural tourism, cultural and sports, rehabilitation, and commercial centers as much as possible in this corridor.

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