



# Integrated Development of Rural Revitalization and Local Urbanization — Taking Sizhou Village in Wuzhou City as an Example

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**Abstract:** Taking Sizhou Village of Wuzhou City as the research object, the entropy weight method was adopted to standardize the data of each index selected for rural revitalization and local urbanization, and the coupling degree model and coupling coordination model were used to analyze the integrated development of rural revitalization and local urbanization in Sizhou Village of Wuzhou City from 2015 to 2020. The results show that in the rural vitalization system, the output value of rural tourism and the output value of rural recreation are highly weighted. In the local urbanization system, environmental protection based expenditure and sewage based treatment rate in rural areas enjoys higher weights. Therefore, tourism, agritainment, environmental protection and sewage treatment in Sizhou Village of Wuzhou City have an important impact on the integration of rural revitalization and local urbanization. In light of the above research results, specific suggestions are put forward to provide certain reference value for realizing the integrated development of rural revitalization and local urbanization in Sizhou Village of Wuzhou City.

**Keywords:** rural revitalization, local urbanization, integrated development, coupling coordination, countermeasures

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Rural vitalization is a imperative to achieve common prosperity for all. Rural vitalization can further consolidate the achievements made in poverty alleviation. At present, in light of counties, small towns and central villages, local urbanization based on neighboring cities is an important mode of new-type urbanization in China, which is also an important starting point to promote rural revitalization [1]. In 1867, Spanish engineer Seda put forward the concept of "urbanization" for the first time in his book "Basic Theory of Urbanization", and Lewis published "Dual Economic Theory" in 1989, etc., which all represented the views of European and American scholars on rural revitalization. However, due to the difference between China's economic development and that of European and American countries, problems in rural areas in China are becoming more and more prominent.

As for the problems in rural areas, Chinese scholars have conducted a lot of research on rural development based on the actual situation of China, and creatively put forward relevant policies to promote local urbanization in the process of rural development. In the exploration and research of local urbanization policy, Chinese scholars have mainly studied the connotation, necessity, level, classification and influencing factors of urbanization with fruitful results. Through the integrated research on rural revitalization and local urbanization, Sizhou Village in Wuzhou City was selected as the research object. Entropy weight method and coupling coordination model were adopted to further analyze the relationship between the two in development, so as to provide impetus for development in rural areas, and thus providing certain reference for realizing the integrated development of rural revitalization and local urbanization in Sizhou Village in Wuzhou City.

## 1. Research on regional overview and data sources

### 1.1 Overview of Sizhou Village

Sizhou Village of Wuzhou City (Hereinafter abbreviated as Sizhou Village) is located in the upper reaches of Xunjiang River in the southwest of Wuzhou Changzhou Island, covering an area of 0.7 square kilometers. Sizhou Village enjoys advantageous geographical position with close distance from urban area, which is endowed with good ecological environment and long history of Xiali culture. Among the rich cultural heritage, Sizhou Village is endowed with unique advantages in developing rural tourism. In 2015, Sizhou Village established the development orientation of "ecological island, prosperous island for tourism and thriving village for culture", and then invested a lot of funds to improve the infrastructure of Sizhou Village, such as Zhoutou sightseeing platform, ecological path, yacht wharf and square and other construction projects.

After the goal of building and improving the infrastructure for developing rural tourism in Sizhou Village was determined and in order to unite the original villagers who "develop for individual purpose" for "group development", enabling villagers to start businesses and get jobs in the village and promote the development of characteristic industrial bases such as

agritainment, sand field and wharf enterprises. Sizhou Village Committee has explored the "1+3+N" development path of "Party organization + company + farmers", and took the lead in the establishment of Sizhou Island Tourism Development Co., LTD and breeding cooperatives to promote the development and growth of village-level collective economy. In 2018, Sizhou Village was conferred honorary titles such as "National Ecological and Cultural Village" and "China Beautiful Leisure Village".

## **1.2 Data sources and research methods**

Data on rural revitalization and partial urbanization from 2015 to 2020 were obtained from Guangxi Bureau of Statistics and Wuzhou Bureau of Statistics, and the remaining data were obtained through field survey of Sizhou Village Committee. At present, there is no authoritative index system to comprehensively evaluate the integrated development of rural revitalization and local urbanization. Based on the research results of the former researchers, this paper follows the principles of scientific nature, integrity and operability, and on the basis of referring to the research of the former researchers and integrating the actual development situation of Sizhou Village, attempts were made to establish an indicator system of rural revitalization and local urbanization.

### **1.2.1 Evaluation based index system of rural revitalization**

Based on the development based characteristics and stage characteristics of Sizhou Village, 5 first-level indicators and 19 second-level indicators, namely, industrial prosperity, ecologically livable village, civilized governance, effective living and prosperity, are selected as follows.

**Thriving Industries.** Promoting industrial development is an important engine of rural economic development. We should raise the overall production capacity of agriculture with focus on the reform of the agricultural supply structure and improve the efficiency of agricultural development to realize the goal of boosting and benefiting agriculture through science and technology, and thus a high-quality agricultural supply system was built. Therefore, five secondary indexes were selected from two aspects of agricultural comprehensive production capacity and development benefit in agriculture: mechanization rate in rural areas, grain yield per unit, irrigation ratio, tourism based output value, and output of agritainment.

**Ecologically livable village.** Destruction of ecology in rural areas and environmental pollution have become important factors hindering the continuous development of agriculture, rural areas and farmers in China. During the 14th Five-Year Period, China entered a critical development period of ecological civilization, and protection for ecological environment and governance in rural areas became one of the key issues to be tackled urgently. A sound ecology is an important guarantee for rural revitalization and sustainable development. Ecological environment in rural areas includes two aspects: One is ecological environment in agriculture, the other is ecological environment for human living. Based on the "Six Actions" for improvement of the living environment in rural areas in Guangxi, three indicators were selected from the ecological environment in agriculture and ecological environment for human living: fertilizer application per unit of cultivated land area, amount of application of pesticide and fertilizer per unit of cultivated land area, and prevalence rate of hazard-free toilets.

**Rural civilization.** Rural civilization is not only an important part of activating the endogenous power of rural areas, but also an important power to enhance the vitality of rural development. Rural civilization well developed can improve the ideological and moral quality of residents and enhance the happiness of life. In order to ensure the revitalization of rural culture, 7 indicators were mainly selected: Education expenditure of households in rural areas, book stores in rural areas, sports and fitness centers, quota of doctors in rural areas, intangible cultural heritage, honor of villages and TV popularity rate.

**Effective governance.** To revitalize the countryside, governance must be effective. Due to the availability of data, only one indicator was selected: The proportion of public budget of village committee in relevant affairs is also a defect in the paper.

**Affluence living standards.** Affluence living is the ultimate goal of rural revitalization. The indicator of affluent living was divided into three aspects: Villagers' income in Sizhou Village, consumption structure of villagers in Sizhou Village, public services of Sizhou Village. Three indicators were selected: Low-income income in rural areas, income ratio of residents in rural and urban areas and Engel coefficient.

### **1.2.2 Evaluation based indicator system of local urbanization**

Based on the research results of former researchers and the actual situation of Sizhou Village, 11 indicators were selected from four aspects of population, economy, society and ecology to form an indicator system to comprehensively reflect the local urbanization development of Sizhou Village. Comprehensive indicators of rural revitalization and local urbanization are shown in Table 1.

**Table 1. Comprehensive indicators of rural revitalization and local urbanization**

Dimensions	First Level Indicators	Second Level Indicators	Type of Indicators
rural revitalization	Thriving businesses	Agricultural mechanization rate X1	+
		Unit yield of grain X2	+
		Farmland irrigation ratio X3	+
		Tourism output value X4	+
		Agritainment based production value X5	+
	Pleasant living environment	Application of farm manure per unit arable land area X6	+
		Application of pesticide and fertilizer per unit arable land area X7	-
		Prevalence rate of hazard-free toilets X8	+
	Rural civilization	Education expenditure of households in rural areas X9	+
		The bookstores in rural areas X10	+
		Sports and fitness center X11	+
		Quota of doctors in rural areas X12	+
		Intangible cultural Heritage X13	+
	Effectively govern	Village level honors X14	+
		Overall TV popularity X15	+
		Proportion of village committee affairs in public budget expenditure X16	+
	Affluent living	Subsistence allowance income in rural areas X17	-
		Urban-rural income ratio X18	-
		Engel's coefficient X19	-
Local urbanization	Population	Urbanization rate of residents with household registration Y1	+
		Natural population growth rate Y2	+
	Economy	Per capita GDP Y3	+
		Villagers' disposable income Y4	+
		Disposable income of rural and urban residents Y5	+
	Ecology	Sewage treatment rate in rural areas Y6	+
		The rate of harmless treatment of rural garbage Y7	+
		Per capita green area Y8	+
	Society	Expenditure on environmental protection Y9	+
		The number of people in urban and rural areas in basic old-age insurance Y10	+
		Y11Number of people in rural and urban areas in rural basic medical insurance Y11	+

**1.2.3 Weight based calculation of indicator**

(1) To carry out dimensionless data based processing for positive and negative indicators respectively:

Positive indicator:

$$x'_{ij} = \frac{x_{ij} - x_{j\min}}{x_{j\max} - x_{j\min}} + 0.01$$

Negative indicator:

$$x'_{ij} = \frac{x_{j\max} - x_{ij}}{x_{j\max} - x_{j\min}} + 0.01$$

(2) Transformation of indicator proportion:

$$S_{ij} = \frac{x'_{ij}}{\sum_{i=1}^n x'_{ij}}$$

(3) Calculation of entropy of the jth indicator:

$$h_j = \frac{1}{\ln n} \sum_{i=1}^n S_{ij} \ln S_{ij}$$

(4) The difference degree of indicator j was calculated as:

$$a_j = 1 - h_j$$

(5) The weight of the jth indicator was calculated as:

$$\lambda_j = \frac{a_j}{\sum_{j=1}^m a_j}$$

Among them,  $X'_{ij}$  is the dimensionless value of the indicator;  $X_{ij}$  refers to the original indicator value;  $X_{j \max}$  and  $X_{j \min}$  are the maximum and minimum values of the j term respectively;  $S_{ij}$  is the transformation value of indicator proportion;  $h_j$  signifies the entropy value of item j;  $a_j$  is the difference degree of indicator j;  $\lambda_j$  denotes the weight of indicator j[2].

#### 1.2.4 Calculation of comprehensive evaluation indicator

$f(x)$  represents the comprehensive evaluation indicator of rural vitalization, and  $g(x)$  represents the comprehensive evaluation indicator of local urbanization. The calculation method of the comprehensive evaluation indicator of the two is as follows:

$$f(X) = \sum_{i=1}^s \lambda_i X_i$$

$$g(Y) = \sum_{j=1}^t \lambda_j Y_j$$

#### 1.2.5 Calculation of coupling degree

The coupling degree model between the two systems of rural revitalization and local urbanization can be expressed as[2]:

$$C = \{[f(X) \times g(Y)] / [f(X) + g(Y)]^2\}^{1/2}$$

#### 1.2.6 Coupling coordination model

The coupling coordination model between the two systems of rural revitalization and local urbanization can be expressed as[2]:

$$D = \sqrt{C \times T}$$

$$T = \alpha f(X) + \beta g(Y)$$

D is coupling coordination degree; T represents the comprehensive coordination indicator of the system;  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are undetermined parameters. In this paper,  $\alpha=0.6$ ,  $\beta=0.4$ ,  $D \in [0,1]$ . When  $D=1$ , the coupling and coordination degree proved to be the highest; on the contrary, when  $D=0$ , the coupling and coordination degree reached the lowest results. Table 2 shows

10 levels of coupling and coordination [2].

**Table 2. Schematic diagram of coupling coordination level**

No.	Range of coupling and coordination degree based values	Coordination level
01	0.01~0.09	Extreme imbalance
02	0.10~0.19	Serious imbalance
03	0.20~0.29	Moderate imbalance
04	0.30~0.39	Mild imbalance
05	0.40~0.49	On the verge of imbalance
06	0.50~0.59	Barely coordination
07	0.60~0.69	Primary coordination
08	0.70~0.79	Intermediate coordinate
09	0.80~0.89	Better coordination
10	0.90~1.00	Good coordination

Note: Data sources: Ding Hua, Chen Tianzhen. Coupling Coordination Between Rural Tourism and Local Urbanization in the Context of Rural Revitalization: A Case Study of Anji County, Zhejiang Province

## 1.3 Results and analysis

### 1.3.1 Calculation results and analysis of indicator weight

The calculation results are shown in Table 3 and Table 4 based on the above calculation formula of indicator weight. It can be concluded from Table 3 that in the rural vitalization system, the output value of rural tourism and the output value of agritainment enjoyed higher weights. It can be seen that tourism and agritainment posed an important impact on the development of Sizhou Village. In 2015, Sizhou Village established the development orientation of "ecological island, prosperous island for tourism and thriving village for culture", and then invested a lot of funds to improve the infrastructure of Sizhou Village, such as Zhoutou sightseeing platform, ecological path, yacht wharf and square and other construction projects.

In the forthcoming development process, Sizhou Village should continue to develop the local tourism resources scientifically and rationally, improve the basic supporting facilities for tourism and agritainment, and build a high-quality rural tourism demonstration site, so as to make it the driving force of the economic development of the whole village. The weight of application of pesticide and fertilizer per unit arable land area proved to be the lowest. Low planting rate was demonstrated as low coverage of arable land. The proportion of residents' income in rural and urban areas was second only to the amount of pesticides and fertilizers applied per unit of cultivated land. We should expand the channels of people's income and raise people's income. Among the other indicator systems, the weight of education expenditure of rural households, village-level honor, comprehensive TV coverage rate and weight of village committee affairs in public budget expenditure gradually approached the weight of tourism output value and output value of agritainment. Sizhou Village should further implement the next development plan and clarify the key indicators of rural revitalization.

It can be concluded from Table 4 that: in the local urbanization system, the weight of expenditure in environmental protection and per capita green area received the highest results, which were both above 0.1, indicating that the ecological environment has an important impact on the local urbanization of Sizhou Village. Second, the sewage treatment rate in rural area and weight of sewage treatment rate received higher results, which were second only to expenditure in environmental protection and weight of per capita green area. Sizhou Village aimed rural tourism as a key industry of rural revitalization and developed rural tourism based on its good ecological and natural environment. The change of ecological environment had an important impact on the level of local urbanization of Sizhou Village. This is in line with the highest weight of tourism output value and output value of agritainment in the rural revitalization system, which better confirmed the integrated development of rural revitalization and local urbanization. However, the natural population growth rate and the weight of villagers' disposable income were demonstrated to be the lowest in Sizhou Village, which had become an urgent problem to be solved in Sizhou Village

**Table 3. Indicator weights of rural revitalization system of Sizhou Village**

X1	X2	X3	X4	X5	X6	X7	X8	X9	X10
0.12	0.11	0.15	0.21	0.24	0.16	0.08	0.16	0.18	0.17
X11	X12	X13	X14	X15	X16	X17	X18	X19	
0.16	0.15	0.13	0.19	0.18	0.19	0.12	0.09	0.11	

**Table 4 Weight of local urbanization based indicator of Sizhou Village**

Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11
0.07	0.05	0.08	0.06	0.09	0.12	0.09	0.15	0.15	0.08	0.09

### 1.3.2 Analysis on comprehensive development level

According to the above indicator calculation method with comprehensive evaluation analysis, Table 5 can be obtained. On the whole, both the rural revitalization system and the local urbanization system showed an upward trend from 2015 to 2020. The comprehensive evaluation indicator of rural vitalization rose from 0.01475 in 2015 to 0.79569 in 2020, and the comprehensive evaluation indicator of local urbanization rose from 0.01245 in 2015 to 0.78912 in 2020.

Both rural vitalization and local urbanization were on the rise. During the development period of 2015 and 2016, the two systems were displayed a relatively slow development. After 2017, the two systems gained development in a relatively fast manner. Locally, from 2017 to 2019, rural vitalization and local urbanization gained rapid development, which signified the rapid development of rural revitalization and local urbanization in Sizhou Village. At the same time, the revitalization system had been superior to the local urbanization system from 2015 to 2020, which reflected that there was still a large development space for the local urbanization level of Sizhou Village.

**Table 5. Comprehensive evaluation indicator of rural revitalization and local urbanization in Sizhou Village**

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
f(X)	0.01475	0.15372	0.58273	0.71329	0.78914	0.79569
g(x)	0.01245	0.12416	0.43519	0.62513	0.72924	0.78912

### 1.3.3 Analysis on coupling coordination degree

Based on the calculation formula for coupling coordination, Table 6 can be obtained. Overall, from 2015 to 2020, the coordination between the rural revitalization system and the local urbanization system in Sizhou Village has been continuously improved. The coupling degree increased from 0.12415 to 0.61726, which implied the threshold of coordination stage.

Locally, from 2015 to 2017, due to the development at a low level, there was a large gap between rural vitalization and local urbanization with in-adaptability, but the speed of coupling optimization proved to be at a fast level. From 2017 to 2020, based on the development, the infrastructure was constantly improved in 2015, 2016 respectively. Rural tourism an agritainment were on the right track. The two systems of urbanization in rural revitalization and optimization speed of on-site coupling coordination improved significantly. However, the development level of local urbanization lagged behind the development level of rural revitalization. In the future development, Sizhou Village should further enhance the development power of local urbanization and achieve the high-quality coordinated development of rural revitalization and local urbanization as soon as possible.

**Table 6. Coupling degree and coordination level of rural revitalization and local urbanization in Sizhou Village**

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	0.12415	0.27319	0.36812	0.43271	0.54279	0.61726
	Serious imbalance	Moderate imbalance	Mild imbalance	On the verge of imbalance	Rarely coordination	Primary coordination

## 2. Countermeasures and suggestions

### 2.1 Strengthen the leading role of government

The report to the 19th National Congress of the CPC put forward the rural revitalization strategy, making overall plans for giving priority to agriculture and rural areas and comprehensively promoting rural revitalization in the new stage

of development, which pointed out the direction for the work related to agriculture, rural areas and farmers in the current and future period. Therefore, the government plays an important role in promoting the integrated development of rural revitalization and local urbanization. Sizhou Committee should participate in rural revitalization based management, promote local urbanization, rationally distribute the labor, actively respond to the call of policies, and play a leading role in rural construction. In the integrated development of rural revitalization and local urbanization, the government should clarify the main tasks of rural revitalization, grasp the main problems existing in rural development, and formulate reasonable policies for these problems.

At the same time, we should do a good job in listening to the opinions of the people in the formulation of policies, and solving the difficulties that the people currently encounter. Currently, in the rural revitalization of Sizhou Village, there was the problem of random parking of private cars of local residents and tourists from other places. In addition, there was a low proportion of cultivated land in Sizhou Village, and the low income of local residents had become an important factor restricting the integrated development of rural revitalization and local urbanization

As a leader, the government should participate in field research, incorporate the current development status of Sizhou Village into the government's governance system, and propose solutions to the current problems, so as to further broaden the income channels of residents and improve the income level of residents. Therefore, the government should play its leading role in various aspects and all-round reform of the system and policies that restrict the integrated development of rural revitalization and local urbanization in Sizhou Village should be carried out, as a result, to realize the coordinated development of rural revitalization and local urbanization in Sizhou Village.

## **2.2 Priority for Industry to promote industrial linkage**

Rural revitalization can be achieved based on the rural development. However, single economic development pattern based on tourism for was developed in Sizhou village. Industrial development is not only the basis of rural revitalization, but also an important guarantee for local urbanization. The cultivated land area of Sizhou Village is relatively small, and the tourism industry is the driving force supporting rural development. Therefore, the rural tourism industry should be strengthened based on the current development status of the tourism industry. In the local urbanization construction system, the investment in tourism industry should be increased, and the tourism industry should be conducted based on the two systems of rural revitalization and local urbanization, so as to continuously promote the coordination of the two systems and jointly drive the economic development of Sizhou Village.

At present, tourism industry of Sizhou Village can be conducted with the development of agritainment, which was also an important part of rural tourism. Due to its superior geographical location, Sizhou Village can rely on the high-quality resources of Wuzhou City to gradually form a pan-tourism industry cluster, so as to strengthen the linkage of tourism industry with other areas of Wuzhou, and integrate new development elements into the tourism industry of Sizhou Village. At present, Sizhou Village, as one of the places of red revolution in Wuzhou City, should give close focus on the theme of rural red tourism and build its own base for red tourism. Based on other red revolution bases in Wuzhou, the connection between Wuzhou and other red tourism bases should be increased, and the tourism industry of the village will continue to develop and grow. At the same time, in the development of tourism characteristic industries, we should closely focus on the development status of Sizhou Village, and make reasonable planning according to local conditions, so as to form a tourism industry without stereotype.

## **2.3 Strengthening infrastructure**

Rural infrastructure is the material basis for the normal operation and healthy development of rural areas, which plays an important role in improving the rural living environment, enhancing the comprehensive carrying capacity of rural areas, and accelerating the integrated development of rural revitalization and local urbanization. At present, Sizhou Village should give focus on improving people's livelihood, strengthening and improving infrastructure construction, introducing talents and attracting investment, so as to lay a solid material foundation for the integrated development of rural revitalization and local urbanization of Sizhou Village. First, we will strengthen public transport infrastructure. Sizhou Village should increase the frequency of public transport to effectively meet the needs of local residents and foreign residents.

Sizhou Village belongs to an island village. There are large water conservancy projects on the island, and there are certain obstacles for foreign vehicles to enter Sizhou Village. Occasionally, some foreign vehicles will be stopped outside the hydropower project area and cannot reach Sizhou Village in time. The local government should cooperate with the hydropower hub district to formulate an efficient and convenient way of release. Secondly, Sizhou Village covers an area of only 0.7 square kilometers, so there is no designated parking place for foreign vehicles and private vehicles of local residents, and the phenomenon of disorderly parking on the road can be seen everywhere.

Therefore, Sizhou Village should promote the implementation of three-dimensional parking to solve the problem of parking. At the same time, the construction of rural roads and public transport stops should be accelerated. Finally, Sizhou Village should strengthen the planning and overall planning of public service supporting infrastructure. In the integrated development of rural revitalization and local urbanization, Sizhou Village should also take into consideration of the construction of public service infrastructure such as medical care, education, public security, culture, sports and community services and improve the construction of public toilets, public fire facilities, public entertainment venues and public ecological gardens.

## 2.4 Increasing environmental protection in rural areas

First, we must follow the ecological civilization concept of harmonious coexistence between man and nature, and adhere to the principle of giving priority to conservation, protection and nature restoration. Second, in the process of integrated rural revitalization and local urbanization, we must always adhere to the concept that "lucid waters and lush mountains are invaluable assets" and implement the Scientific Outlook on Development, and stick to the green path of sustainable development. Sizhou Village, as an island village, is surrounded by the river. Residents should be guided not to throw garbage into the river at will. They should put household garbage in the designated recycling place, and at the same time, they should establish the awareness of garbage classification. Environmental damage may be caused by the stacking of garbage, direct discharge of sewage, etc. Sewage from homes of some residents in Sizhou Village was discharged directly into the river without any treatment, creating a bad experience for local residents and outsiders.

Therefore, Sizhou Village must follow the ecological environment protection system with the strictest standards. Only by implementing strict protection measures can we provide a strong guarantee for the construction of ecological civilization. Integrated development of rural revitalization and local urbanization should also be coordinated with environmental protection. The satisfaction for ecological environment from residents, in urban or rural areas, was also an important indicator to evaluate the happiness of life. To strengthen the protection of rural environment, people in rural areas should be actively encouraged to participate in the protection of ecological environment.

## 3. Conclusion

By building the evaluation system of urbanization in the rural revitalization and with the help of entropy weight method, coupling degree mode, coupling coordination degree model, this paper quantitatively measures and analyzes the level of integrated development of rural revitalization and local urbanization in Sizhou Village from 2015 to 2020 and draws a conclusion that there is a close interaction and coordination between rural revitalization and local urbanization. Rural revitalization has strong characteristics in industrial relevance with driving force.

From the perspective of comprehensive evaluation, the coordination degree between the rural revitalization system and the local urbanization system in Sizhou Village of Wuzhou City has been continuously improved from a serious imbalance to a primary coordination from 2015 to 2020. From the perspective of coupling coordination degree, the rural revitalization and local urbanization of Sizhou Village in Wuzhou City experienced a transition from unbalanced to coordinated from 2015 to 2020 with good overall development prospect. However, the construction speed of local urbanization lagged behind that of rural revitalization. In future development, Sizhou Village should increase the speed of local urbanization and take effective measures to stimulate the endogenous power of local urbanization so as to improve the coupling degree of rural revitalization and local urbanization.

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