OPEN ACCESS Freely available online

IJESP International Journal of Environmental Sustainability and Protection

ISSN 2737-5447
Volume 6
Issue 2
International Journal of Environmental Sustainability and Protection

Article

Research on the Pathways of Phase II Project of Huaihe River Seaward Waterway in Promoting Rural Common Prosperity

Qilong Ren

School of Geography and Planning, Huaiyin Normal University, Huai'an 223300, China; renql2008@163.com

Received: Jan 21, 2026; Revised: Mar 03, 2026; **Accepted:** Mar 17, 2026; **Published:** Jun 30, 2026

Abstract: Based on a constructed three-stage logical framework of "rural revitalization – project empowerment – common prosperity," this study takes the Phase II Project of the Huaihe River Seaward Waterway as a case. It first examines how the project influences industrial development, ecological environment, local culture, lifestyles, and rural governance capacity along its route. Building on this analysis, the paper proposes pathways toward achieving common prosperity, including systematic planning of the regional industrial system, active exploration of eco-product value realization, strengthening cultural and ethical progress, and improving rural governance capacity.

Keywords: Common prosperity, Rural revitalization, Huaihe River Seaward Waterway Phase II Project

1. Introduction

Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the Party Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core has regarded the realization of common prosperity as a crucial strategic task on the new journey for deployment and advancement, leading the people to steadily move towards the direction of common prosperity. The rural economy serves as the cornerstone of the national economy, rural development acts as the anchor of social stability, and the common prosperity of farmers and rural areas constitutes a significant dimension of the common prosperity of all people [1]. Tang and Xu [2] argue that "the focus and difficulty of achieving common prosperity lie in rural areas", and the realization of rural revitalization is an essential path to achieve the common prosperity of farmers and rural areas [3].In recent years, China has successively launched strategies such as rural revitalization and coordinated urban-rural development for rural areas, which are consistent with the realization path and strategic connotation of common prosperity [4] and are widely recognized as the necessary path and prerequisite for common prosperity [5]. It is pointed out that rural economic development, ecological civilization construction [1], coordinated urban-rural development, and rural industrial upgrading [6] are the main pillars of the common prosperity of farmers and rural areas. Infrastructure construction, especially the construction of major infrastructure projects, will bring numerous development opportunities to rural development. For example, the construction of the Tennessee Valley Authority in the United States over the past 100 years has not only directly promoted the local economic development, but also indirectly affected the national economy through the long-term industrial agglomeration effect generated by the project, increasing the national manufacturing productivity by about 0.3% [7]. However, there are also cases where the compensation funds from projects such as the Lesotho Highlands Water Project in South Africa have become short-term relief, leaving a large number of villagers facing challenges such as land loss, unemployment, and adaptation to urban life [8]. Based on this, taking the construction of the Huaihe River Seaward Waterway Phase II Project as an example, this paper explores the development opportunities brought by the construction of major projects to the rural areas along the route from the perspective of rural revitalization, and systematically studies the path of rural construction along the route with the goal of common prosperity.

2. The Logical Framework of Project Development in Fostering Common Prosperity from a Rural Revitalization Perspective

2.1 The Relationship Between Rural Revitalization and Common Prosperity

The report of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China outlines the Rural Revitalization Strategy, defining its general requirements as: thriving businesses, pleasant living environments, social etiquette and civility, effective governance, and prosperity. Among these, thriving businesses serve as the cornerstone of rural revitalization and the prerequisite for addressing all rural issues. This entails developing distinctive local industries based on regional conditions, promoting industrial upgrading and

integration, and driving employment and income growth. A pleasant living environment is fundamental to enhancing the quality of rural development. Sound rural ecology not only safeguards farmers' quality of life but also provides a foundation for industrial development, necessitating greater emphasis on ecological conservation and improvements in rural living conditions. Social etiquette and civility represent the soul of rural construction, calling for the enhancement of farmers' cultural and ethical standards and the advancement of social civility in the countryside. This highlights that rural revitalization encompasses not only material progress but also cultural and spiritual enrichment. Effective governance ensures sound rural administration, requiring the establishment of a well-functioning social governance system that improves public services, fosters harmonious interpersonal relationships, and promotes long-term stability and gradual development in rural areas. Prosperity is the ultimate goal of rural revitalization. It entails achieving stable growth in farmers' incomes and ensuring they share in the benefits of reform and development. Only by adhering to this goal-oriented approach can rural revitalization proceed with solid and steady progress [9].

Prosperity entails not only meeting the basic living needs of rural residents but also ensuring that farmers gain a stronger sense of fulfillment and ultimately achieve common prosperity [10]. The essence of common prosperity lies in the word “common,” which reflects an idealized form of interpersonal relations and embodies social ideals such as fairness and justice [11]. Common prosperity is not merely an economic issue—it emphasizes the holistic advancement of rural areas. We must guard against overemphasizing economic outcomes while neglecting fairness and efficiency between humans and nature, or overlooking the importance of distinctive rural culture [12]. Therefore, within the framework of rural revitalization, common prosperity should be approached from four dimensions—economic, ecological, cultural, and social—to realize multidimensional shared well-being.

First, economic prosperity driven by industrial revitalization, where diversified rural industries extend value chains, enabling villagers to earn sustainable income through land transfers, local employment, and shareholding cooperatives, thereby laying the material foundation for common prosperity.

Second, ecological prosperity achieved through a pleasant living environment, where the value conversion of ecological products allows villagers to share in the economic benefits of “green mountains and clear waters,” creating livable surroundings and improving quality of life.

Third, cultural prosperity fostered by rural civility, where improved governance and cultural-ethical progress enhance villagers’ sense of belonging and participation, unifying material abundance with spiritual fulfillment.

Fourth, social prosperity realized through effective governance and prosperity in life, which addresses the disconnect between individual wealth growth and collective well-being, promotes equitable allocation of public resources and equal access to public services, and creates synergistic social momentum for development.

2.2 The Empowering Effects of Engineering Projects on Rural Common Prosperity

Major infrastructure projects can create multifaceted development opportunities for rural areas along their routes, while also posing potential constraints and challenges for certain regions. Typically, both during and after construction, such projects may disrupt local industries, ecological environments, social traditions, grassroots governance, and even daily lifestyles, thereby influencing the development trajectory of neighboring villages. First, regarding impacts on industrial development, the procurement of construction materials and equipment, hiring of labor, and spending by workers on food, accommodation, and daily necessities during the construction phase can stimulate growth in related local industries. Once completed, projects often alter the conditions for industrial development in surrounding areas—for instance, major transportation infrastructure can improve accessibility and reduce logistics costs, creating favorable conditions for industrial clustering along the route. Second, the ecological impact during construction—such as material stockpiling, construction dust, and noise—is generally temporary and diminishes after project completion. However, permanent alterations to the landscape may have lasting positive or negative ecological effects. For example, the development of ecological landscape nodes can enhance rural livability, whereas the construction of transportation tunnels may risk fragmenting ecological corridors. Third, such projects can influence local lifestyles and social traditions. Land acquisition and relocation—often necessary for major projects—affect population distribution, village layouts, and household wealth, leading to varying degrees of change in residents’ ways of life and, consequently, the social fabric of surrounding communities. Additionally, some projects may introduce new lifestyles or cultural atmospheres; for instance, the construction of large reservoirs may promote aquaculture, fishing, and the spread of water-engineering culture. Fourth, the advancement of major projects relies on coordination and assistance from local rural governance structures. Processes such as land acquisition and compensation can strengthen village governance capacity, yet they may also expose governance deficiencies in cases of serious disputes, potentially undermining public trust in local governance.

Effectively harnessing the development opportunities presented by major projects while mitigating and overcoming associated risks can enhance their positive spillover effects on neighboring villages and contribute to common prosperity in these areas.

Specifically, major infrastructure projects can empower surrounding rural communities toward common prosperity in four key dimensions:

Industrial empowerment: Driving local industrial development through project construction, reshaping regional industrial layouts and structures in synergy with project facilities, thereby fostering economic prosperity.

Ecological empowerment: Enhancing the ecological environment of nearby villages through project-integrated planning, improving livability and attractiveness, developing ecological products, and realizing their economic value to achieve ecological prosperity.

Cultural and social empowerment: Strengthening the development of public cultural facilities in rural areas, providing farmers with rich cultural products and services, and advancing cultural and spiritual prosperity.

Governance empowerment: Enhancing the governance capacity of surrounding villages, regulating rural development models, and promoting the reinvestment of wealth generated through project-related activities.

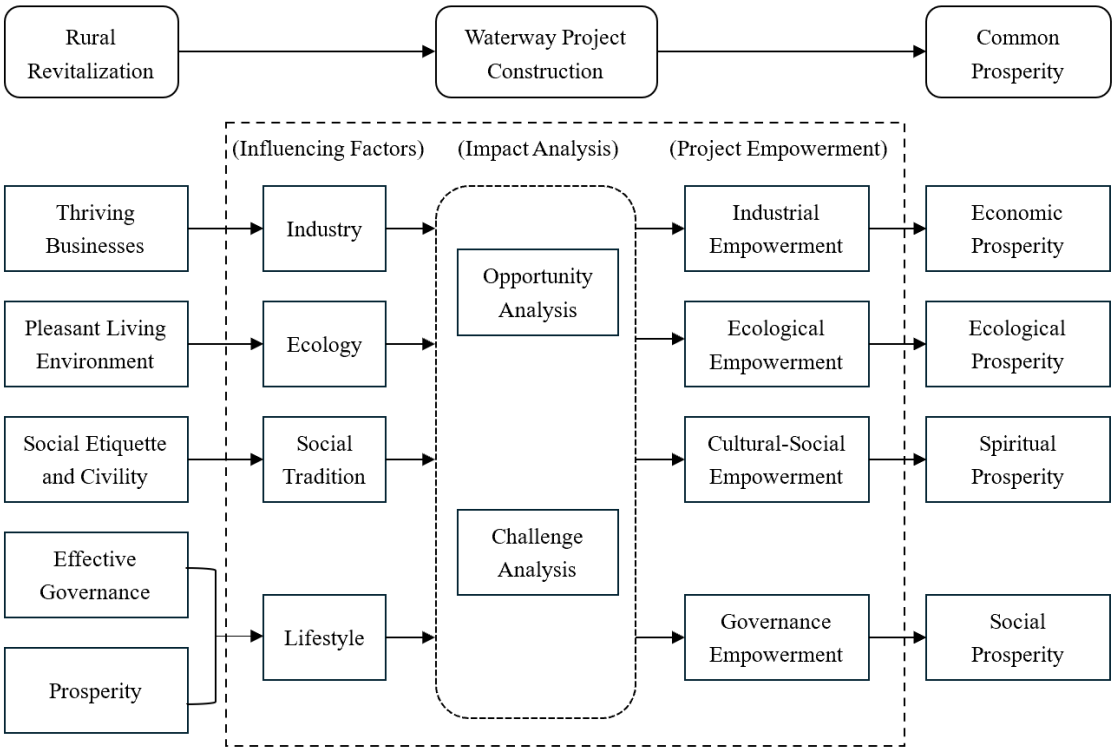

Figure 1. Logic and Pathways of Waterway Construction in Fostering Common Prosperity

3. Impact Analysis of Seaward Waterway Construction on Common Prosperity in Adjacent Rural Areas

The Huaihe River Seaward Waterway Phase II Project commenced construction in July 2022. Spanning 162.3 kilometers in total length, the project primarily involves expanding and dredging a 164.8-kilometer channel, raising and reinforcing 317.8 kilometers of embankments, upgrading five key hydraulic structures, constructing or protecting 21 cross-river bridges, and building, replacing, or reinforcing 33 structures that penetrate the embankments. These works are designed to achieve a flood discharge capacity of 7,000 cubic meters per second, building upon the existing Phase I infrastructure. With a planned construction period of about seven years and a total investment of 43.8 billion yuan, the project will significantly enhance the floodwater outflow to the sea, establish a Class II navigable waterway, and improve flood control and drainage capacity across the entire Huaihe River basin. This will better protect more than 20 million people and over 3 million hectares of farmland in the Hongze Lake area and downstream regions.

As a systematic, landmark, and strategic component of the flood-control system in the Huaihe River basin—and the largest water-conservancy project in Jiangsu Province since the founding of the People's Republic—the Huaihe River Seaward Waterway Phase II Project is not only a major piece of water-conservancy and transportation infrastructure but also a strategic lever for advancing common prosperity in the villages along its route. The interaction between its construction and the goal of common

prosperity is a multidimensional and multi-layered process. The project can serve as a direct driver, creating fundamental conditions for shared prosperity, and act as a catalyst for structural transformation by reshaping the development landscape of surrounding rural areas.

3.1 Impact Analysis of the Project on Industrial Development along the Route

The Phase II Project of the Huaihe River Seaward Waterway is characterized by its large scale and long construction period. During implementation, the construction party has adopted a policy of procuring necessary building materials, mechanical equipment, and transportation services as much as possible from enterprises located along the route. This approach has maximized the stimulation of related industrial sectors in surrounding areas. In addition, the project has prioritized hiring local labor from nearby regions, creating employment opportunities that help alleviate job pressure in rural communities and raise residents' income levels. Furthermore, construction activities have boosted local accommodation and catering services, indirectly generating additional job opportunities for nearby villagers.

Upon completion, the waterway will meet the standards of a Class II navigable channel, allowing 2,000-ton vessels to sail directly between the river and the sea, thereby enabling integrated river-sea transportation. A series of wharves will be developed along the route, significantly improving and enhancing the shipping capacity of the Huaihe River basin. Moreover, the northern embankment road will be built to a width of 14 meters and connected to the main roads of neighboring villages, which will promote integrated development along the corridor. This improved connectivity is expected to bring qualitative advancement, particularly for cultural and tourism industries, by linking scattered attractions into cohesive regional routes.

3.2 Impact Analysis of the Project on the Ecological Environment along the Route

During the construction of the Phase II Huaihe River Seaward Waterway Project, a series of ecological restoration and landscape enhancement measures will be implemented. These include establishing ecological shelter forests, constructing wetlands, installing eco-slope protection, and repurposing excavated soil to create artificial hills and forested landscapes, thereby forming multiple ecological landscape nodes along the waterway. These artificial hills, together with the hydraulic crossing structures and Huixingzhou area, will constitute the core scenic features along the route.

For the Jianghuai region, which is predominantly flat, the creation of artificial hills and varied landforms enriches the local landscape, not only enhancing natural aesthetics but also improving the visitor experience, providing a significant boost to tourism development along the corridor. The establishment of a green ecological corridor along the river will also improve air circulation.

Once completed, the project will expand water storage capacity, forming a river-type reservoir that will provide more stable water resources for surrounding rural areas, supporting the coordinated development of agricultural production and the ecological environment. It will also effectively reconnect rivers and lakes, restore the continuity of waterways, revive the diversity of water flow, and rehabilitate riparian vegetation and wetland communities—collectively contributing to a healthier river ecosystem. These improvements will offer a more attractive ecological environment for nearby villages, enhancing their livability and overall appeal.

3.3 Impact Analysis of the Project on the Social Traditions along the Route

The lower reaches of the Huaihe River, shaped by a long history of coping with floods, have developed numerous customs and habits related to water resistance. Examples include building houses on elevated earth platforms or embankments, holding rituals to ward off evil and pray for blessings during high-flood seasons, organizing villagers to reinforce riverbanks before the flood season—a practice known as the "flood-prevention labor tradition"—and preserving folk literature and opera that carry the memory of floods. These traditions reflect both reverence for nature and the cultural resilience of adaptation and resistance.

The implementation of water-control projects along the Huaihe has shifted the local approach from passive "disaster response" to proactive "benefit creation," fostering a river-engineering culture characterized by solidarity, perseverance, and scientific innovation. Government-led flood-prevention education has also been integrated into local practices, forming a new disaster-prevention culture. Over time, the project's infrastructure and the river-engineering culture have continued to merge, allowing traditional social customs to evolve and be renewed through modern water-management practices.

Surrounding villages have incorporated river-engineering culture into daily life by constructing cultural walls, themed plazas, and village history halls. These spaces provide villagers with high-quality public areas for education, leisure, and commemoration, directly enriching rural cultural life and offering tangible foundations for the cultivation of local traditions.

However, the large-scale land acquisition and relocation necessitated by the project have inevitably led to the dissolution of some villages and the dispersal of neighbors. This has weakened the familiar social networks built on long-standing geographical and kinship ties, loosening the community foundation upon which local customs rely for continuity and development.

3.4 Impact Analysis of the Project on Governance Capacity in Rural Areas along the Route

The Phase II Project of the Huaihe River Seaward Waterway involves activities such as channel dredging, permanent disposal of excavated soil behind embankments, and the excavation of new diversion channels, which collectively require the permanent acquisition of over 100,000 mu of land and the requisition of 727,000 square meters of housing. These measures affect approximately 57,000 residents, with compensation and resettlement investments totaling 16.125 billion yuan, accounting for 36.89 percent of the project's total investment.

The smooth implementation of land acquisition and relocation relies heavily on village cadres conducting door-to-door visits, carrying out surveys and assessments, explaining policies, maintaining household-specific records, and mediating disputes. This process significantly enhances the operational capacity of rural cadres, strengthens grassroots organizational capabilities, and provides solid institutional support for achieving common prosperity in the villages.

Furthermore, by promptly publicizing relocation policies, compensation standards, and progress, widely soliciting farmers' opinions and suggestions, and accepting public oversight to protect their legitimate rights and interests, the project fosters democratic participation and supervision in rural areas. This contributes to greater transparency and fairness in rural governance.

3.5 Impact Analysis of the Project on the Livelihoods of Rural Residents along the Route

The construction of the Phase II Huaihe River Seaward Waterway and its associated land acquisition and resettlement efforts affect the lives of rural residents primarily in the following two aspects.

First, the project will reshape the development potential of villages along the route. During construction, some villages located close to the embankments have undergone full relocation, while others have been partially relocated. At the same time, certain villages have gained significant development potential due to their proximity to hydraulic structures, wharves, or scenic belts. For example, Yangmiao Village, located at the site of the new Huaian sluice and featuring artificial hills built from excavated soil, offers views of the confluence of the Grand Canal and the Huaihe River, as well as distant vistas of the hydraulic crossing and Huixingzhou area, positioning it as a village with strong tourism potential. Jiqiao Village, where the Jiqiao Port Area is planned, is set to become a hub for port-related industries.

Second, resettlement has driven changes in rural wealth structures. The government has provided substantial compensation for farmland acquisition and residential housing, along with additional payments for crop losses, forest compensation, relocation allowances, and temporary rental subsidies during the transition period. Although these payments are intended to offset property losses, they have significantly increased the wealth of villagers along the route. To address the loss of farming-based livelihoods for landless farmers, the government has introduced a "land-for-social-security" compensation scheme, whereby affected villagers receive social security coverage. In the long run, this provides a stable safety net and helps prevent poverty resulting from livelihood disruption. In addition to compensation received by individual households, collectively-owned village land has also been acquired, resulting in increased financial resources for village collectives. This growth in collective wealth has bolstered villages' confidence in proactive development and created new opportunities for advancing common prosperity within their communities.

4. Pathways and Safeguards for Waterway Projects in Promoting Common Prosperity among Riverside Villages: A Rural Revitalization Perspective

4.1 Systematic Planning of the Industrial System along the Route

First, coordinate and plan the port-oriented industrial system. Centered around the large-scale port operation zones along the waterway, proactive planning should be undertaken to develop port-adjacent industries, fostering port-based and hub-driven economies. The overall industrial layout along the seaward channel should be coordinated to guide different industrial clusters toward differentiated development, forming a regionally coordinated and complementary pattern. Furthermore, specialized division of labor and cooperation between port areas and surrounding industrial parks should be strengthened to enhance regional synergy. Focus on strengthening, extending, and supplementing the chains of advantageous industries such as new materials, new energy, green food, equipment manufacturing, and modern logistics, promoting the agglomeration of port-related industries along the corridor.

Second, coordinate the development of distinctive agricultural features along the route. Along the seaward channel, various agricultural practices are distributed, including fruit and vegetable cultivation, lotus root planting, rice farming, foxnut cultivation, wheat growing, and mushroom production. A systematic assessment of each village's agricultural endowments should be conducted to identify local specialties and promote ecological, organic, and green farming methods. By means of geographical indication protection and trademark registration, agricultural brand building should be strengthened to enhance brand recognition. Leading

enterprises within villages should guide smaller farmers to collaborate, reducing production costs and enabling resource sharing. In addition, villages along the route should actively explore rural e-commerce models, making full use of internet technology and e-commerce platforms to expand markets for specialty agricultural products, reduce intermediate links, and increase farmers' income.

Third, coordinate the planning of the cultural-tourism industrial system along the route. Using the Huaihe River Seaward Waterway as a connecting artery, various cultural elements—such as hydraulic engineering culture, ecological landscapes, and the regional cultures of Huaian and Yancheng—should be linked to plan an integrated cultural-tourism industrial system, creating a cross-regional Huaihe Cultural Corridor and historical-cultural routes. Leveraging the ecological and cultural resources formed around Hongze Lake, the Erhe River, and the confluence with the seaward channel, distinctive cultural-tourism nodes should be developed. Integrating land and water transportation, high-quality tourism routes should be designed that combine river-lake scenery, rural landscapes, hydraulic engineering culture, industrial heritage, and intangible cultural heritage. Along the northern embankment of the seaward channel, camping sites should be planned to create self-drive touring routes along the Huaihe River Seaward Waterway. In addition, diverse cultural experience activities should be organized that reflect the characteristics of hydraulic engineering culture.

4.2 Proactively Exploring the Realization of Ecological Product Value

Building on a reasonable assessment of resource endowments and demand variations among villages along the route, the direction for ecological product development should be defined. Clear property rights over ecological resources must be established, laying the foundation for transforming these resources into ecological assets that can participate in market-based economic activities. By leveraging natural resources, local customs, and cultural features, green and organic agricultural products and high-value-added processed goods should be developed, along with specialty tourism offerings and wellness-focused tourism products—including the creation of wellness towns—to further translate ecological value into economic value.

Pilot initiatives should be actively carried out in villages with favorable ecological conditions along the corridor, providing policy support for trailblazing experiments and exploring new models for enhancing prosperity through ecological means. Responsibility for ecological protection should be reinforced through a sound ecological assessment mechanism, thereby expanding the supply capacity of ecological products. Key indicators for promoting the realization of ecological product value should be incorporated into the national economic accounting system, highlighting both the urgency and the dual-pressure nature of establishing an effective value-realization mechanism for ecological products.

The extent of ecological product value realization, the development of the green economy, and the preservation and appreciation of natural assets should be made important metrics in the performance evaluation of local cadres in villages along the route. A dual-assessment and dual-evaluation mechanism combining Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Gross Ecosystem Product (GEP) should be established. Villagers along the corridor should be encouraged to adopt green production methods and lifestyles to reduce environmental pollution and damage. Green agriculture and circular agricultural models should be promoted to minimize agricultural pollution and ecological degradation. Efforts in ecological restoration and afforestation should be strengthened to enhance the ecological quality and environmental carrying capacity of the villages.

4.3 Advancing Cultural-Ethical Progress through the Cultivation of Social Traditions

Cultural-ethical advancement in rural areas is a vital component of promoting rural revitalization and achieving common prosperity. It plays a significant role in improving the overall quality of farmers, fostering social harmony in the countryside, boosting rural economic development, and preserving and promoting outstanding rural culture. Efforts should be made to strengthen the development of public cultural facilities in rural areas, providing farmers with a rich array of cultural products and services. Farmers should be organized and encouraged to independently carry out diverse community cultural activities, enriching their spiritual and cultural lives.

Centered on cultural-ethical progress, initiatives to enhance social traditions should be launched, promoting the transformation of outdated customs and advocating new, positive social norms. This will help foster civilized local practices, wholesome family values, and honest community relations. Activities such as selecting local role models and ethical exemplars should be widely organized, with increased publicity and recognition to highlight their exemplary and guiding influence.

Furthermore, in-depth efforts should be made to explore and protect intangible cultural heritage, including folk arts, traditional opera, handicraft skills, ethnic costumes, and folk customs. This will allow the long-standing farming civilization and water management culture to showcase their charm and vitality in the new era.

4.4 Innovating the Rural Governance System

Developing a new-type rural collective economy is a critical step in advancing rural revitalization and promoting common prosperity in the countryside. Scientifically structured rural collective economic organizations should be established, upholding the principal role of farmers and promoting the capitalization of rural resources. A new "three-pillar" mechanism should be created, in which government investment acts as the guide, village collective investment serves as the main body, and private capital functions as the major driving force. Cooperative models such as shareholding and independent operation, capital investment for leveraged development, and leasing for steady growth should be actively explored, establishing close benefit-linkage mechanisms with various types of business entities. Channels for villagers to invest their funds should be streamlined, and diversified financing platforms should be set up. Relevant policies should be formulated to encourage and support villagers in using compensation funds for projects that contribute to common prosperity in villages along the route. Villagers should be encouraged to invest surplus compensation in leading agricultural industrialization enterprises or become shareholders, and to join local agricultural cooperatives.

Moreover, innovating the rural governance system is equally crucial for driving common prosperity in rural areas. The leadership role of grassroots Party organizations and the exemplary role of Party members should be fully leveraged, transforming the Party's political strength, organizational advantages, and close ties with the masses into effective grassroots governance. Through the "Party building +" model, the leading role in rural governance should be strengthened—formulating and implementing relevant policies, providing essential public services and support, and advancing rural revitalization under Party guidance to help villagers increase their incomes and achieve prosperity. A sound rural governance system should be established, implementing a village-level consultation catalog system to safeguard villagers' rights to decision-making, participation, and oversight. Farmers should be encouraged to actively engage in rural governance, expressing their needs and concerns through self-governance organizations and participating in the decision-making and management of village affairs.

5. Discussion

As a strategic water conservancy project in the Huaihe River Basin, the Phase II Project of the Huaihe River Seaward Waterway represents a major practice in response to the national call for "solidly promoting common prosperity" and the Jiangsu Provincial Government's initiative to build a "Water Transport Jiangsu." Both during and after its construction, the project's interaction with common prosperity in the riverside villages constitutes a multidimensional, dynamic, and complex system. It not only creates fundamental conditions for common prosperity along the route but also reshapes the landscape for achieving it.

To deeply understand the project's profound impact on common prosperity, this paper constructs a three-stage logical framework of "rural revitalization – project empowerment – common prosperity" and puts forward multifaceted recommendations on how the project can advance common prosperity in the villages along its route.

While existing studies often focus either on the impacts of major projects or on models for achieving rural common prosperity, the logical framework developed in this paper can, to some extent, strengthen the analysis of the linkage between project construction and rural development, thereby enriching interdisciplinary theories on infrastructure development and rural advancement. It should be noted that the research framework proposed here is based primarily on case studies from villages along the Huaihe River, and its adaptability to villages in peri-urban and remote rural areas remains insufficiently examined. Follow-up research could expand the scope of cases to further validate the framework's applicability in villages of different locations. Moreover, the analysis in this paper draws mainly on cases from the project planning and construction phases. Due to the lack of long-term post-completion tracking data, it is not possible to fully assess the sustained benefits of belt-shaped economic zones, smart agriculture, and similar initiatives. Future studies should broaden the case range and conduct further quantitative research.

Additionally, to prevent the short-term dividends of the Huaihe River Seaward Waterway Project from being exhausted, it is imperative to integrate research on new quality productive forces, achieve revolutionary breakthroughs in agricultural technology, enable innovative allocation of production factors, and deepen the transformation and upgrading of industries along the route [13]. For instance, agricultural carriers such as the Huaixiang Edible Mushroom Industrial Park and the Panya Cordyceps Health Farm could be upgraded into smart agriculture projects leveraging disruptive technologies like the Internet of Things and precision farming. This would advance agricultural and rural modernization on the new journey toward Chinese modernization and contribute to further common prosperity.

Funding: The work in this study was supported by Jiangsu Province Major Project of Philosophy and Social Sciences Research in Universities (2025SJZD057), Jiangsu Province Natural Science Foundation Project for Colleges and Universities (23KJB170003), Jiangsu Province General Project of Philosophy and Social Sciences Research Fund in Universities (2023SJYB1883) and Undergraduate Innovation and Entrepreneurship Training Program Project (202410323026Z).

Acknowledgments: We would like to thank anonymous reviewers for their valuable comments and suggestions for improving this paper.

Data Availability Statement: The data presented in this study are available on request from the corresponding author.

Conflicts of Interest: The author declares no conflict of interest.

References

1. Xiao, H.; Wang, J.; Liao, Z. Farmers' rural common prosperity: Realistic dilemmas and promotion paths. *Finance & Economics* 2022, (03), 58–67. (in Chinese)
2. Tang, R.; Xu, C. The Theoretical Logic, Internal Mechanism and Implementation Path of Rural Revitalization Promoting the Realization of Common Prosperity. *China Business and Market* 2022, 36(06), 10–17. https://doi.org/10.14089/j.cnki.cn11-3664/f.2022.06.002 (in Chinese)
3. Ye, J.; Hu, Q. Rural Vitalization under the Goal of Common Prosperity: Main Challenges and Key Responses. *Rural Economy* 2022, (02), 1–8. https://doi.org/10.26957/j.cnki.cn51-1029/f.2022.02.001 (in Chinese)
4. Sun, J.; Li, C. Rural Revitalization under the Goal of Common Prosperity. *Journal of Northwest Normal University (Social Sciences)* 2022, 59(03), 12–19. https://doi.org/10.16783/j.cnki.nwnus.2022.03.002 (in Chinese)
5. Zhang, Q.; Zhuang, J.; Li, S.; Kong, M. Scientific Connotation, Inner Relationship and Strategic Key Points of Rural Revitalization Under the Goal of Common Prosperity. *Journal of Northwest University (Philosophy and Social Sciences Edition)* 2022, 52(03), 44–53. https://doi.org/10.16152/j.cnki.xdxbsk.2022-03-005 (in Chinese)
6. Liu, P.; Qian, T.; Huang, X.; Dong, X. The Connotation, Realization Path and Measurement Method of Common Prosperity for All. *Journal of Management World* 2021, 37(08), 117–129. https://doi.org/10.19744/j.cnki.11-1235/f.2021.0111 (in Chinese)
7. Kline, P.; Moretti, E. Local economic development, agglomeration economies, and the big push: 100 years of evidence from the Tennessee Valley Authority. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 2014, 129(1), 275–331.
8. Liphoto, M.J. Exploring the impacts of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project on the sustainable livelihoods of resettled communities. Doctoral dissertation, Stellenbosch University, 2020.
9. Jiang, H. Implementing the rural revitalization strategy and reference development models. *Agricultural Economics and Management* 2017, (06), 17–24. (in Chinese)
10. Jiang, W.; Wu, K. The Practical Rationale of Rural Collective Economy to Promote the Common Wealth of Farmers. *Rural Economy* 2024, (10), 12–23. https://doi.org/10.26957/j.cnki.cn51-1029/f.2024.10.002 (in Chinese)
11. Wang, Y. The Spatial Stratification of Common Prosperity and the System Logic of Promoting Rural Revitalization ——Based on the Experience of Comprehensive Rural Reform from "The Green Rural Revival Program" in Zhejiang Province. *Probe* 2025, (01), 125–138. https://doi.org/10.16501/j.cnki.50-1019/d.2025.01.002 (in Chinese)
12. Yu, X. The dilemmas, realistic logic, and realization paths from rural revitalization to common prosperity. *Agricultural Economy* 2024, (12), 75–77. (in Chinese)
13. Yang, Y. The Value Connotation and Basic Ideas of Developing New Quality Agricultural Productivity. *Issues in Agricultural Economy* 2024, (04), 27–35. https://doi.org/10.13246/j.cnki.iae.2024.04.003 (in Chinese)