

Self-employed Return Migrants and Rural Development in China

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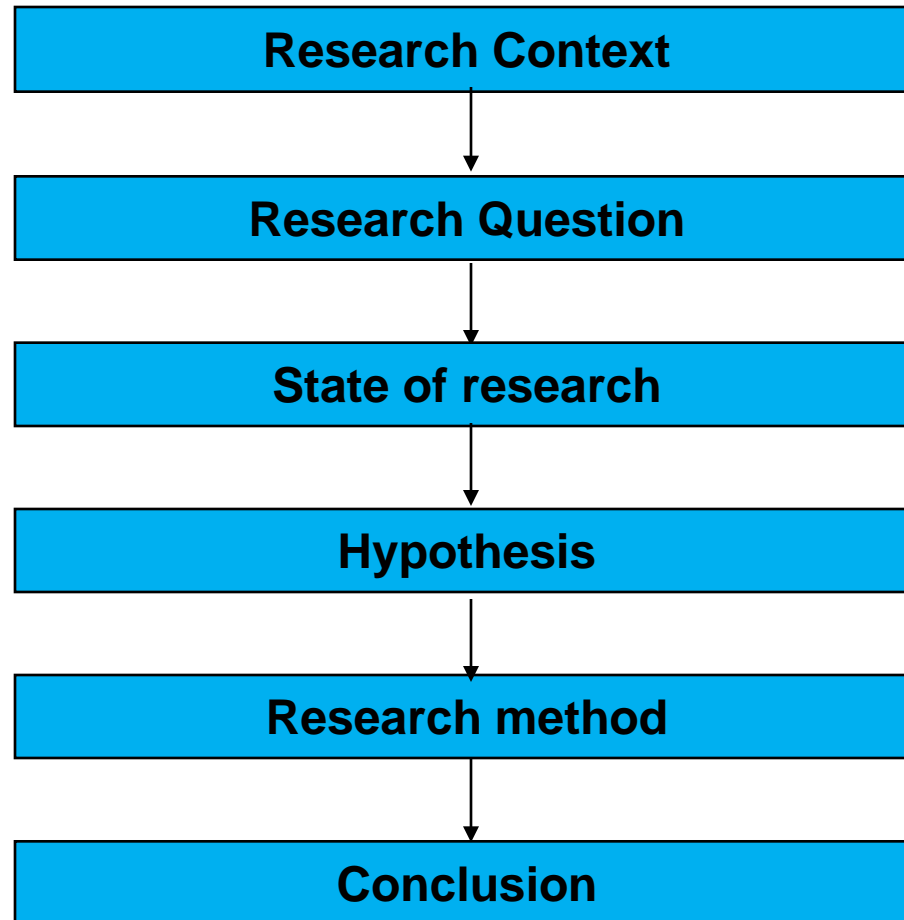
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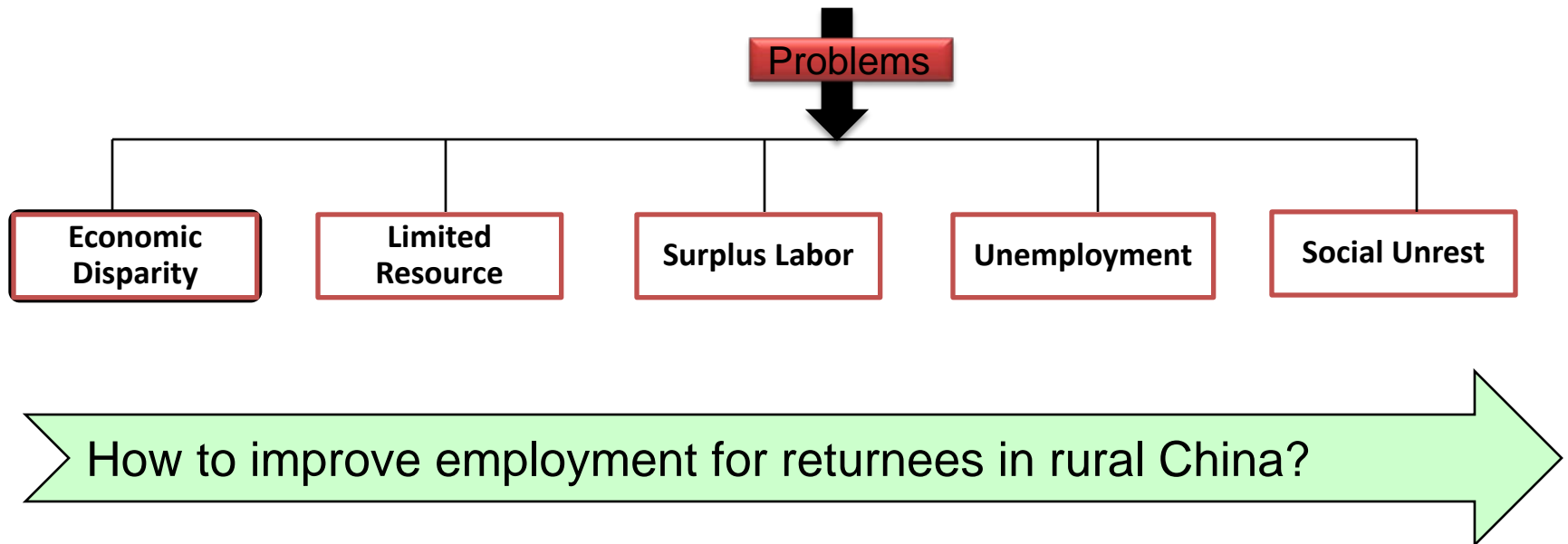
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Overview



1. Problem Setting



2. Research Questions

1

How self-employed return migrants act in the rural development?

2

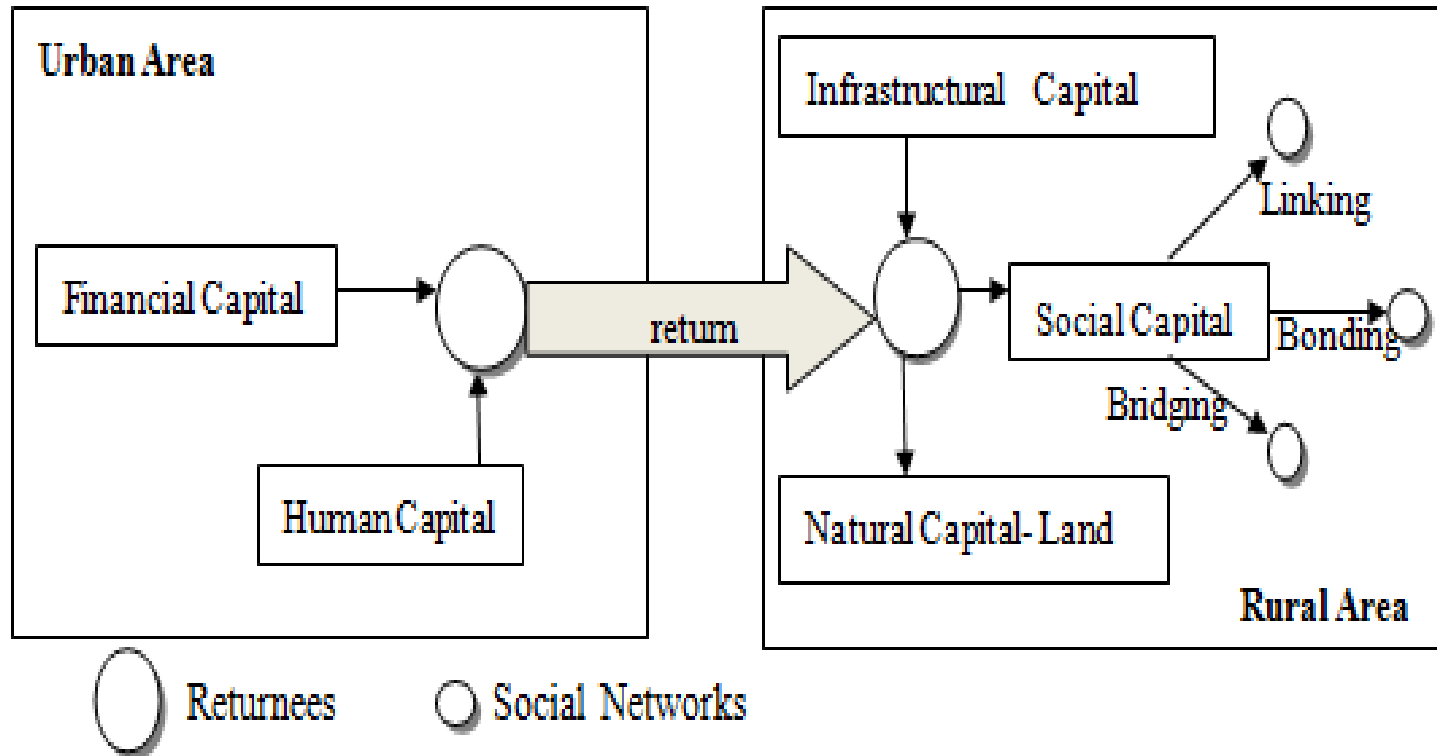
What local policies promote returnees to run their own business?

3. State of research

- Rural development dimension (OECD 2006):
 - demography and migration, access to services and infrastructure, social well-being, **economy and human capital** (percentage of self-employed persons)
- Return migrants and rural development (Ma 2001, Murphy 2002, Huina Shi 2008)
- Self-employed return migrants and job creation (CNRCD 2007, Yang 2007)

Theory Framework:

Five Capital Categories in the Process of Return Migration



Source from author's own concept 2011

4. Research Hypotheses

- Self-employed returnees who run their own business play a positive role in China's rural development by employment creation.
- The local policies support returnees to run their own business.



5. Field Survey

- **Time:**

04.02.2011– 23.04.2011

- **Site:**

Hunan province

5 villages

--Maojia Village, 

--Heling Village,

--Jinling Village,

--Shangpai Village 

--Xiyuan Village



Survey Methods :

- Expert interview
(30—village leaders, researchers, government officers)
- Group discussion (village officials, return migrants)
- questionnaire distribution 450 returnees (snowball sampling)
- in-depth interview 30 self-employed returnees



Self-employed return migrants in survey (2011)

Attributes			Attributes		
Gender	Male	26	Marital status	Single	2
	Female	4		Married	28
Age	25—30	8	School Education	12 years (high school)	24
	31—35	15		15 years (College)	6
	36--40	7	Business sector	Agriculture	10
Children	Yes	28		Industrial	10
	No	2		Service	10
Worked in urban center	1--3 years	3	Number of employees	1—10	14
	4—6 years	16		11—20	12
	7—9 years	9		21—30	4

Data from the field survey by author from February to April 2011

Case in survey --Pig farm



Other cases



Watermelon cultivation



clothes factory



construction



restaurant & hotel



Machinery service



supermarket

6. Policy incentives to self-employed return migrants

- Improvement of infrastructure
- Improvement of financial environment
- Free training service
- Establishment of industry associations
- Integration of urban and rural management
- Tax relief and land concessions



7. Concluding remarks

- Self-employed return migrants promote rural development by job creation and economic diversification
- Local policies play a positive role for self-employed return migrants to open their own business and therefore promote rural development



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Thanks!

