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# Typical Survey and Research on Returning-home Migrant Workers' Entrepreneurship in Jiangxi Province under Post-financial Crisis

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**Abstract** In order to study the entrepreneurship situation of Jiangxi return migrant workers after the financial crisis, we have conducted a survey on 107 entrepreneurial return migrant workers in 6 counties of Jiangxi Province. The results show that the return of migrant workers is mainly attributed to personal factors, while social factors are also very important. The major difficulties facing return migrant workers are the funding difficulties, complicated formalities to start a business, difficulty in safeguarding their rights and interests, their own low quality and so on. The support needed by the return migrant workers from the government is manifested in five aspects, say, to improve the service and management for the entrepreneurship of migrant workers, to provide financing policy support, to increase the preferential fiscal and taxation policies, to enhance the entrepreneurship training and to provide preference for the return migrant workers to use land.

**Key words** Post-financial crisis, Returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship, Typical survey, Entrepreneurial motivation, Jiangxi Province, China

Along with the proliferation and deepening influence of financial crisis across the world, since 2008, multitudinous enterprises, especially processing trade enterprises and those labor-intensive enterprises, have been confronted by severe challenges. It makes some enterprises curtail production. And even some are consigned to bankruptcy. Consequently, a large quantity of returning-home migrant workers have no choice but to return home to work or start business<sup>[1]</sup>. Meanwhile, migrant workers' returning-home employment is a process along with the transfer of eastern coastal industry into the inner land. According to the data from Department of Labor and Social Security of Jiangxi Province, from January to September in 2009, the unemployment figures registered in the cities and towns of Jiangxi Province are 26.5 million. The newly added labor forces in towns are approximately 0.2 million. The newly added surplus rural labor forces are transferred to go to work in province are 0.29 million, the supply amount reaching 0.755 million. At that time the newly added jobs in Jiangxi Province are merely 0.366 million, the gap between supply and demand reaching 0.4 million. In January, 2001, there are 3.309 million returning-home migrant workers in Jiangxi Province in the aggregate. When in February, 2.58 million people are back again into city, with 0.72 million people left. The migrant workers in Jiangxi Province are 6.8 million, but influenced by the global financial crisis, the quantity of returning-home migrant workers reaches 1.2 million. But the returning-home mi-

grant workers' entrepreneurship is still faced up by many practical problems and daunting impediment when it further develops<sup>[2]</sup>. We have conducted the questionnaire, field interview on the 100 returning-home migrant workers who are prepared to start business in Jiangxi Province. By the statistical analysis of the retrieved effective questionnaire, interview note and relevant data, we generalized the motivation and main difficulties of returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship in Jiangxi Province, and put forward corresponding countermeasures and suggestions.

## 1 The questionnaire information

**1.1 The content and frame of questionnaire design** In the questionnaire, the survey of the returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship mainly focuses on the motivation of entrepreneurship, the main difficulties of entrepreneurship and the required government support<sup>[3]</sup>.

**1.2 The survey range and the retrieved statistical information** This survey was conducted in 6 counties in Jiangxi Province. There were 150 questionnaires in the aggregate, and 107 questionnaires were retrieved, accounting for 71.3 percent of the questionnaire. In the process of surveying, we conducted the typical interview on 33 returning-home migrant workers who were starting business.

## 2 Results and analysis

**2.1 Basic information of returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship** In the questionnaire, the basic information of returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship in Jiangxi Province can be seen in Table 1.

**Table 1 Basic information of entrepreneurial return migrant workers in Jiangxi Province**

Item	Option	Number	Percentage
			%
Venture age	Below 20 years of age	2	1.8
	Age between 20 and 29	19	17.8
	Age between 30 and 39	33	30.8
	Age between 40 and 49	42	39.3
	Above 50 years of age	11	10.3
	Total	107	100.0
Educational degree	Primary school and less than this	2	1.8
	Secondary school	46	42.9
	High school, technical middle school and so on	40	37.4
	Technical college and more than this	19	17.8
	Total	107	100.0
Venture time	1 to 2 years	32	29.9
	3 to 5 years	20	18.7
	More than 6 years	45	42.1
	Total	97	100.0

From Table 1, in terms of the gender constitution of returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship group, there are 93 males, accounting for 87 percent; there are 14 females, accounting for 13 percent. There are 2 people below 20 years of age, accounting for 1.8 percent; there are 19 people age between 20 to 29, accounting for 17.8 percent; there are 33 peo-

**Table 2 Entrepreneurial motivation of return migrant workers in Jiangxi Province**

Entrepreneurial motivation	Number	Percentage//%
The economic need of individual and family	72	66.1
The unfair treatment of city-town dual structure	65	60.7
Great employment pressure	54	50.5
The government in hometown can offer the good environment of entrepreneurship policy	49	45.8
The expensive life cost in city	47	43.9
The improvement of developmental condition and environment of hometown	37	34.6
Affection for hometown	33	30.8
The opportunity of transfer of labor-intensive industries from the eastern coastal regions to the inner land	32	29.9
Strong will of starting business to realize the self-value	28	26.2

Since many years, China's labor-intensive industry has an affinity with migrant workers. Most migrant workers who go to city are in the coastal developed regions and the labor-intensive industries of city. By dint of the migrant workers' labor forces advantage, the coastal labor-intensive industries can develop so well. In the first flush of the new century, there is quick development concerning returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship, associated with the regional transfer of labor-intensive industries. The labor-intensive industries in the eastern developed regions have undergone the problems of rocketing price of production factors and the profit slump of enterprise and so on. The labors' life cost in city has also been enhanced, so the recruitment of the labor-intensive industries which have relatively low wage level becomes difficult. The labor-intensive industries transferred from the eastern developed regions have become the impetus of industrial development in the Midwestern regions and historical opportunities of the Midwestern devel-

ple age between 30 to 39, accounting for 30.8 percent; there are 42 people age between 40 to 49, accounting for 39.3 percent; there are 11 people age more than 50, accounting for 10.3 percent. Amid the returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship group, there are 2 people with primary school educational degree or less than this, accounting for 1.8 percent; there are 46 people with secondary school educational degree, accounting for 42.9 percent; there are 40 people with high school educational degree, technical middle school educational degree, or vocational high school educational degree, accounting for 37.4 percent; there are 19 people with technical college educational degree or more than this, accounting for 17.8 percent. Amid the returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship group, 32 people's venture time is 1 to 2 years, accounting for 29.9 percent; 20 people's venture time is 3 to 5 years, accounting for 18.7 percent; 45 people's venture time is more than 6 years, accounting for 42.1 percent.

**2.2 The motivation of returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship** According to the relevant documents, we generalized the main factors that influence the returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship, and put them as the options of the motivation of returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship. Because the motivation of returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship is quite complicated and not so simple, so they can be designed as multi-options in the questionnaire. The option information of questionnaire can be seen in Table 2.

opment. The returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship is in conformance with the regional transfer of labor-intensive industry, while in the process of industrial transfer, the migrant workers, the major media and transfer vehicle, are the basic forces to promote the transfer of labor-intensive industry. The technology, equipment, management and talents of coastal labor-intensive industries are transferred to the underdeveloped regions for further development by means of returning-home entrepreneurship. On one hand, the labor-intensive enterprises in developed regions, including domestic and foreign investors, Hongkong investors and Taiwan investors were seeking to set up the branch of company and the enterprises that process raw materials on clients' demands, assemble parts for the clients in the Midwestern regions. The forces they draw by mainly come from the Midwestern regions, including the migrant workers in their enterprises and the key management talents in the enterprise. On the other hand, the main content of the industrial

workers and multitudinous technology management talents are migrant workers in the coastal labor-intensive industries. Even some production enterprises are set up by migrant workers. The transfer of labor-intensive industries from the coastal regions to the Midwestern regions, to a great extent, is the returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship who might be the enterpriser or the key management talents in these industries<sup>[4]</sup>.

Influenced by the individual, family and macro socio-economic environment, the returning-home entrepreneurship is the rational choice after the benefit comparison between the formerly working place and the place where they start business. Returning-home migrant workers' working experience in the city lays the foundation for their entrepreneurship. The capital, technique and management experience the migrant workers accumulate in the city are the prerequisite to make their dream of entrepreneurship come true. Meanwhile, the migrant workers' strong will of starting business and natural association with their hometown are the driving force for them to return home to start business. Under the financial crisis, the production curtailment and bankruptcy of many labor-intensive enterprises in coastal developed regions, directly lead to the increased pressure of migrant workers' employment. In addition, the expensive life cost in the city, and the unfair treatment of city-town dual structure, reinforce the migrant workers' will to return home to start business<sup>[5]</sup>. Some of the migrant workers lost their jobs in the financial crisis, and they are forced to start business considering the economic need factors of individual and family; in addition, the long time separation from their families due to working far away from hometown, and their affection for hometown make them to start business in hometown. The great opportunity of transfer of labor-intensive industries from the coastal developed regions to the Midwestern regions, the improvement of environment and developmental condition in hometown, and good environment of entrepreneurship policy, are the macro background to prompt the returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship. Some migrant workers with a certain capital, technology and experience, choose to return home to start business out of strong will to realize the self-value.

**2.3 The main difficulties of returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship** According to the relevant documents, we generalized the main difficulties of returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship, and put them as the options of the main difficulties of returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship in the questionnaire. Because the difficulties of returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship are complicated, and not simple, so they are designed as multi-options in the questionnaire. The option information in the questionnaire can be seen in Table 3.

According to the survey on 107 returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship in Jiangxi Province, there are many difficulties which concentrate in 6 factors in Table 3. From the Table 3, the difficulty of fundraising is the first, and 89 migrant workers think the fundraising is quite difficult, accounting for 83.2 percent. 65 people think that the formalities of entrepreneurship is complicated, and the benefit security is difficult, which is the second difficult factor<sup>[6]</sup>. 33 people think that the taxation of enterprise is too heavy; 47 people think that the land

use is restricted; 54 people's quality is not so high; 48 people think that the support policy of government is difficult to be implemented. Consequently, the 6 major difficulties basically can represent the main condition of the returning-home migrant workers.

**Table 3 Difficulties in the entrepreneurship of return migrant workers in Jiangxi Province**

Major difficulties	Number	Percentage//%
Difficulty of fundraising	89	83.2
Complicated formalities of starting business and difficulty of benefit security	65	60.7
Low quality of migrant workers	54	50.5
Inefficient implementation of government support policy	48	44.9
Restriction of land use	47	43.9
Heavy taxation of enterprise	33	30.8

#### 2.4 The required government support of returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship

According to the relevant documents, we generalized the aspects of government support needed by returning-home migrant workers, and put them as the options of the required government support of returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship in the questionnaire. The required government support of returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship is complicated and not simple, so they are designed as the multi-options in the questionnaire. The options information in the questionnaire can be seen in Table 4.

**Table 4 Required government support for the entrepreneurship of return migrant workers in Jiangxi Province**

Required government support	Number	Percentage//%
Improve the entrepreneurship service and management of returning-home migrant workers	86	80.4
Provide financial policy support	78	72.9
Promote finance and tax preferential policy	72	67.3
Reinforce entrepreneurship training degree	54	50.5
Give preference for returning-home migrant workers' land use	46	42.9

From Table 4, improving the migrant workers' entrepreneurship service and management is the first important factor of the required government support, accounting for 80.4 percent. Improving the migrant workers' entrepreneurship service and management includes the following aspects; first, loosen the admission restrictions. All the fields that national statute has not obviously prohibited and restricted, the local government department can not set up the restrictions. Second, simplify approval procedures and over-elaborate procedures, normalize the charge items, promote the joint approval and one-stop service. As for the public service charges prescribed, we only charge the cost in principle or charge the minimum sum. Third, normalize the government behavior. We must punish the behavior of the arbitrary collection of fees, imposition of illegal fines and indiscriminate quotas. The government inspection department should perfect the mechanism of complaint, deal with and redress those illegal behaviors of transgressing the illicit

benefit of enterprise and disturbing the daily operation. The judicial department should protect returning-home migrant workers' security of personal possessions and grimly punish those illegal behaviors of inflicting the damage on the developmental environment of enterprise.

Providing the financial policy support is the second important factor, specifically including the following aspects: first, reinforce the support of policy finance for the small-and-medium-sized enterprises and returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship. Second, give priority to developing the financial organizations to serve for the small-and-medium-sized enterprises and rural community; give full play to the rural credit association for serving the agriculture and small-and-medium-sized enterprises. Third, meet the diversified needs of enterprisers; develop the fixed assets mortgage loan, pledge of movable loan, personal entrust loan, natural security loan and mutual credit loan of enterprises in the same region, and industry; as for those promising prospect with advanced technology and high profit, we should adopt the way of combination of credit loan and mortgage loan as well as the package loan and package payment; loosen the loan amount and repayment time. Fourth, loosen the mortgage range in rural areas, for example, allow the property of enterprise in small towns including the collective owned land use right, the use right of the rural house sites and hilly land and the property of house as mortgage. Fifth, establish the credit support mechanism of the development of small and medium-sized enterprises and returning-home entrepreneurship<sup>[2]</sup>.

Promoting the finance and tax preferential policy also has a large proportion. This will make the returning-home migrant workers enjoy the same preferential policies as the foreign merchants<sup>[7]</sup>.

Reinforcing the entrepreneurship training degree and giving preference for returning-home migrant workers' land use are also the aspects of support the migrant workers want to get urgently.

The 5 aspects of support in Table 4 can also basically reflect the aspects of government support the returning-home migrant workers expect.

### 3 Conclusion

First, the returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship has transformed "the migrant labor rush" into "entrepreneurship rush", which becomes the new effective way to solve the employment pressure under the post-financial crisis.

Second, the motivation of returning-home migrant workers'

entrepreneurship is mainly ascribed to the individual factors. The economic need of individual and family, unfair treatment of city-town dual structure, and great employment pressure have a big proportion, while the social factors are also important, accounting for 30 percent.

Third, the main difficulties of returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship are respectively the difficult fundraising, complicated formalities of starting business, difficult benefit security, low quality of migrant workers, the inefficient implementation of government support policy, the land use restriction and so on. If these difficulties can not be solved well, then the returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship will be impeded.

Fourth, the required government support returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship can be embodied in 5 aspects: improve the service and management of returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship; provide financial policy support; promote finance and tax preferential policies; reinforce the entrepreneurship training degree; give preference for migrant workers' land use. From these, we know that returning-home migrant workers' entrepreneurship, different from the common investment introducing entrepreneurship, need more government support.

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(From page 33)

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