

УДК 004

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Transactions

Chengdu, China

**AN INTRODUCTION TO THE CONNOTATION AND EXTENSION
OF DIGITAL REFORM AND DIGITALISATION OF GOVERNMENT
EFFECTIVENESS IN CHINA**

Abstract: With the full advent of the digital era, digital reform has become a key force driving national development and progress. This paper systematically analyses the essential features and practical paths of China's digital reform from two dimensions, namely, connotation and extension, and explores the wide-ranging impacts and development trends of the digitalisation of government effectiveness on economy, society, governance mode and other fields. Through

this comprehensive analysis, the paper aims to provide theoretical support and practical reference for the in-depth understanding and further promotion of China's digital reform and the digitalisation of government effectiveness.

Keywords: Digital reform; digitisation of government effectiveness; connotations; extensions; deepening reforms, quality development

Against the backdrop of the current era of globalisation and the deep integration of information technology, the wave of digitisation is sweeping through every corner of the world at an unprecedented rate. Digital reform is no longer just a technological change, but a core driving force that is reshaping the pattern of economic and social development in an all-round way and promoting the modernisation of the national governance system and governance capacity. As an important participant and leader in global digital development, China has actively promoted digital reform and achieved remarkable results in various fields. As a key embodiment of digital reform in the field of government affairs, the digitisation of government effectiveness is of crucial significance for

improving government operational efficiency, enhancing the quality of public services, and optimising the mode of social governance. An in-depth exploration of China's digital reform and the connotation and extension of the digitalisation of government effectiveness will not only help to accurately grasp the pulse of the development of the digital era, but also provide a solid theoretical foundation and practical guidance for China's continued deepening of reforms and high-quality development in the process of digitalisation.

I. Connotation of China's digital reform and digitisation of government effectiveness

1.1 Promoting digital reform and digitisation of government effectiveness is an inevitable requirement for realising Chinese-style modernisation, an inevitable path to innovate the concepts and methods of government governance and adapt to the expectations and needs of the people, and an inevitable trend to embrace global informatisation and digitisation development and change^[1]. General Secretary Xi Jinping has made a series of important remarks on

government informatisation and the digital transformation of the government, and has given a visionary account of why it is important to promote government informatisation. on 27 February 2014, at the first meeting of the Central Network Security and Informatisation Leading Group, General Secretary Xi Jinping said that ‘there can be no national security without cybersecurity, and no modernisation without informatisation’. At the first meeting of the Central Network Security and Informatisation Leading Group on 27 February 2014, General Secretary Xi Jinping said, ‘Without network security, there will be no national security, and without informatisation, there will be no modernisation,’ making informatisation a necessary condition for the realisation of Chinese modernisation^[2]. General Secretary Xi Jinping said at the symposium that ‘we should adapt to people's expectations and needs, accelerate the popularisation of informatisation services, reduce application costs, provide people with accessible, affordable and usable information services, and give hundreds of millions of people a greater sense of achievement in sharing the fruits of Internet

development'. Informatisation has become an important means of promoting the modernisation of the national governance system and governance capacity^[3]. On 26 September 2021, General Secretary Xi Jinping wrote in his congratulatory letter to the Wuzhen Summit of the World Internet Conference 2021 that 'digital technology is becoming a new concept, a new industry and a new way of life. Digital technology is being comprehensively integrated into all fields and processes of human economic, political, cultural, social and ecological civilisation construction with new concepts, new business forms and new modes, and has brought about a wide and profound impact on human production and life. At present, the world's century of change and the epidemic of the century are intertwined and superimposed, the international community urgently needs to join hands, in line with the development trend of information technology, digitalisation, networking and intelligence, to seize the opportunity to deal with the challenges'^[4]. Conform to the changes of the times, seize the

opportunity to promote information technology, digitalisation has become the general trend.

1.2 Promote digital reform, government effectiveness digitalisation is a profound change throughout the whole process of government. 19 April 2022, General Secretary Xi Jinping, at the twenty-fifth meeting of the Central Committee for Comprehensively Deepening Reform, said that ‘we must adhere to and strengthen the overall leadership of the Party throughout the various areas of the construction of the digital government in all its aspects’. ‘We should assist the transformation of government functions with digital reform, promote the intensive construction, interconnection and synergy of government application systems in various industries and fields, and give full play to the important supporting role of digitalisation in the government's performance of its functions in economic regulation, market supervision, social management, public services, and ecological and environmental protection’^[5]. This requires the integrated use of digital technology, digital thinking, digital cognition, digitalisation,

integration and modernisation throughout the entire process of the Party's leadership and the construction of economic, political, cultural, social and ecological civilisations in all aspects of the whole process of the institutional mechanism of governance, organisational structure, methods and processes, means and tools of governance of the whole region for an all-round and systematic remodelling, and to promote the quality of economic and social development and governance capacity change from a holistic point of view, efficiency change, and power change.

1.3 The key work of digital reform and government effectiveness digitisation should be linked to the overall layout of the construction of Digital China and the latest national requirements on urban digital transformation. In February 2023, the CPC Central Committee and the State Council issued the 'Overall Layout Plan for the Construction of Digital China', which highly absorbed the contents and key tasks of the successive five-year plans for the development of national informatisation and the five-year plan for the construction of national

government informatisation^[6]. The “2522” overall layout for the construction of digital China in the new era was innovatively put forward, which refers to doing a good job of the two major foundations of digital infrastructure and data resource system; promoting the deep integration of digital technology with the construction of economy, politics, culture, society and ecological civilisation; and strengthening the two major capabilities of digital technology innovation system and digital security barrier; Optimising the two environments for digital development at home and abroad.

II.China's digital reform and the outreach of digitisation of government effectiveness

2.1 China's digital reform in the economic field, driving the intelligent transformation of traditional industries, giving rise to new forms of service industry such as e-commerce and the sharing economy, and flourishing emerging digital industries, which have become a new engine of economic growth. Domestically, digital technology promotes consumption upgrading and

boosts domestic demand; internationally, it enhances the competitiveness of enterprises, expands the international market, and promotes domestic and international double-cycle development.

2.2 At the social level, digital reform has changed the status quo of uneven distribution of educational resources, telemedicine has improved the fairness of medical services, and digital health management has helped personal health monitoring^[7]. In social governance, promoting the construction of smart cities, easing congestion through intelligent transport, improving security and control through intelligent security, and at the same time enhancing the convenience of public participation in social affairs through online platforms to enhance the transparency and democracy of social governance.

2.3 The digitalisation of government effectiveness has led to the transformation of government functions from management to service, pinpointing social needs through data analysis, optimising resource allocation and enhancing credibility. Different levels of government and departments rely

on a unified e-government system and digital collaboration platform to achieve real-time information transfer, business collaboration and strengthen collaboration and linkage. With the help of government websites and other digital platforms, the public can conveniently participate in policy discussions, and the optimisation of government services improves public satisfaction and enhances social cohesion.

III. Conclusion

An in-depth understanding and grasp of the connotation and extension of China's digital reform and digitalisation of government effectiveness is of great significance to China's continued deepening of reform and high-quality development in the digital era. In the future, with the continuous innovation and application of digital technology, China's digital reform and the digitalisation of government effectiveness will continue to expand and deepen, providing a powerful impetus and a solid guarantee for the construction of digital China and the realisation of the Chinese dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese

nation. In the process of practice, the government, enterprises, social organisations and the public should actively participate and form a synergy to jointly promote the digital reform to a deeper and deeper development, so that the fruits of digital development can better benefit all the people.

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