

Economic zones and stage of competitive development Evidence from China (1980-2013)

المناطق الاقتصادية ومستوى التنمية التنافسية حالة الصين (1980-2013)

Midoun Ilyes, Maitre de conference classe A, laboratory of economics of development modern business and improvement its performance in Tassili region, Centre Universitaire d'Illizi, Algeria.

Received: 24/06/2018; Accepted: 26/09/2019; Publication: 07/07/2019

Abstract: Since 1950's, economic zones has increased sharply in the global economy, both in developed and developing countries with different types and shapes base on its goals and aims, however, many of them have failed. As a result this research paper ask whether the successful of economic zones is related the stage of competitive development. We firstly start with brief definition of this kind of zones, and then a summary of the types based on the aims of creation. Lastly, we found that a huge relationship between stage of economic development and the different types of economics zones; industrial parks, special economic zones, eco-industrial parks, technology parks and innovation district respectively. Finally, we present economic zones in China and its creations according to economic development, as an evidence to prove our theoretical finding.

Keywords: Special economic Zones, global economy, competitive development, economic development, China.

Jel Classification Codes: F21; F60; F69.

المخلص: الاقتصادية لقد انتشرت العديد من المناطق الاقتصادية على الصعيد العالمي منذ منتصف القرن العشرين في البلدان المتقدمة و الناشئة على حد سواء بمختلف اشكالها و أنماطها المتعددة على حسب الغاية منها، غير أنها لم تنجح كلها لأسباب عديدة، و عليه تحاول هذه الورقة البحثية الاجابة على اشكالية علاقة نجاح المناطق الاقتصادية بمستوى التنمية الاقتصادية و تنافسية البلد المنشئ له، فبعد عرض موجز لاهم تعاريف المناطق الاقتصادية و كذا عرض حالها في الاقتصاد العالمي، تم تحليل اشكالها و دوافع نشوء كل صنف من أصنافها من الناحية الكمية و النوعية، ثم التطرق إلى مراحل التطور، توصلنا إلى وجود علاقة طردية تصاعدية بين مراحل التنمية الاقتصادية للبلد و كل صنف من اصناف المناطق الاقتصادية على الترتيب: المناطق الصناعية المناطق الاقتصادية الخاصة، المناطق الاقتصادية الصناعية، الحضائر التكنولوجية و العناقيد الإبداعية. و أخيرا تم عرض المناطق في الصين كحالة، و إسقاط النتائج النظرية عليها.

الكلمات المفتاحية: المناطق الاقتصادية الخاصة، الاقتصاد العالمي، التنمية التنافسية، التنمية الاقتصادية، الصين.

تصنيف JEL: F21; F60; F69.

* Midoun Ilyes, E-mail: midoun.ilyes@gmail.com

Introduction

Countries develop different types of economic zones as a tool to generate employment opportunities, promote and diversify exports, increase technology transfer and attract investment flows. Developing and emerging economies use (EZs) as ‘economic laboratories’ or showcases of a generally strong enabling environment and a competitive market for investment. In order to achieve the intended objectives of zones, governments offer a range of incentives from fiscal to regulatory such as export duty exemptions, streamlined customs and administrative control and procedures, liberal foreign exchange policies and income tax incentives. Government has been experimenting with the use of policy tools in ensuring the effectiveness of their zones. However they have not always been successful. Recently, government have been trying to move away from the traditional zones with the traditional set of objectives and policy tools to either more compressive or sector specific zones. In addition, they are trying to incorporate other development policy instruments to their policy packages to tackle other issues such as skills development, rural development and green growth while achieving the traditional objectives.

As a result, this study will seek to investigate the relationship between the stage of country development and the stage of competitive development to create successful economic zones.

This study starts with a brief definition and a summary of the types and theoretical benefits. We use the term ‘economic zone’ (EZs) to cover all forms of a geographically demarcated area within a country, which functions with different administrative, regulatory and fiscal regimes to the rest of the country.

1. Definition:

EZ’s are specifically designated physical premises which benefit from special rights and concessions conferred by legislation giving businesses which operate within the SEZ certain rights and advantages. (Cayman Business Team, 2012, p:1)

Economic zones are promoted by local, regional, and national government as strategies to foster economic growth and to improve a location’s competitiveness. (UNIDO, 2015, p:10).

The core definition of a free zone, as well as proposed guidelines and standards for them, are contained in the Revised Kyoto Convention of the World Customs Organization (WCO), ‘specifically, Annex D and the accompanying guidelines provide standards and recommendation on the treatment of imports to and exports from free zones including territorial

limits (free zones are define as ‘outside the customs territory’ for purposes of the assessment of import duties and taxes). (FIAS, 2008, p:9)

2. Economic Zones in the Global economy

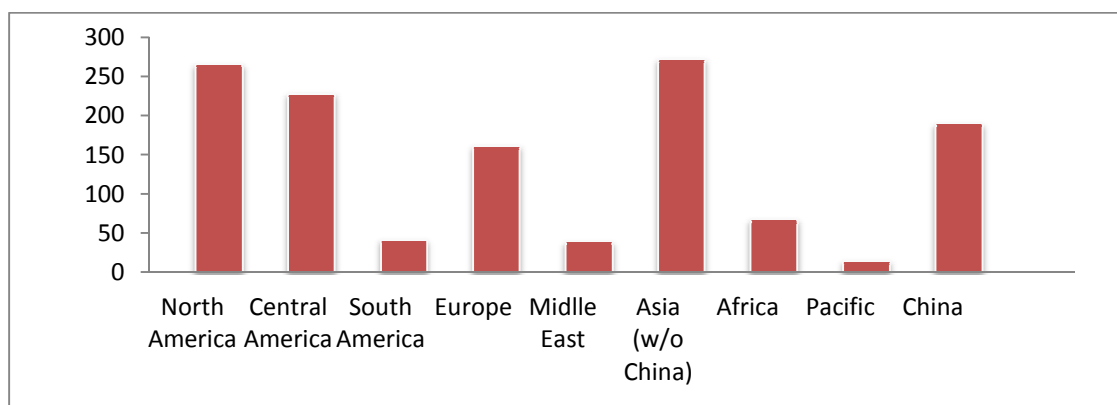
It has been more than 50 years since the establishment of the first modern economic zones. During this time EZs have been credited with underpinning the dramatic export-oriented growth of China and other East Asian countries.

While they remain a controversial instrument, police makers appear to be increasingly attract to economic zones. Since the mid-1980s, the number of new zones has grown rapidly, with significant expansion in developing countries. But in this post crisis environment, the context in which zones operate is changing increasing; the effectiveness with which they are designed, implemented, and managed will determine their success.

Since the 1970’s stating in East Asia and Latin America, Zones have been designed to attract investment in labour-intensive manufacturing from Multinational Corporation. SZs became a cornerstone of trade and investment policy in countries shifting away from import-substitution policies and aiming to integrate into global markets through export-led growth policies.(Thomas Farole, 2011, p:1).

The latest recent data shows that china has the largest number of economic zones in the world, roughly 190 zones, than the other Asian countries and North America 272 and 266 zones respectively. In the contrast, South America, Middle East and Africa have the smallest number of economic zones globally.

Figure 1.Distribution of Zones by region



Source: IFC- World Bank

Economic zones have had a mixed record of success to date, and they have remained controversial, both on economic and social ground. In any case, since the mid-1980s, the number of new zones has increased rapidly, (Thomas Farole, GokhanAkinci, 2011, p:5).

According to the international labour office database on export processing zones, in 1986 there were 176 of these zones in 47 countries. Two decades later, there were 3500 in 130 countries and total employment in these zones was 66 million, of which 30 million was in the People's Republic of china (Table 1)

Table 1. Leading Zone Programs and Direct Economic Impact

Country	No of Zones	Exports (\$ Billions)	Employment
USA	266	\$ 20.0	400000
China	190	\$ 12.0	30000000
Indonesia	115 (15 EPZs)	\$ 4.2	200000
Philippines	100	\$ 27.0	907000
Thailand	30	\$ 4.7	120000
India	13	\$ 1.3	87000
Taiwan	5	\$ 6.1	90000
S. Korea	3	\$ 5.0	80000

Source: IFC- World Bank

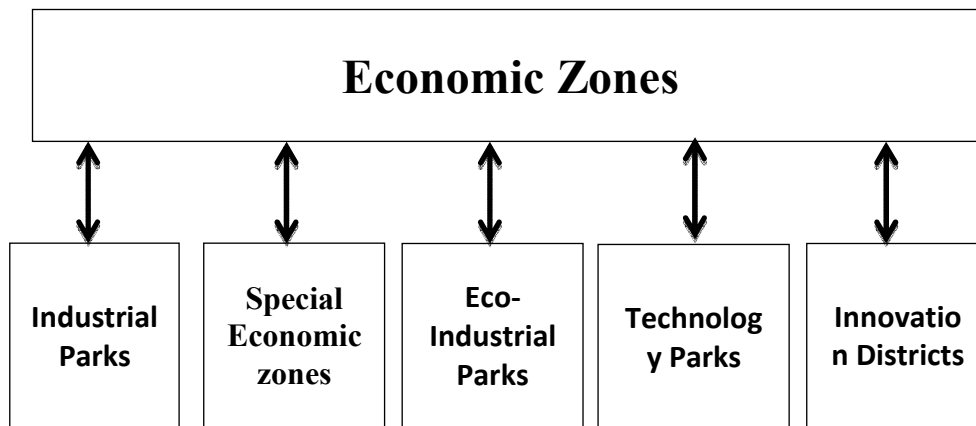
Another primary goal of zone development is the contribution to export development, not only in terms of accelerating export growth, but also export diversification, particularly important to poorer developing countries reliant on the relatively marginal role that zones have played in terms of employment creation. For instance there were only 100 zones planted in Philippines; however it exported nearly \$27 billion.(Table 1).

3. Type of economic Zone

There are a growing number of EZ's with differing objective, Market and activities. In addition, EZ's with similar characteristics are referred to differently from country to country. A comprehensive mapping and definition of different types of this study, but would merit further work, EZ's can be grouped into the following five main categories, which are; Industrial Park (IP), special economic Zone (SEZ), Eco-Industrial Park (EIP), Technology Park (TP), and innovation District (ID). An economics zone is a top-down selected estate that provides non-monetary and/or monetary advantages to

companies located within in area, which goal is to foster the economic competitive development of country, a region, or an urban area.

Figure 2.The different type of economic zones.



Source: UNIDO,2015

3.1 Industrial Park (IP); (UNIDO,1997) defines industrial parks as; ‘a truck of land developed and subdivided into plots according to a comprehensive plan with provision for roads, transport and public utilities with or without them, for the use of a group of industrialists’.

The planning of industrial parks is the outcome of the Alfred Marshall’s theories on industrial districts. Trafford industrial park, which opened in 1896 near Manchester in the United Kingdom, is the first planned industrial park in the world (World Bank, 1992, p: 172). It is estimated that there are around 15000 industrial parks around the world (UNIDO, 2012, p: 18). Planned industrial estates were popular in develop countries until the late 1950s. Today, the majority of new industrial parks’ development is located in Asia and Africa. (FIAS, 2008, p:2)

The objective of ID vary between developing and developed economies, The main rational to build an industrial park is to reduce transaction-costs and risks for the industries located within the park.

For developing countries, the three main objectives of industrial parks are; (Ibis, p10)

- To foster economic growth and employment at the national, regional, and local level.
- To attract Foreign Direct Investments (FDI's).
- To spur an industrial dynamic.

3.2 Special Economic Zone (SEZ); the SEZ is a designated estate where trade laws such as tariffs, quotas, or duties differ from the rest of the country. SEZs has the four following objectives; (UNIDO, 2012, p:18)

- To attract Foreign Direct Investments (FDI's).
- To create employment opportunities.
- To be the stepping stone of wider reforms.
- To act as a laboratory for new policies and economic development approach.

In 2015, there were roughly 4500 Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in 140 countries employment around 66 million people of those workers are employed. The first SEZs were implemented in Shannon, Ireland. The concept was massively adopted by developing countries as an economic development strategy in the 1970s and in the 1980s.

The total number of SEZ's in the world has increase form 9 at the end of the 1960s to 107 in 51 developing countries at the end of 1987.

The first Asian special Economic zones were opened by the Indian government in Kandla in 1965. The next year Taiwan established its first EPZ in Kaohsiung, in the ASEAN, Singapore, Malaysia, and the Philippines started their Special Economic Zones in 1968, and 1972 respectively.(UNIDO,2015, p:19).

3.3 Eco-industrial Park (EIP); The united States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) defines an EIP as 'a community of manufacturing and service businesses seeking enhanced environmental and economic performance by collaborating in the management of environmental and rescue issues including energy, water, and materials. By working together the community of businesses seeks a collective benefit that is greater than the sum of the individual benefits each company would realize if it optimized its individual performance only'. The three objectives of an EIP are to;

- Improve the economic performance of the participating companies.
- Minimize the companies' environmental impacts.
- Contribute to the economic and environmental well-being of the community.

The concept of Eco-industrial Park (EIP) became increasingly popular in the 1990s. The first modern EIP is Kalundborg in Denmark and is a reference for planners and industrial estates' leaders. While the EIP of Kalundborg emerged from a bottom-up approach in the 1970, most EIP are planned from a top-down approach. The concept of EIP was popular in the United States in the 1990's and is now increasingly popular in East and Southeast Asia. The concept of Eco-industrial Parks is the by-product of two powerful ideas: sustainability and industrial ecology.

Indeed, Eco-industrial Parks have to be designed in order to minimize pollution and maximize the return on investments for the companies located in the EIP. The framework aims to rationalize resource, improve efficiency, and integrate services in order to make the companies in the EIP more efficient and streamlined.

3.4 Technology Park (TP); the International Association of science Parks (IASP) defines a science park as 'an organization managed by specialized professional, whose main aim is to increase the wealth of its community by promoting the culture of innovation. To enable these goals to be met, a associated businesses and knowledge-based institutions. To enable these goals to be met, a science park stimulates and manages the flow of knowledge and technology amongst universities, R and D institutions, companies and markets; it facilitates the creation and growth of innovation-based companies through incubation and spin-off processes; and provides other value-added services together with high quality space and facilities'.

Although the definitions between science parks, research parks, and so on, vary to some extent. Several basic elements are present in all the estates such as; (FAIS, 2008, p:13)

- The existence of managerial staff.
- The provision of physical infrastructure and services.
- The orientation to small high-tech firms as the main tenants.
- The facilitation of technology transfer as one of the main tasks.

Technology parks are also known as science parks, research, innovation centres, and technology. In 2015, the International Association of science Parks (IASP) has 399 members in 73 countries (<http://www.iasp.ws/by-country>). It is estimated that there are between 700 to 850 science and technology parks worldwide that fulfil IASP criteria for Science Park. The concept of technology parks as a tool for fostering innovation is often modelled on the Silicon Valley.

Historically, the technology parks phenomena were initiated in 1951 when the Stanford Research Park was created, which later become the cornerstone of the Silicon Valley. The idea originates in the linear model of innovation. The technology parks were in a framework of ‘science push’ model of innovation (UNIDO, 2015, p: 20).

3.5 Innovation District (ID); Innovation district are urban technology parks. In the knowledge-intensive paradigm, urban areas are more suitable for fostering innovations that suburban technology parks innovation ecosystems designed around four multi-layered and multidimensional models of innovation and of strengthening the locations’ competitiveness’

Local, regional, and national governments use economics zones to strengthen the competitiveness of their cities, region, and countries.

Innovation Districts are initiatives taken at the urban level. The cities’ objectives when implementing innovation districts are:

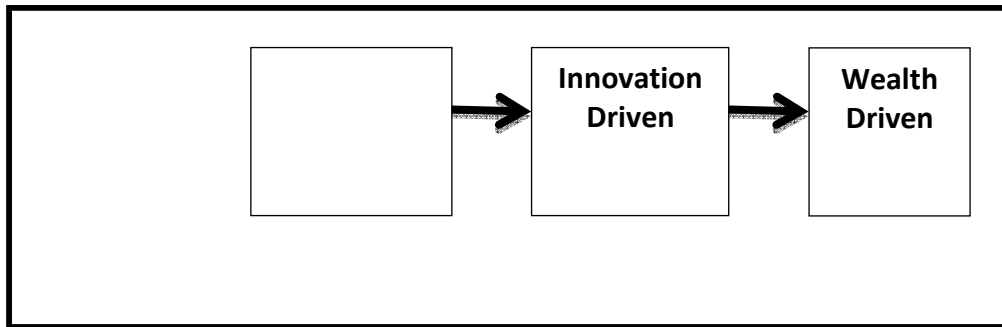
- To develop or redevelop an unproductive part of the city.
- To attract, create, or retain talents and innovative companies.
- To become or remain an innovation hub.

The first innovation district was established in Barcelona in 2000. Innovation districts aim to replicate the spontaneous growth through market forces of urban innovative milieu such as the Silicon Alley (Manhattan), the Cyber districts around the world and many more in development. The concept of innovation districts is catching-up quickly in the United States since the inauguration in 2010 of its first innovation district in Boston.

4. Stage of Development:

A nation’s standard of living depends on the capacity of its companies to achieve high levels of productivity, and it, also, depends on the nation’s ability to increase productivity over time. There are four distinct stages of national competitive development; **factor driven, investment driven, innovation driven, and wealth driven.** The first three stages involve the successive upgrading of a nation’s competitive advantages and will normally be associated with progressively rising economic prosperity.

The fourth stage is one of decline. A sustained productivity growth requires than an economy continually upgrade itself. As nations develop, they progress in terms of their competitive advantages and modes of competing. Nation prosperity is created, not inherited. A nation’s competitiveness depends on the capacity of its industry to innovate and upgrade its economy (UNDP, 2015, P10).

Figure 3. The four stage of national competitive development;

17Source: UNDP, P10

The first stage of national economic development is the factor-driven stage. In this stage, companies draw their advantages almost solely from basic factors of production whether they are natural resources, favourable growing conditions for certain crops per an abundant and inexpensive semi-skilled labour pool. Firms produce commodities or relatively simple products that are designed in other, more advanced countries.

The second stage of national economic development is the investment-driven stage, in this stage; the national competitive advantage is based on the willingness and ability of a nation and its firms to attract foreign investment and to invest aggressively. There are several factors that can allow major improvements in productivity; examples of these factors are; heavy investment in efficient infrastructure, business friendly government administrations, strong investment incentives, and better access to capital. The investment-driven model requires a national consensus that factor investment and long-term requires a national consensus that favours investment and long-term economic growth over the current consumption and income distribution. The competitive advantage of the nation comes from the efficient production of standard products and services.

The third stage of national economic development is the innovation-driven stage. In this stage, firms not only appropriate and improve technology and methods from other nations, but they also create them. The ability to produce innovative products and services in the global technology forties, using the most advanced methods, has become the dominant source of competitive advantage.

The fourth stage of national economic development is the wealth-driven stage. In The last stage, firms no longer innovate, but they aim to sustain the

wealth that has already been achieved. As a result, the wealth-driven stage ultimately leads to decline.

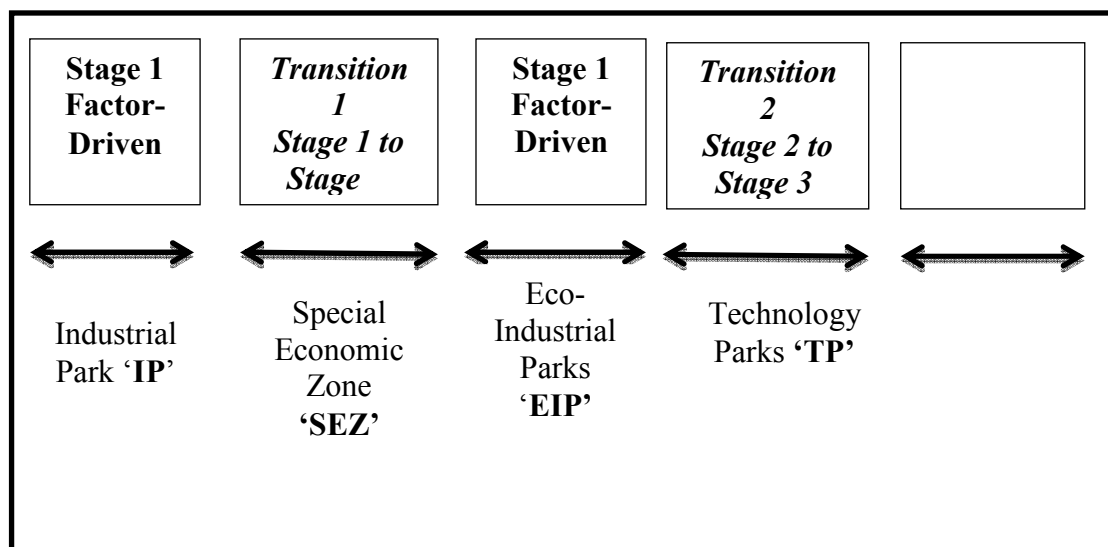
5. Economic zones and stage of competitive development;

The appropriate growth strategy for any country, region, or city depends on where it is located relative to its stage of competitive development. Technological catch-up building industrial parks and Special Economic Zones are easy solutions for low-income countries to deliver rapid economic growth. Once a country has achieved middle-income status however, the competitive priority has to move on innovation and sustainability in order to efficiently compete in the knowledge economy. Industrial parks are the simplest form of planned estates and will appeal to countries that are at a low stage of economic development.

Special Economic Zones are more difficult to put in place and require appropriate infrastructures such as airports and ports, and an efficient legal regulatory framework for customs and duties. SEZs are successful when countries are not well integrated in the global trade.

As countries developed however, they are and more integrated within trade blocks and multi-national organizations, which as a result make the benefits stemming from SEZs dissipate. Eco-Industrial Zones are the next economic zone for counties to implement when reaching higher stage of economic development.

Figure 4. Economic zones and stage of competitive development

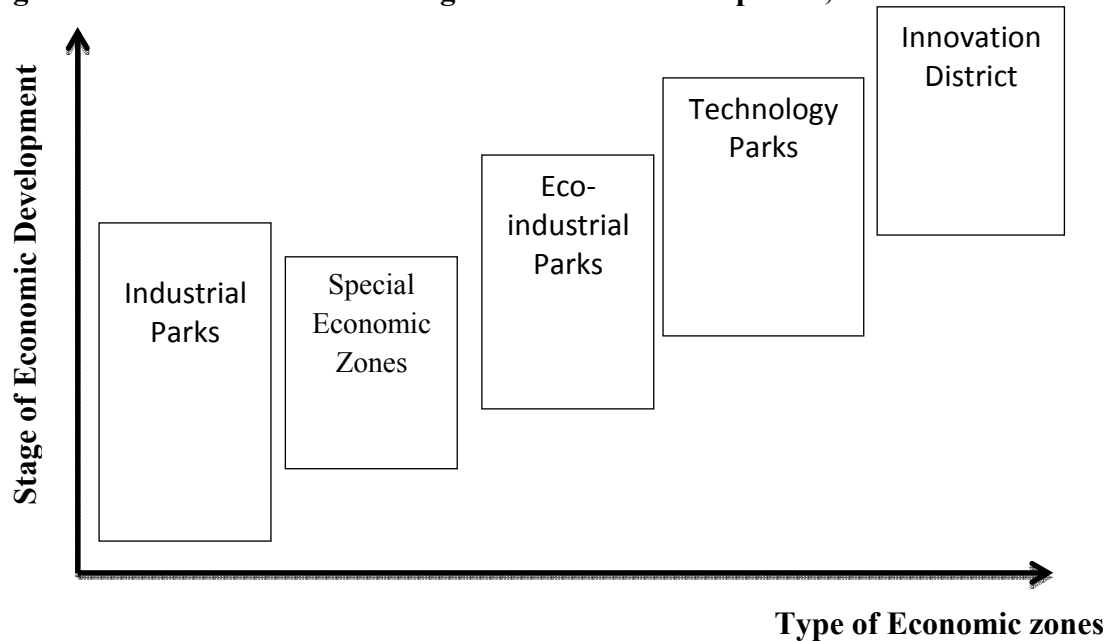


Source: UNIDO, 2015

6. Economic zones and stages of economic development;

As countries achieve a higher stage of economic development, there are also stronger environmental regulations but also financially profitable for the industries. Technology parks are the economic zones adopted as economic strategies by urban and regional leaders to compete in the knowledge and the concept of sustainability are central elements to their successes. The most advanced countries have eco-industrial parks, technology parks, and innovation district (e.g Singapore, Switzerland, the United States, and so on), while the lowest income counties have only industrial parks or SEZs (e.g Cambodia, Ethiopia, Kenya, and so on)

Figure 5. Economic zones and stage of economic development;



Source: UNIDO, 2015

7. Evidence from China:

Since the 1980s, the Chinese government has established more than type of EZs, for various purposes from increasing exports, to domestic economic growth, and tax revenues. We, in the last part of paper, study economic zones in china as evidence, based on relationship between EZs and stage of economic development.

7.1 Background: EZs were not introduced to China until the Chinese government began to liberalize its economy in 1978. The term “EZs” is a broad concept in China. The five most common types of EDZs are special economic zones (SEZs), economic and technological developments (ETDZs), high-technology industrial development zones (HIDZs), free trade zones (FTZs), and export processing zones (EPZs). Each of these zones is a geographically delimited area that has a single management or administration and offers benefits to businesses or investors located within the zone (Xiao Wang, 21-22).

Since their establishment, substantial shares of China’s gross domestic product (GDP) and exports have been generated from EDZs. In 2006, these zones accounted for more about 15 percent of China’s GDP and over 50 percent of its merchandise exports. Among all types of zones, ETDZs and HIDZs constitute the majority of established zones and are ubiquitous in China. As of March 2012, 131 national ETDZs and 88 national HIDZs had been established (Xiao Wang, 2).

As shown in table 2 below and available data, EZs have contributed significantly to national GDP, employment, exports, and attraction of foreign investment and new technologies, as well as adoption of modern management practices, among others. In 2006, the five initial SEZs accounted for 5 percent of China’s total real GDP, 22 percent of total merchandise exports, and 9 percent of total FDI inflows. At the same time, the 54 national ETDZs accounted for 5 percent of total GDP, 15 percent of exports, and 22 percent of total FDI inflows.

Table. 2: Performance of Initial five special economic zones and national economic and technological development zones by 2006

National Indicator	SEZs	ETDZs	China
Total employment	15	4	758
As % of China total	2.0	0.5	100
Real GDP (RMB 100 millions)	9101	8195	183085
As % of China total	5.0	4.5	100

Utilized FDI (US\$ 100 millions)	55	130	603
As % of China total	9.1	21.6	100
Merchandise exports (US\$ 100 millions)	1686	1138	7620
As % China total	22.1	14.9	100
Total population (millions)	25	-	1308
As % of China total	1.9	-	100

Source: Douglas Zhihua Zeng, (2012), "China's Special Economic Zones and industrial clusters: Success and challenges", Lincoln institute of Land policy, working paper. P 11.

7.2 EZs and China's economic development:

Today China has six SEZs, 131 national-level ETDZs, 88 national-level High and New Technology Industrial Development Zones, 15 free trade zones, 60 national-level Export-oriented Manufacturing Zones and 29 other types of national-level zones.

Table 3: China's national level economic development zones:

Name	Number	Year	Performance
Special Economic zones	6	1980	In 2006: - Export USD 168.6 billion (22.1%). GNP RMP 0.9 trillion (5.0%)
Economic and Technological Development zones	131	1984	In 2009: Export USD 0.19 Trillion (15.6%). GNP RMB 1.77 trillion (6.7%)
High-tech industrial development zone	88	1988	In 2009: Export USD 2.0 trillion (16.8) GNP RMB 6.1 trillion (17.9%)
Free Trade	15	1990	In 2007: Industrial value-added

zones			(IVA) RMB 183 billion (0.16%) Industrial output value (IOV) RMB 320 (0.8%) billion Export USD 45.7
Export processing zone (EPZ)	60	2004	In 2007: IVA RMB 0.8 billion Export USD 3.8 billion (0.3%)

Source: Xiao Wang, (2013), 'the role of economic development zones in national development strategies, the case of China', PhD dissertation, Pardee rand graduate school, Rand corporation, Pittsburgh, pp 17,18,19.

As we mentioned above, the successful of any type of EZs is related to stage of economic development. In this chapter, we list the key features of EZs in each phase and discuss the roles of EZs in China's economic development (Xiao Wang, 80):

A. Phase One: Establishment and Exploration (1980-1991): it started in the midst of China's structural market reforms. Where different types of zones were set up along the coastal areas to experiment with policies designed to attract foreign investment; some of these policies were later implemented nationally. Moreover to facilitate connections with Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan and overseas Chinese, zones were initially located in South China. Although growth rates for EZs in output and investment were substantially higher compared to China's. According to table 3 above, China had exported more than 168 billion USD from this type of EZs, and which are roughly 22.6 % from gross Chinese exportation.

Meanwhile, during this stage China had created another type of EZs, Economic and Technological Development zones

B. Phase Two: Steady Development and Growth of EDZs (1992-1999): it started after Deng Xiaoping's visit to zones and two critical meetings held by the Central government in 1992 that resulted in continuing policies of liberalizing China's economy:

- Zones helped to relax China's foreign exchange controls
- To help with privatization of the SOEs, zones introduced competition by permitting foreign businesses to operate in China; the

zones also attracted and trained workers laid-off during the transformation

- All levels of government in China aggressively expanded all types of zones; almost every provincial capital in the coastal areas had at least one type of zone
- Zones experienced rapid growth in output and exports; FDI into zones increased rapidly: China enjoyed 20 percent average annual growth in FDI inflows mainly due to the growth in FDI in EDZs; productivity growth in zones was very strong.

C. Phase Three: Expansion to Central and Western China (2000-2007): it began when China's "western development" strategy was adopted; zones expanded inland to less-developed areas:

- EPZs (which have more advanced management systems) were established to boost exports after China's entry into the WTO in 2001.
- The numbers of zones grew very rapidly; the central government responded by purging illegal zones.
- Growth in output and exports was the highest growth among all four phases; ETDZs and HIDZs dominated the growth – industrial output and exports from these zones grew twice as fast as for China as a whole even though exports from China grew at an average annual rate of 26 percent.

D. Phase Four: Rescinding Preferential Policies and the Current Role of EDZs in China's Economic Growth Model (2008-Present): it began when the Chinese government adopted a nationwide unified tax policy and upgraded sub-national zones

- Zones focused on S&T, SME and talent development, but the results have been mixed
- National level zones attempted to move up the value-chain; some companies engaged in assembly operations and activities that added little value moved out of coastal zones to zones further away, some coastal zones provided management experience to these more distant zones.

Conclusion:

The founding concept of this paper was that stage of economic development could play an important role in competitive development to build any successful type of economic zones.

This paper has also found that zones are not a panacea to be used to solve all problems, many have failed, and however, they are proliferating. They are not just located in the developing world. Modern zones can be catalysts for wider national policy and economic reform.

China has successfully implemented the SEZ programs and offers many very useful lessons; it has proved to be very effective in boosting the growth of the national economy. EDZs have shifted from a focus on fostering exports and attracting foreign investment to nurturing high-tech clusters and incubators for innovation. Based on China's experience, governments in countries with severely distorted economies are likely to find it beneficial to establish EDZs to increase exports and attract foreign investment.

References:

- Andrew Cheesman, 2012. 'Special Economic Zones and development geography and linkage in the Indian EOU Scheme', Development Planning Unit, The Bartlett, University College London. London,
- Cayman Business team, 2012, special economic zone enterprises. Cayman Islands.
- Douglas Zhihua Zeng, (2012), "China's Special Economic Zones and industrial clusters: Success and challenges", Lincoln institute of Land policy, working paper
- FIAS, 2008. 'Special Economic Zones, performance, lessons learned, and implications for zone development. 'the multi –donor investment climate Advisory Service of the World Bank Group. Washington, DC.
- <http://www.iasp.ws/by-country> (15/05/2018)
- Mena-OCED investment programme, 2009, "Towards best Practice guidelines for the development of economic zones, a contribution to the Ministerial conference by working group1, Marrakech.
- Mena-OCED investment programme, 2010, "Designing economic Zones for effective investment Promotion", Working Group 1, Investment Policies and Promotion, Amman.
- P.Pakdeenurit, N Suthikarnnarunai, 2014, "Special Economic Zone: facts, roles, and opportunities of investment", proceedings of the international Multiconference of engineers and computer scientists, vol II, Hong Kong.
- Peter Warr and Jayant Menon, 2015, Cambodia's special economic zones, Asian Development bank ADB economic working paper, No.459, Manila.

- Thomas Farole, 2011. Special economic zones: what have we learned? , Economic Premise, the World Bank, Washington, DC.
- Thomas Farole, GokhanAkinci, 2011, “special economic zones, Progress, Emerging challenges and future directions”, the International Bank for reconstruction and development, the World Bank, Washington DC.
- UNDP, IPRCC, 2015, “Comparative study on special economic zones in Africa and China”, Working paper series No 06, China.
- UNIDO, 2015. ‘economic zones in the ASEAN’, industrial parks, special economic zones, eco industrial parks, innovation district as strategies for industrial competitiveness, UNIDO country office in Viet Nam.
- World Bank, 1992, world development report 1992, development and the environment, word bank, oxford universities press. P.172.
- Xiao Wang, (2013), “the role of economic development zones in national development strategies, the case of China”, PhD dissertation, Pardee rand graduate school, Rand corporation, Pittsburgh