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摘要

The convergence of three trends—globalization, information technology and government reinvention, make the institutional design of intergovernmental cooperation an important issue. This article utilizes a four-dimension analysis framework, including vertical, horizontal, time and decision-making, to describe the chartcteristics of American intergovernmental relations, then it discuss the experience of National Rural Development Partnership (NRDP), a benchmarking case of intergovernmental cooperation. It examines the historical development, the contents of organizational structure, the effects and tacit threat of NRDP. Drawing lessons from the case of NRDP, the finds show four critical issues in design a intergovernmental cooperation institution, they are the clarification of institutional environment, the institutionalization of intergovernmental forum, the restructuring of central and local government relations, and the establishment of collaborative relationship.

關鍵字: intergovernmental relations, intergovernmental cooperation, rural development, National Rural Development Partnership (NRDP)