

# **The Adjustment Logic and Reform path of Government Governance system and Mechanism in the Digital Age**

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**Abstract.** The progress of science and technology in the digital age has adjusted the original relations of production and the social situation is becoming more and more complex. In the face of complex social environment, the traditional government governance model is challenged, and the governance mode consistent with the digital age is needed. To realize the transformation of government governance mode, first of all, the government is required to realize the reform of its own system and mechanism. Technological progress not only makes the society complicated, but also is a tool for the government to realize the transformation of governance and deal with the complex society, so the digital government and the complex social governance have a high degree of agreement. In the digital age, government governance must be adjusted according to the requirements.

**Keywords:** Digital government; government institutional mechanism; consultative democracy

## **1. Introduction**

On November 17, 2021, The Executive meeting of The State Council deliberated and approved the 14th Five-Year Plan to promote the national government affairs informatization plan, and the construction of digital government was accelerated. To promote the modernization of national governance system and governance capacity, we need to take the background of "digitalization" and the digital transformation of government governance as the premise.

## **2. Government governance adjustment requirements in the digital age**

### **2.1 Social subjects are directly involved in governance**

It is possible and inevitable that social subjects should directly participate in governance in the digital era. First, the information age emphasizes open data sharing, and reduces the cost of public access to information. The government exposes government information through online platforms, and the public can master the required information through the Internet, and the information transaction cost decreases significantly. Second, social subjects rely on information technology to improve their ability to obtain information and improve their own capital to participate in governance.

### **2.2 The governance subject is holistic and extensive**

First, each governance subject makes overall governance possible through the network platform. On the one hand, the government should adapt to social progress. Learning the experience of private organizations to build and improve digital government platforms. On the other hand, to promote the formation of cooperative governance form in the way of technology platform construction.

Second, the openness and sharing of the network platform can realize the universality of the governance subject to some extent. In the digital era, the government relying on the network platform requires a more open government governance system. The network platform connects the public and the government.

### **2.3 Governance approach is timely and accurate**

Firstly, the rapid nature and non-controllability of Internet information dissemination requires the timeliness of digital government governance. Secondly, data in various forms and rich in content is an important basis for digital government governance. Governance based on data can realize the accuracy, timeliness and predictability of governance.[i]At the same time, we should pay attention to strengthening data supervision.

## **3. The mechanism of government governance adjustment in the digital era**

### **3.1 Division of power distribution blocks: hindering rapid and accurate governance**

There is the problem of power distribution within our government, which is mainly manifested in the top-down power agency mode and the functional division of horizontal division. This "fragmented" government management system has some disadvantages, such as low administrative efficiency, complex institutions, central decision-making obstruction, overlapping functions, and unclear rights and responsibilities, which is contrary to the concept of rapid, efficient and coordination of digital government governance.

In terms of the horizontal division of functions, the large number of departments leads to multiple administrations, disconnection of power and responsibility, and low efficiency. In the face of public crisis events, various functional departments often appear to shirk their responsibility.

### **3.2 Multiple power subject game: hinder cooperative governance**

In the information society, the interests of each power subject are divided and constantly played into games. First of all, with the development of digital society and the diversification of public needs, it is reasonable and necessary for multiple subjects to provide public services. Secondly, the digital economy makes the "data gap" between the government and enterprises, which makes it more difficult for the government to regulate enterprise data. Thirdly, the rapid progress of information technology and the extensive coverage of the Internet have promoted the process of social democratization and greatly improved the enthusiasm and participation capital of the public.

### **3.3 Obstacles to administrative space division: hinder the overall management**

Current administrative space division obstacle, making integral management difficult to achieve. An ecological area as a whole is often cut into different sections by administrative divisions, and the phenomenon of administrative division is more prominent. Especially in the border areas of city governments, often due to differences in management systems, policies and laws, standards and time sequence, it is more likely to intensify social conflicts, becoming an important obstacle to sustainable development.[ii]

### **3.4 Representative democracy Exclusion of consultative democracy: hindering the broad participation of social subjects in governance**

Representative democracy ignores or ignores the online public opinion, which is contrary to the spirit of consultation in the information society. The implementation of representative system such as election, representative and voting does not reflect the interests of all people and may lead to "tyranny of the majority".[iii]We should be alert to the trap of representative democracy, pay full attention to, comprehensively standardize and actively respond to the form of public opinion with the help of online platform, as a supplement and amendment to representative democracy.

## **4. The reform path of the government governance system and mechanism in the digital era**

### **4.1 Reasonable reform of "fragmentation": clear rights and responsibilities**

To solve the problems caused by "fragmentation" can be started from two aspects: on the one hand, in the distribution of power and functions of governments at all levels, adhere to the service orientation, reconstruct the government structure according to the local reality, and separate human rights from administrative powers. In the face of emergencies, first distinguish the responsibility, at the same time distinguish the law enforcement subject and the law enforcement object, law enforcement subject to the law enforcement subject. On the other hand, we can try to distinguish and integrate functions without changing the boundary and functions of the original functional departments.

### **4.2 Multi-subject cooperative governance: change the game into synergy**

Good collaboration should be achieved within government organizations. Firstly, we need to break down departmental barriers. The "fragmentation" set up by government departments makes the government functions divided and dispersed. In order to realize functional integration, it is necessary to break down departmental barriers and realize cross-departmental exchanges and cooperation. Secondly, resources sharing should be realized. The widespread existence and rapid dissemination of information reduce the specificity of assets in various government departments. Thirdly, we should emphasize the responsibility-sharing. Reasonably divide the relationship between "administrative powers, responsibilities and interests", and determine the responsibilities according to the matter.

### **4.3 Creating a consultation environment for multiple participation**

Theoretically, the theory of multi-center governance theory and consultative democracy theory should be guided. Through mutual cooperation to give citizens more choice and better services, reduce the "hitch" behavior, avoid the "tragedy of the Commons" and "the dilemma of collective action", and expand the publicity of governance.[iv]

In practice, the network platform should give full play to the role of the platform and encourage multiple participation in consultation. The government should speed up the improvement of the construction of digital government, especially the building of digital government governance platform.

### **4.4 Attaching importance to holistic governance: change closed one-way to open sharing**

First, realizing the transformation of the overall government functions and accurately position the role of the government. As a macro-regulator and supervisor, the government should first formulate rules for market competition and development, and improving the legal system is the primary premise for the development of market economy.

Second, innovating governance methods and achieve diversified participation in governance. Remove the traditional government and enterprise governance, also need to absorb social forces, to give full play to the positive role of social organizations and public individuals, using the way of platform governance, in regional governance problems or difficulties, coordinated by the government, government, enterprises, social organizations and people individual discuss together.

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