

Preface

Studies on China's Special Economic Zones was inaugurated in 2008 at the China Center for Chinese Special Economic Zone Research, Shenzhen University, a Ministry of Education-designated key humanities and social sciences research base. Professor Yuan Yiming of the Center was the founding chief editor of the journal, a yearly publication. After eight editions, *Studies on China's Special Economic Zones* is now available in full text in the Chinese National Knowledge Infrastructure (CNKI) database, a testament to its excellence as an academic serial publication.

The establishment of Special Economic Zones (SEZ) is now recognized as a worldwide phenomenon that plays a significant role in the process of economic takeoff and development. Many developing countries are seeking to adopt the development path that features SEZ as a part of its core strategy, and China has much to share with them about its successful experiences with SEZ development. At this journal, we are committed to bringing our readers the latest research findings on both theoretical and practical SEZ-related issues, in Shenzhen and beyond. We also publish studies of other countries' experience in this area and what China's own SEZ development path means for the rest of the world. We want the journal to become a premium platform for international exchange on this important topic. *Studies on China's Special Economic Zones* is the only academic journal in China devoted entirely to SEZ studies and is international in its editorial orientation.

The journal features articles written by a stellar group of academics, researchers, and scholars from prestigious organizations and institutions both inside and outside China. So far, the roster has included Justin Yifu Lin, the former World Bank Chief Economist, who contributed two long research articles during his tenure in that post; Hailemeskel Tefera, secretary of State of Ethiopia; and Marilou Uy, the sector director for the Africa Financial and Private Sector Development Department at the World Bank, among others.

A bilingual publication printed in both Chinese and English *Studies on China's Special Economic Zones* has been well received not only by international institutions such as the World Bank and the African Development Bank but also government officials as well as scholars from 13 emerging economies, including

Vietnam, Pakistan, South Korea, Cambodia, India, Rwanda, and Ethiopia. As its influence continues to grow, the journal has become an important source of reference for foreign researchers and policy-makers alike trying to draw from China's experience with developing SEZs, such as represented by Shenzhen, while building their own Special Economic Zones. The World Bank, Korea Development Institute, African Development Bank, and Peking University are just some of the institutions that now subscribe and carry the journal, which has also drawn raving reviews from high-ranking government officials in more than 20 countries in Africa. *Studies on China's Special Economic Zones's* status as a cutting-edge serial publication in SEZ studies with solid citation track record is well established. We hope the journal will continue to grow robustly in the years ahead.

Shenzhen, China

Yiming Yuan

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