

REGIONAL POLICY AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT: A CASE STUDY OF CHINA'S WESTERN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

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Abstract:

China's Western Development Strategy (WDS) has been carried out since 1999 with remarkable achievements, whereby Western China also experienced a rapid and stable development during the past decade. This paper analyzes policy actions and effects of WDS. The findings indicate that Western China's economic development has experienced a dramatic reversion after implementation of WDS, which to a certain extent, proves that WDS has played a significant role in promoting western regions' development. This paper also reveals some key constraints on Western China's economic development and then offers a set of policy ideas for the next stage of Western development.

Keywords: *Western Development Strategy, Regional Policy, Policy effects, Western China*

JEL codes: *E62, R11, R58*