# Analysis on the Characteristics and Countermeasure of Unbalanced Regional Economic Development in China

#### Gao Yu

Nanyang Institute of Technology, Nanyang, Henan, 473000, China

**Keywords:** Regional economy; imbalance; problem analysis

**Abstract:** Regional economic development plays an important role in the development of national economy. At present, the unbalanced development of regional economy in China is characterized by economic development, regional economic structure and per capita income. To achieve the coordinated development of our national economy, we must solve the problem of unbalanced regional economic development. It is necessary to improve the quality and efficiency of economic development and continuously eliminate regional differences. The paper summarizes the main characteristics of regional economic development imbalance, and analyzes the main reasons leading to the imbalance of regional economic development, and finally puts forward specific solutions.

### 1. Main Characteristics of Unbalanced Regional Economic Development in China

Specifically, the main characteristics of unbalanced regional economic development in China are the differences in economic development level, regional economic structure and per capita income level.

First, there are differences in the level of economic development. There are great differences in the level of economic development in different regions of China, which is also one of the main manifestations of the imbalance of regional economic development. There have been many changes in regional economic development in China's history. Affected by the planned economic system after the founding of the People's Republic of China, the level of regional economic development in China gradually tends to be balanced. However, after the reform and opening up, the country has classified the eastern and southern coastal cities as the key economic development objects. Although reform and opening up is an inevitable choice for China in the context of economic globalization, it also aggravates the huge differences in the level of economic development between various regions in China. As this gap grows larger, we must face up to the differences in regional economic development and increase the speed of development of economically backward regions such as the western region to eliminate the imbalance in regional economic development.

Second, there are differences in regional economic structures. After decades of reform and opening up, China's economic development is supported by the tertiary industry. The imbalance of regional economic development will lead to a large difference in the level of development of tertiary industries in various regions, and will also affect the balance of industrial development among regions. Sex. For example, at this stage, China's central and western regions are mainly based on extractive industries and raw material industries. Not only are the industry forms single, but related technological innovations also lag far behind economically developed regions, making it difficult to convert resources into high-value products. In contrast, the southeastern region has a more complete industrial structure and more mature technologies. Therefore, the added value of industrial production is much higher than that of the western region. In the long run, the imbalance of regional economic development will become more and more serious.

Finally, the level of per capita income varies greatly. The difference of per capita income level is also an important feature of unbalanced regional economic development. At present, the per capita income level in eastern China is the highest, followed by that in central China and the lowest in Western China. Therefore, economic development can bring a lot of employment opportunities to the local people, and it is more attractive to talents in other places. In addition, the impact of external environment such as policies has led to the attraction of a large number of talented people

DOI: 10.25236/etmhs.2019.267

in the southeastern region. The gap of per capita income level is widening, and the economic development among regions is becoming more and more unbalanced.

### 2. Main Causes of Unbalanced Regional Economic Development

This paper analyses the main characteristics of unbalanced regional economic development in China, and the main reasons for this situation include the following aspects:

First, the factors of geographical location. The eastern part of China is dominated by plains. The soil is fertile and the temperature is suitable. The climate is suitable for the growth of crops. And the transportation facilities are convenient, suitable for trade with the surrounding countries. Although the western region has a vast territory, its population distribution is extremely uneven due to poor environmental conditions. The western region can only serve as our country's energy base to provide cheap raw materials and energy to the eastern and central regions. The added value of manufactured products exported to the west in the eastern and central regions is higher. Therefore, the difference in geographical environment is one of the important factors for the imbalance of regional economic development in China.

Second, the factors of population quality. The main indicators for evaluating the quality of a region's population include ideological concepts, cultural accomplishments, and labor structure. In terms of ideological concepts, the eastern, central and southern regions have long realized the construction of a market economic system. However, due to the occlusion of information in the western region, most people's ideas still remain before the reform and opening up. Therefore, the ideological concept of the population will seriously restrict the economic reform and development in the western region. Population culture is the embodiment of the quality of a region's population. Compared with the eastern region, the cultural quality of the population in the western region is lower. The labor structure will also have an impact on the development of the regional economy. Although there are many senior professional and technical personnel in the western region, there are also a large number of illiterate and semi-literate populations, and the number of talents in the middle level is very scarce. The eastern region can basically realize the rational use of talents by selecting talents according to the development needs of market economy, so the labor structure of the eastern region is more reasonable.

Finally, national policy factors. Since the reform and opening up, the state has given all-round policy support to the eastern and southern regions. Under the guidance of national policy, the eastern region can get more investment, which will promote the economic development of the eastern region to a certain extent. The western region is less able to enjoy the preferential policies of the state, so the per capita income and per capita GDP of the western region are far lower than those of the eastern and southern regions.

Of course, in addition to the above obvious factors, the unbalanced development of regional economy in China is also the result of a variety of complex factors. The unbalanced development of regional economy will have a significant impact on factors of production. For example, in economically developed areas, there may be a problem of excess capital and a large influx of talents into developed cities, leading to more and more social problems. In economically backward areas, the Matthew effect is easy to occur, that is, the strong and the weak are weaker. Eventually, it will lead to the imbalance of the overall economic structure of China and further expand the contradiction between urban and rural economic development. Thereby affecting the construction and development of harmonious socialism. From this we can see that we must face up to the imbalance in regional economic development and resolve and eliminate such differences as soon as possible.

### 3. Strategies to Eliminate Unbalanced Regional Economic Development

In view of the unbalanced development of regional economy in China at the present stage, it is suggested to improve it from the following aspects:

# 3.1 Enhancing the economic development of rural areas and establishing a mutually prosperous urban-rural relationship

Firstly, we should strengthen the unity of regional development policy and urban-rural development policy. For a long time, China's regional policies and urban and rural development policies have some problems, such as unclear functions and incoherence. Whether it is the policy of development zones, the policy of state-level new zones or the policy of comprehensive reform pilot zones, there is no effective interaction and connection with the rural development policy. As a result, rural areas are unable to take advantage of the "east wind" of the policy to develop their economy. Therefore, we should strengthen the unity and cooperation between regional development policy and urban-rural development policy, establish a set of regional-urban policy system with precise functions, clear levels and unified norms, and promote the coordinated development of regional economy from a macro perspective. Secondly, promote the coordinated development of regional economy and urban and rural economy. We will comprehensively plan regional economic development and urban and rural economic development, increase the depth of regional economic cooperation, and clarify regional and urban functional positioning. Share its development results with rural areas and improve the balance of interests mechanism. Especially for major grain producing areas, key resource producing areas, ecological protection areas, etc., it is necessary to strengthen the interest compensation mechanism. Finally, promote the reform and innovation of the functional platform for regional urban and rural development. The improvement of various development platforms is the specific space for cultivating the new kinetic energy of the regional economy in the regional coordinated development strategy. Whether it is the construction of the test area or the construction of the demonstration area, the policy advantages of the regional functional platform should be fully demonstrated. It also pays attention to the hierarchical construction of the functional development platform and establishes a platform for the development of county, township and rural residential functions.

## 3.2 Strengthening cross-regional cooperation

At this stage, the links between cities and rural areas and regions in China are getting closer. If we insist on regional division according to traditional administrative divisions, it will lead to malicious competition among many regional entities, and ultimately weaken the effectiveness of administrative divisions. To eliminate the imbalance of regional economic development in China, we must pay full attention to regional coordinated development. Break the restrictions of traditional administrative boundaries in spatial planning, and achieve cross-regional and cross-border cooperation in the same regional areas. Ensure that all administrative entities can mutually benefit and share successful experiences. For example, to control public affairs such as river pollution and air pollution, it is necessary to break the existing administrative barriers, and regional governments should strengthen horizontal cooperation and realize the joint construction and sharing of resources. Encourage cross-border cooperation between regions. From the overall perspective, the management mode of the traditional four major sector areas is broken, and resource allocation is optimized in each regional space. 充 We should give full play to the overall advantages of all regions in our country. In order to generate more cross-border cooperation projects, we should identify the areas that need to be supported within the established objectives and promote active cooperation among different regions. In addition to cross-border cooperation with other regions, the division of labor and cooperation within the region should be strengthened to further improve the network infrastructure construction. It makes more economic links between cities and between cities and villages. For the economically backward areas with sparse population and weak industrial foundation, the development mode of base development can be adopted to strengthen the status of the central city. In order to strengthen the connection between cities and cities, attract talents and industries to gather along the transportation lines. It also develops cities and towns along the transportation lines, improves the supporting capacity of industries and the ability to absorb population, promotes the economic development of surrounding areas, and forms an economic belt of development axis mode. Intensive use of rural land and space resources to fully utilize the radiation, service and agglomeration functions of large cities. Create a network-like development model for coordinated development between regions.

### 3.3 Take measures to promote industrial transformation and upgrading

Human resources are an important guarantee to support the industrial development of all countries. In the new century, human resources are the most valuable resources in social development. When countries judge the future industrialization development trend and formulate the future economic growth strategy, the primary consideration is the impact of human resources, so it is necessary to improve the level of human resources in regional development. As the most active element in the market economy, SMEs are an important force supporting the development of social industrialization. Therefore, it is necessary to increase support for small and medium-sized enterprises and give full play to the role of small and medium-sized enterprises in promoting the development of advanced manufacturing industries. A series of preferential policies for SMEs, such as credit policies and the establishment of regional venture capital funds, have injected new vitality into the development of SMEs. Strengthen the development of science and technology industry and financial intermediary service industry that can promote industrial transformation, so as to promote the rapid maturity of its technology. Finally, we can achieve the goal of promoting industrial transformation and upgrading. We should break through the traditional government-led intermediary service system and vigorously develop relevant intermediary service institutions in order to better serve China's industrial transformation and the development of tertiary industry. We can boldly introduce foreign intermediaries with a certain reputation and a comparable scale. Our country's science and technology intermediaries and financial intermediaries can learn from them. According to the reality of China's market economy, we should make improvements to better adapt to China's market operation. Pushing intermediary service institutions into the market can better play the economic function of intermediary service, improve its operational efficiency and ultimately realize its higher economic value.

### 4. Conclusion

In short, with the continuous improvement of China's economic development level, the economic gap between regions in China has become more and more prominent. We will strengthen cross-regional cooperation by increasing economic development in rural areas, establishing a mutually prosperous urban-rural relationship. Measures such as promoting industrial transformation and upgrading can effectively promote the development of the regional economy and shorten the gap between regional economies. It has important practical significance for promoting the balanced and stable development of China's national economy.

### References

- [1] Mathur, V. K. Human Capital-Based Strategy for Regional Economic Development[J]. Economic Development Quarterly, 1999, 13(3):203-216.
- [2] Henning M, Stam E, Wenting R. Path Dependence Research in Regional Economic Development: Cacophony or Knowledge Accumulation?[J]. Regional Studies, 2013, 47(8):1348-1362.
- [3] Kemeny T, Storper M. Is Specialization Good for Regional Economic Development?[J]. Regional Studies, 2015, 49(6):1003-1018.
- [4] Cowell M M. Bounce back or move on: Regional resilience and economic development Planning [J]. Cities, 2013, 30(1):212–222.
- [5] Ohlan R. Pattern of Regional Disparities in Socio-economic Development in India: District Level Analysis [J]. Social Indicators Research, 2013, 114(3):841-873.
- [6] Goldstein H, Bergman E M, Maier G. University mission creep? Comparing EU and US faculty

views of university involvement in regional economic development and commercialization [J]. The Annals of Regional Science, 2013, 50(2):453-477.

- [7] Chen S. Environmental Pollution Emissions, Regional Productivity Growth and Ecological Economic Development in China [J]. China Economic Review, 2014, 35:171-182.
- [8] Oort F G V, Bosma N S. Agglomeration economies, inventors and entrepreneurs as engines of European regional economic development [J]. The Annals of Regional Science, 2013, 51(1):213-244.