

# Policy Recommendations for Optimizing the Business Environment in the Process of High-Quality Development: Evidence from Guangxi, China

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**Abstract:** High-quality development is the primary task in comprehensively building a modern socialist country, and advancing it requires a high-quality business environment. Focusing on the Guangxi border ethnic region that is both coastal and adjacent to national borders, this paper examines the significance of optimizing the business environment for promoting high-quality development in Guangxi. It then analyzes the current state of the business environment from three perspectives: attracting foreign investment, promoting investment, and reforming government services. The analysis identifies several salient problems, including low efficiency in administrative service approval, a lack of overall coordination and interdepartmental linkage, difficulties and high costs for micro and small enterprises to obtain financing, shortages of human resources, challenges in attracting and retaining talent, an insufficient level of digitalization, and limited resource sharing. Drawing on international experiences from Singapore and Ireland as well as domestic cases from Hong Kong and Zhejiang, this paper proposes policy measures such as deepening the “streamlining administration, delegating powers, improving regulation, and optimizing services” reform, ensuring that pro-enterprise policies are implemented in a targeted and effective manner, strengthening science- and technology-enabled financial services, enhancing mechanisms for talent cultivation and recruitment, and improving the regulatory framework and transparency. These recommendations provide a reference for building a high-quality business environment in Guangxi.

**Keywords:** High-quality development; Business environment; Guangxi

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## 1. Introduction

In his report to the 20th National Congress of the CPC, Xi Jinping made high-quality development the main goal for building a modern socialist country<sup>[1]</sup>. During his April 2021 tour in Guangxi, he called for new methods to achieve high-quality development in border ethnic regions<sup>[2]</sup>. On October 17, 2022, at the 20th CPC National Congress, he told the Guangxi delegation to meet the “Five Greater” requirements, stressing greater progress in high-quality development in border ethnic regions<sup>[1]</sup>. These instructions highlight the importance of high-quality

development in Guangxi, known for its ethnic diversity and its location on China's coast and at its borders. Guangxi also leads by example for high-quality development in China's border ethnic areas.

Advancing high-quality development requires the support of a high-quality business environment. The business environment is the fertile ground for nurturing a market economy and the vital oxygen sustaining market entities. Only by further optimizing the business environment can productive forces be genuinely unleashed and competitiveness enhanced<sup>[2]</sup>. The strengths of optimizing the business environment are threefold as follows:

- (1) It helps clarify the relationship between government and the market, enabling a better coupling of the “visible hand” and the “invisible hand,” with clearer boundaries, thereby forming an effective market and a capable government;
- (2) It helps rationalize intergovernmental relations. Vertical streamlining of administrative procedures across levels enables the delegation of administrative approval authority to grassroots departments. In key processes such as business registration and project commencement, administrative approvals have continuously lowered entry thresholds and reduced procedures and documentation requirements, substantially cutting firms' operating costs and markedly strengthening market entities' sense of gain<sup>[3]</sup>;
- (3) It helps improve relations among market entities by creating a more open and equitable market environment, further invigorating market actors and promoting fair competition and survival of the fittest<sup>[3]</sup>. It follows that the business environment constitutes a locality's “soft power” that underpins its development “hard power”; building a sound business environment thus serves as a crucial catalyst for high-quality economic development.

Accordingly, this paper conducts an in-depth examination of how Guangxi can achieve high-quality economic development through optimizing its business environment. By analyzing the problems and challenges in Guangxi's current business environment, the paper offers targeted policy recommendations, drawing on innovative perspectives and practical guidance to support Guangxi's high-quality development. At the same time, it provides feasible experiences and insights for other ethnic regions, thereby contributing to efforts to promote more prosperous economic development in these areas.

## **2. The importance of optimizing the business environment for advancing high-quality development in Guangxi**

High-quality development is the overarching theme of China's current development agenda and an imperative requirement for building a modern socialist country. This, in turn, places higher demands on Guangxi as a border ethnic region. A full understanding of the interactive relationship between the business environment and high-quality development is therefore of great significance for advancing high-quality development in Guangxi.

### **2.1. Optimizing the business environment as a key driver of Guangxi's economic transformation and upgrading**

The quality of the business environment bears directly on firms' survival and development. A sound business environment can attract more high-quality enterprises to locate in Guangxi, thereby promoting the optimization and upgrading of the industrial structure. By deepening the reform of “streamlining administration, delegating powers, improving regulation, and optimizing services”, simplifying administrative approval procedures, reducing corporate costs, and improving administrative efficiency, Guangxi can further unleash market vitality and inject new momentum into its high-quality economic development.

## **2.2. Optimizing the business environment as a driving engine for Guangxi's innovation-driven development**

A sound business environment provides essential fertile ground for innovation-driven development. By optimizing the business environment, Guangxi can stimulate firms' innovative spirit and creativity, thereby accelerating the growth of new technologies, emerging industries, and novel business models. Moreover, an improved business environment can facilitate deeper integration among industry, academia, and research, promoting the commercialization and application of scientific and technological achievements and injecting robust innovation momentum into Guangxi's high-quality development.

## **2.3. Optimizing the business environment as an important safeguard for enhancing Guangxi's international competitiveness**

Optimizing the business environment enhances Guangxi's influence in the ASEAN region. A sound business environment can strengthen Guangxi's attractiveness to ASEAN countries, positioning it as a preferred gateway for ASEAN enterprises to enter the Chinese market. Improving the business environment can also promote deeper integration between Guangxi and ASEAN economies, particularly in industrial and supply chains. Through measures such as optimizing industrial spatial layout, improving infrastructure, and strengthening talent development, Guangxi can work with ASEAN countries to build a more closely connected industrial and supply chain system and achieve mutually beneficial, win-win development. This, in turn, will help elevate Guangxi's position in global value chains and strengthen its competitiveness in international markets.

## **3. The current state of business environment development in Guangxi and existing problems**

### **3.1. Progress achieved in improving Guangxi's business environment**

In recent years, Guangxi has prioritized business environment optimization as a key focus of government work. It has issued a series of policy documents, including an action plan to improve the business environment, and has implemented a range of major initiatives, such as launching the "Smart Governance Cloud" monitoring platform for Guangxi's business environment, to further enhance the region-wide business environment. The main progress can be summarized in the following three aspects.

#### **3.1.1. Investment promotion and attraction has continued to gain momentum**

In 2023, the total amount of investment actually utilized through investment promotion in Guangxi increased by 15.2% year on year. Notably, funds allocated to manufacturing projects accounted for 57.6%. As a result, the share of fixed-asset investment associated with investment-promotion projects in the region's total fixed-asset investment rose from 35.3% in 2022 to 43.0% in 2023. Among the newly added above-designated-size industrial enterprises, those introduced via investment promotion accounted for 55.2%. Furthermore, across the seven sub-areas of the China-ASEAN Industrial Cooperation Zone, 77 major projects each exceeding RMB 1 billion were newly signed, and 291 investment projects involving "four categories of '500-strong' enterprises" were concluded<sup>[4]</sup>.

#### **3.1.2. Foreign investment in key industries has increased steadily**

According to a report by the Guangxi Department of Commerce, by the end of 2023, the region's actual utilized foreign investment amounted to RMB 8.68 billion. By sector, manufacturing accounted for RMB 3.83 billion,

representing 44.12% of the total, while high-technology industries attracted RMB 3.244 billion, accounting for 37.37%. By source economy, foreign investment mainly came from Hong Kong (61.72% of the regional total), the United Kingdom (26.46%), and Singapore (7.26%)<sup>[5]</sup>.

### 3.1.3. Administrative and government service reforms have continued to deepen

Guangxi has continued to deepen “Internet + government services” reforms. It has established a unified regional public service platform for corporate electronic seals, issuing 16,000 electronic seals to 3,189 enterprises across Guangxi and providing e-seal signing services across government, public, and community services. In addition, the platform for implementing and delivering pro-enterprise and pro-people policies has cumulatively released 3,063 relevant policy items, offering features such as intelligent recommendations and enterprise-dedicated web portals, thereby providing enterprises with “one-stop” policy implementation services.

## 3.2. Existing problems and challenges

Although Guangxi has made measurable progress in improving its business environment, several issues remain and require further optimization. Based on the China Provincial Business Environment Evaluation Database, **Table 1** is compiled accordingly<sup>[4]</sup>. The results show that Guangxi’s overall business environment index increased continuously from 2017 to 2019, indicating sustained improvement, with relatively strong performance in the market environment and government service environments. However, from 2020 to 2021, the business index declined, particularly in the government service environment and the socio-cultural environment. In terms of rankings, Guangxi still places relatively low compared with other provinces, suggesting that further strengthening is necessary.

**Table 1.** Business environment index and ranking in Guangxi (2017–2022)

Indicator		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Overall business environment index		40.36	41.23	51.05	47.47	42.23	49.34
Rank		25	25	15	20	20	20
First-level indicators	Market environment	25.51	27.23	30.38	30.16	29.65	24.40
	Government services environment	51.58	46.56	63.49	60.02	44.98	54.60
	Legal and policy environment	19.79	41.29	35.68	30.07	44.48	56.96
	Humanistic environment	71.74	66.49	69.65	61.67	55.32	63.46

\*Source: Peking University Open Research Data Platform.

### 3.2.1. Low efficiency in administrative service approvals and insufficient overall coordination

Driven by reforms to “streamlining administration, delegating powers, improving regulation, and optimizing services” and the development of e-government, the Guangxi government has made notable progress in improving the efficiency and modalities of administrative services. Although administrative approval procedures have gradually become more standardized, process optimization has mainly focused on individual departments’ approval stages, while comprehensive integration and information sharing across the end-to-end approval chain have yet to be fully realized. In practice, enterprises still encounter situations in which they must wait for one department to complete its approval before submitting materials to other departments for subsequent review and approval, resulting in long approval cycles and relatively complex procedures. Despite achieving full coverage of government service halls at the autonomous region, municipal, and county levels, departments continue to rely on



their own standalone approval systems. As a result, process improvements are largely confined to departmental stages, with insufficient cross-departmental integration and coordination <sup>[5]</sup>.

### 3.2.2. Financing constraints for micro and small enterprises and high financing costs

Guangxi's micro and small enterprises (MSEs) face significant financing constraints, shaped by the financial system's structure. Traditional financial institutions tend to extend credit to large firms because these firms typically exhibit more stable profitability and higher credit ratings. By contrast, MSEs are smaller in scale and perceived as higher risk, making it difficult for them to obtain adequate financing through conventional channels. Credit-related issues also constitute a major driver of financing difficulties for MSEs. Owing to information asymmetries, financial institutions often struggle to accurately assess the creditworthiness of MSEs and therefore adopt a more cautious stance toward their financing needs. Consequently, even MSEs with strong growth potential may find it challenging to access sufficiently low-cost financing from the traditional financial system. According to the 2023 Statistical Communiqué on the National Economic and Social Development of the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, as of the end of 2023, the outstanding loan balance of financial institutions totaled RMB 4.98 trillion, while the outstanding balance of inclusive finance credit loans to micro and small enterprises was RMB 157.406 billion. Inclusive finance lending to MSEs accounted for only 3.16% of Guangxi's total outstanding loans, indicating a relatively low share.

### 3.2.3. Insufficient human resources and difficulties in attracting and retaining talent

Based on data from the Seventh National Population Census Communiqué, this study compiles the number of people with higher education attainment in western China (**Table 2**). The results show that Guangxi has 10,806 persons per 100,000 population with a university education. Compared with other provinces in western China, this level is relatively low, lagging even behind Tibet and Guizhou. Three main factors contribute to this situation as follows:

- (1) Limited career development opportunities mean that highly qualified talent may perceive constraints on professional advancement locally and thus be more easily attracted to other regions;
- (2) Guangxi lags behind other regions in urban environments, educational resources, and healthcare services; even when talent is successfully recruited, dissatisfaction with living conditions may lead to outmigration;
- (3) The talent development system remains underdeveloped: The region lacks high-quality training and educational institutions, and talent may be unable to access local training resources aligned with their career needs, which further undermines retention.

**Table 2.** Number of persons with higher education in western regions. Persons / 100,000

Province	University (college and above)	Province	University (college and above)
Guangxi	10806	Shaanxi	18397
Sichuan	13267	Gansu	14506
Yunnan	11601	Qinghai	14880
Guizhou	10952	Xinjiang	17340
Tibet	11019	Ningxia	16536
Chongqing	15412	Inner Mongolia	18688

\*Data source: Seventh National Population Census Bulletin

### **3.2.4. An insufficient level of digitalization and limited resource sharing**

Guangxi's relatively low level of digitalization and constrained resource sharing are manifested in several following respects:

- (1) There are bottlenecks in digital infrastructure: Network coverage remains insufficiently widespread, particularly in some remote areas, where limited access to digital technologies restricts the smooth flow of information;
- (2) The digital transformation of both government and enterprises has progressed relatively slowly. The government's adoption of digital governance and service applications remains limited, resulting in less efficient circulation of administrative information. Meanwhile, firms' digital capabilities vary considerably; in some industries, the application of digital technologies is still limited, with insufficient digital agility and efficiency;
- (3) There is a lack of digital education and training systems. Digital literacy remains comparatively low, and employees and the public often have a limited understanding of how to apply digital technologies, which constrains progress in digital transformation;
- (4) "Information silo" problems persist: Information systems across different industries and departments lack effective interoperability, thereby limiting information sharing. Cooperation mechanisms and shared platforms among government, enterprises, and social organizations remain relatively weak, impeding cross-domain resource sharing and collaboration.

## **4. Lessons from domestic and international experience**

This paper draws on international experience from Singapore and Ireland, and on domestic experience from Hong Kong and Zhejiang.

### **4.1. Singapore's "Big Government" model: A pathway of efficient governance and control**

Singapore's favorable business environment, efficient legal system, highly skilled workforce, advanced shipping and logistics sector, stable political and economic conditions, and pleasant living environment are all factors that attract enterprises to choose Singapore as an operating base. According to the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)'s Q2 2023 business environment rankings, Singapore maintained its position as having the best business environment over the next five years. The key lessons that can be drawn are summarized as follows.

#### **4.1.1. Electronic office operations and efficient government services**

CorpPass is a digital identity authentication system provided by the Singapore government for enterprises. CorpPass enables enterprises to access multiple government and business services with a single, unique digital identity, eliminating the need to use different credentials across platforms. Moreover, enterprises can use CorpPass to assign differentiated access rights to employees, thereby enabling multi-tier authorization. This helps ensure that only authorized personnel can access sensitive information and perform specific tasks. CorpPass supports online submission of documents and applications for licenses and permits, facilitating the digital management of business processes. This improves efficiency, reduces reliance on paper-based documentation, and enables enterprises to better adapt to the requirements of the digital era.

#### **4.1.2. Attractive tax system**

Non-resident companies are exempt from corporate income tax on their taxable income for the first three years. The Singapore government has also introduced a “Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement” to protect profits earned overseas by Singaporean suppliers from double taxation. In addition to the repatriation system. Dividends, profits from foreign branches, and service fee income originating outside Singapore may be repatriated tax-free, provided such income has been taxed in the foreign tax jurisdiction in the year of repatriation or deemed repatriation, and the foreign tax jurisdiction’s income tax rate is at least 15%.

#### **4.1.3. Strong intellectual property protection**

Singapore’s intellectual property regime has ranked among the world’s leading systems for many years. Singapore has an integrated legal framework covering patents, trademarks, copyrights, and other areas, ensuring comprehensive and clearly defined legal protection for different categories of IP. The Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS) is a specialized agency dedicated to promoting innovation and strengthening IP protection. By offering expedited examination, training, and support services, IPOS helps foster enterprise innovation. For example, while obtaining a patent typically takes an average of 2 to 4 years, under Singapore’s “AI patent fast-track programme”, China’s e-commerce giant Alibaba reportedly secured an artificial intelligence patent in just 3 months. Furthermore, Singapore has institutional arrangements for the rapid resolution of IP disputes, including a court system and dispute-resolution bodies such as the Singapore International Arbitration Centre and the Singapore office of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Arbitration and Mediation Center. The international arbitration center has also established an IP expert panel composed of IP professionals to handle various types of IP disputes.

### **4.2. The Irish “Demand-Driven” approach**

Ireland is widely recognized as one of the world’s best destinations for foreign investment. In the World Bank’s October 2020 release of the Doing Business 2020 report, Ireland ranked 24th out of 190 economies in ease of doing business. Key lessons worth learning include as outlined.

#### **4.2.1. Highly developed infrastructure**

Ireland’s substantial investment in telecommunications and transport infrastructure has delivered on its commitment to the efficient movement of information, goods, and people. Full deregulation and a competitive telecommunications infrastructure enable enterprises to build advanced business networks. A modernized road and rail system, together with well-developed air and port networks, ensures that exports of goods and services are convenient and cost-effective.

#### **4.2.2. Highly attractive low tax rates**

Ireland’s corporate income tax rate is only 12.5%. Compared with the higher tax rates prevailing in many other countries, this has made Ireland a popular destination for multinational corporations seeking to establish headquarters or undertake investment. A lower corporate income tax rate enhances firms’ profit potential from operating in Ireland. Ireland also applies a zero capital gains tax policy for non-resident companies and for specific categories of assets, including capital gains on equities and real estate. This creates a more attractive investment environment for investors and encourages capital inflows.

### **4.2.3. Talented human resources**

Ireland has a highly educated population, including talent with specialized training in fields such as science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. This educational profile provides enterprises with a deep pool of human capital, particularly for innovation- and high-technology-intensive sectors. As an English-speaking country, Ireland's workforce typically has strong English-language communication skills. This lowers communication barriers in cross-border collaboration and international markets, thereby facilitating the expansion of global business operations.

## **4.3. Hong Kong's path to freedom and openness through "Small Government"**

Hong Kong's financial market is open and highly efficient, supported by a mature legal and regulatory framework, which has positioned it as one of the world's leading financial centers. Its strengths in finance, trade, and the rule of law contribute to a world-class business environment that attracts enterprises and investors from around the globe. The key lessons are as listed.

### **4.3.1. Open and free trade system**

Hong Kong has long been committed to maintaining an open and liberal trade regime, and external trade has consistently been a pillar of its economy. Hong Kong operates a simple, transparent tariff system with no import tariffs, no goods and services tax, and no related quotas. This has made Hong Kong one of the world's most free-trade-oriented cities, enabling enterprises to engage in international trade more easily. For example, as one of Asia's largest air-cargo hubs, Hong Kong serves as a critical node in global logistics and trade, attracting many multinational corporations to establish local branches.

### **4.3.2. Low tax rates and tax incentives**

At present, Hong Kong's standard corporate tax rate is 16.5%; for small companies, the rate is lower at 8.25% profits tax. In addition, Hong Kong implements a range of tax incentives, including tax credits, reductions, and exemptions. To encourage corporate innovation and R&D, the Hong Kong government has introduced multiple tax deduction schemes for eligible R&D expenditures. Enterprises may apply for tax deductions for R&D investments, thereby effectively reducing R&D costs.

### **4.3.3. A robust legal system and intellectual property protection**

Hong Kong's legal system is rooted in the British common law tradition. Its independent judiciary and clear regulatory framework provide enterprises with legal stability and predictability. Hong Kong also has a well-developed regime for intellectual property protection, which supports innovation and technological advancement. Hong Kong has become one of the preferred venues for resolving international commercial disputes: through efficient and professional arbitration mechanisms, it has attracted a large number of international commercial arbitration cases to be handled in the city.

## **4.4. Zhejiang's reform pathway for "Getting Things Done Without Need for Connections"**

As one of China's economically advanced regions, Zhejiang Province has accumulated extensive experience in optimizing the business environment. In 2023, 108 Zhejiang enterprises were listed among the "Top 500 Chinese Private Enterprises", ranking first nationwide for 25 consecutive years. Zhejiang was also among the first provinces in China to introduce a regulation on promoting the private economy. The main lessons that can be

drawn are as addressed.

#### **4.4.1. Reform centered on the “run at most once” initiative**

The Zhejiang Provincial Government spearheaded the drafting of the “Zhejiang Regulations on Ensuring the ‘One-Visit-Maximum’ Reform,” reviewed legislative proposals including the “Zhejiang Regulations on Promoting Private Enterprise Development” and the “Zhejiang Regulations on Promoting the Digital Economy,” and systematically reviewed and eliminated existing policy documents that restrict competition. These efforts aim to foster a stable, fair, transparent, and predictable business environment.

#### **4.4.2. Promoting a close yet clean relationship between government and business**

Zhejiang Province has articulated principles for government-business interactions as “closeness without overstepping boundaries, integrity without estrangement; smooth two-way communication with clear boundaries; being proactive yet mindful of constraints.” This principle requires officials, in their dealings with entrepreneurs, to maintain a constructive and supportive relationship, facilitating enterprise development and addressing practical difficulties, while also preserving integrity and probity. They must not act out of greed or self-interest, nor abuse public power for private gain. Additionally, Zhejiang has introduced a series of policies and measures to institutionalize “close and clean” government-business relations. For example, it has regulated such interactions through the “three lists” approach, which specifies prohibited behaviors and recommended practices, thereby providing clear behavioral guidance for both officials and private entrepreneurs.

#### **4.4.3. Intelligent and precise government services**

Zhejiang Province has successfully established an integrated public data exchange and sharing platform spanning provincial, municipal, and county levels. It has granted access to numerous provincial-level units and public data items for government agencies. Sharing permissions for numerous provincial units and public data items have been opened to government agencies. This has not only enhanced data sharing efficiency within the government but also strengthened the scientific rigor and precision of administrative decision-making. Simultaneously, Zhejiang has pioneered nationwide the implementation of “one-stop” online processing and electronic supervision for provincial, municipal, and county-level administrative approvals. This has not only improved operational efficiency but also facilitated convenience for citizens and businesses, achieving a transformation in government services from passive to proactive, from management-oriented to service-oriented, and toward precision-driven service delivery.

### **5. Policy measures for optimizing Guangxi’s business environment under high-quality development**

#### **5.1. Continuously deepening the “Streamlining Administration, Delegating Powers, Improving Regulation, and Optimizing Services” reform**

The strategies are as follows:

- (1) The intensity of “delegation” should be increased by reviewing and abolishing unnecessary administrative approval items and lowering market entry barriers so that more enterprises and individuals can participate in market competition. The “separation of business licenses and permits” reform should be advanced by applying four differentiated approaches—direct cancellation of approvals, conversion of approvals to filing/

recordation, implementation of the notification-and-commitment mechanism, and optimization of market access services, so as to achieve “fewer permits after licensing” and address the long-standing problem of “being allowed to enter but not allowed to operate”;

- (2) The effectiveness of “regulation” should be enhanced by strengthening in-process and ex post supervision. A sound regulatory system for in-process and ex post oversight should be established, and the supervisory framework improved to ensure that decentralization does not lead to lax governance and that supervision is not absent. This requires building a multi-department linkage system that enables system interoperability, shared information, and joint review and approval, thereby realizing one-time processing for “one enterprise-one matter”;
- (3) The quality of “services” should be improved by advancing the standardization of government services. Government service standards should be formulated, service processes standardized and service quality and efficiency ensured. “Internet + government services” should be promoted by leveraging technologies such as the internet and big data to enable online processing of government services, so as to “let data run more and let people run less”.

## **5.2. Promoting the effective and fine-grained implementation of pro-enterprise policies**

The measures are as listed:

- (1) A dedicated implementation mechanism should be established by setting up a specialized leading group to coordinate and advance the rollout of pro-enterprise policies. This helps ensure policy coherence and coordination, avoiding gaps or duplication during implementation;
- (2) Policy communication and training should be strengthened. Pro-enterprise policies should be widely publicized through multiple channels and formats-such as government websites, official WeChat accounts, and news media-to increase awareness. In parallel, targeted policy training should be provided for enterprises to help them better understand policy content and application procedures;
- (3) Interdepartmental coordination should be reinforced to build implementation synergy. For policies involving multiple agencies, responsibilities and division of labor should be clearly specified to prevent both “blind spots” and redundant efforts in policy execution;
- (4) A feedback mechanism should be put in place by establishing dedicated channels to collect enterprises’ opinions and suggestions regarding pro-enterprise policies. Reported problems and operational difficulties should be addressed in a timely manner, ensuring that the policies genuinely benefit enterprises.

## **5.3. Strengthening science- and technology-enabled financial services**

Promoting deeper integration among industry, universities, and research institutes; strengthening the cultivation of technology-based enterprises; and advancing the development of science and innovation platforms can build momentum and provide strong enabling support for high-quality development through technological innovation. A one-stop “Science and Technology+” service system should be established, including dedicated science-and-technology finance service stations and a “government-university-bank-enterprise” matchmaking and cooperation platform. In addition, science-and-technology financial products should be innovated, service dossiers for technology enterprises should be developed, and collaborative “industry-university-research-finance” innovation activities should be carried out, thereby providing enterprises with science-and-technology financial services featuring “inclusive relief”, “direct support”, and “drip-irrigation-style assistance”.



## **5.4. Strengthening mechanisms for talent development, recruitment, and retention**

Efforts should be made to “cultivate fertile soil” and to implement major talent programs. Guangxi should vigorously advance “project + team” talent initiatives through a “relocation with supporting conditions” approach, improve supporting policies, and build demonstration platforms and pilot zones for recruited talent teams, while encouraging employing organizations to innovate in the ways they recruit talent and teams. Enterprises, universities, and research institutes should be encouraged to train urgently needed and scarce talent. The training of young scientific and technological talent should be strengthened by improving a full-chain cultivation system for outstanding young professionals and continuously increasing the share of major science and technology projects led by young talents. In addition, Guangxi should explore new mechanisms for the identification, selection, cultivation, and long-term stable support of young talent, thereby enabling high-caliber human capital to inject new momentum into Guangxi’s development.

## **5.5. Improving the regulatory framework and enhancing transparency**

Establishing a transparent and stable regulatory framework is crucial for attracting investment and strengthening business confidence. Guangxi can enhance the regulatory system and improve regulatory transparency to clarify the operating environment for enterprises and strengthen protections for their legitimate rights and interests, thereby reducing business risks arising from regulatory changes. In particular, with respect to intellectual property, Guangxi should strengthen the awareness and understanding of IP protection among law enforcement personnel, enterprises, and the general public; expand cooperation with RCEP member economies in the field of intellectual property; and align with the new RCEP trade and economic rules by promoting the establishment of local “general centers” and branch centers for overseas IP risk prevention and control. Moreover, Guangxi should further promote a service-oriented government by carrying forward the “shop assistant” ethos, implementing “nanny-style” and “smiling” services to provide enterprises with personalized, professional, and precision-targeted support, and delivering one-stop services across the entire business lifecycle.

## **6. Conclusion**

In the course of high-quality development, formulating and implementing measures to optimize Guangxi’s business environment is a critical task, bearing directly on economic growth and innovation-driven development. Achieving this goal requires concerted efforts from the government, enterprises, and broader society to attract greater investment and foster more distinctive local industries. Only through joint action can Guangxi make more solid progress on the path toward high-quality development and make greater contributions to economic prosperity and social harmony.

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