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## ***The Current Situation of and Potential for Economic Exchange in China's Border Regions with Japan: With a focus on the case example of the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region***

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### **Summary**

The subject of the analysis in this paper is the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region (hereinafter “Guangxi”), geographically belonging to the border region which adjoins Vietnam on land, and faces south onto the Gulf of Tonkin. Guangxi’s economic development was delayed for a long period after reform and opening-up, but in recent years with the strengthening of economic relations between China and ASEAN, it has exploited its geographic advantage and increased its presence as an economic exchange hub with Vietnam. The “Guangxi Beibu [North] Gulf Economic Zone Development Plan (2006–2020)” was approved as a Chinese national strategy in January 2008, and a further acceleration of economic exchange between Guangxi and ASEAN is expected.

Meanwhile, regarding economic relations with Japan, there are few Japanese firms which have expanded into Guangxi, and the value of trade with Japan has remained stagnant. In this paper, in addition to undertaking analysis of the economic characteristics of Guangxi and the current situation for economic cooperation with Japan, we examine which points Japan should note when promoting economic exchange with Guangxi as a Chinese border region.

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