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HIGH HOPES FOR LOW CARBON

A second-tier city experiments with ecological development



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Cover Photo: Downtown Nanchang (CFP)

A Low-Carbon City

Nanchang, capital of central China's Jiangxi Province, is a rich cultural city with a long history. It connects China's three major economic circles of the Yangtze River Delta, the Pearl River Delta and the west coast of the Taiwan Straits. It is an important traffic hub and a modern manufacturing base. To rein in the many side effects spurred by rapid development, the city is now engaged in a campaign to change its mode of development. Meanwhile, it is actively seeking to carry out extensive and in-depth cooperation with domestic and foreign partners to create a low-carbon economy.

China's urban construction mode is problematic, marked by high emissions, high pollution and high consumption. Therefore, the transition to a low-carbon economic mode is now a critical demand for China's urbanization.

In early 2010, Nanchang was the only provincial capital city to be designated as a pilot location for the development of a low-carbon economy. Before this, the low-carbon city pilot program between China and Britain had already started, and Nanchang was also the only pilot city in China. These two programs will finally pave the way for the construction of the Boyanghu Lake ecological economic zone.

Nanchang has taken the lead in pushing forward green programs. It carried out pilot programs to assess local officials' performance based on green indexes. Citizens there are encouraged to travel in a low-carbon way. A total of more than 7,500 public bicycles have been offered to the public, and around 35,000 citizens have rental cards.

According to the plan for a low-carbon industrial park, a series of domestic and foreign environment-friendly enterprises and projects have chosen Nanchang for their industrial bases.

The city pays much attention to international cooperation. It has close communication with international organizations like the World Wildlife Fund and the World Meteorological Organization. Meanwhile, it has consulted with countries such as Austria, Britain, Germany and the United States on low-carbon economy.

As a major cooperation program in China's low-carbon urban construction, a low-carbon city development plan was jointly issued by Nanchang and the Austrian Institute of Technology, which conducted comprehensive analysis for the city's policies and measures in constructing a low-carbon city. It is a guideline for an overall low-carbon city construction, a big step forward in the development of a low-carbon future.

The plan has put forward several low-carbon cooperation programs. For example, large-scale low-carbon communities will be built in the city. The demonstration, replication and implementation of this program will include more local residents in the low-carbon efforts. A smart transport system will be set up, which can adjust traffic flows to optimum condition. The two countries will also jointly build a first-class low-carbon hospital in the city.

From individual pilot programs to regional implementation, Nanchang has just taken the first step in constructing a low-carbon city. We hope the city will continue to improve and serve as an example for the rest of the country. ■

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Please provide your name and address along with your submissions. Submissions may be edited.

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E-mail: contact@bjreview.com.cn

President & Editor in Chief: Wang Gangyi

Vice President: Qi Wengong

Associate Editors in Chief: Li Jianguo, Huang Wei,

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Photo Editor: Wang Xiang

Photographer: Wei Yao

Art: Li Shigong

Art Director: Wang Yajuan

Chief Designer: Cui Xiaodong

Designer: Zhao Boyu

Proofreading: Qin Wenli, Ma Xin

Distribution Director: Pan Changqing

Human Resources: Hou Jin

International Cooperation: Zhang Yajie

Legal Counsel: Yue Cheng

North America Bureau

Chief: Huang Wei

Tel/Fax: 1-201-792-0334

E-mail: wei298@hotmail.com

General Editorial Office

Tel: 86-10-68996252

Fax: 86-10-68326628

English Edition

Tel: 86-10-68996259

Advertising Department

Tel: 86-10-68995813

Fax: 86-10-68329398

E-mail: ad@bjreview.com.cn

Distribution Department

Tel: 86-10-68310644

Fax: 86-10-68328738

E-mail: circulation@bjreview.com.cn

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Confucian Commencement

First-grade students practice writing the Chinese character *ren*, meaning “people,” during a ceremony to usher in a new school semester held at the Confucius Temple in Nanjing, capital of east China’s Jiangsu Province, on September 1.

A group of 320 first graders attended a traditional ritual including back-to-school activities, such as reciting lines from *The Analects* of Confucius, ringing the “enlightenment bell” and paying tribute to the great Chinese philosopher, to welcome the forthcoming school year.

“Compared with Asia’s increasingly vital role in the world economy, the influence of Asian media groups on the world stage is very much disproportionate.”

Cui Yuying, Vice Minister of the State Council Information Office of China, calling for Asia’s own versions of Facebook and Twitter to expand the region’s influence at the Fifth 10+3 Media Cooperation Forum held in Changchun, northeast China’s Jilin Province on September 4

“This exhibit highlights the importance and the role of the individual. It says to me that by respecting each other and working together we can create the future we want.”

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, speaking at the opening ceremony of *Sculpting the Soul of a Nation*, a sculpture exhibition representing important Chinese cultural figures and memorializing the Nanjing Massacre at the UN headquarters on September 4

“Swimming gave me confidence and hope for a better life. I came to the Paralympics to prove to myself that I can make it like anyone else.”

Feng Yazhu, Chinese swimmer who won the gold medal and set a new world record in the women’s 50-meter backstroke S2 final of the London 2012 Paralympic Games on September 5

“We are enthusiastic about combining AMC’s leadership in the United States with Wanda’s leadership in China, the world’s fastest-growing market.”

Gery Lopez, President and CEO of AMC Entertainment, second largest theater chain in the United States, commenting on the purchase of AMC by Dalian Wanda, a Chinese real estate conglomerate, at a press conference held at an AMC theater in Los Angeles on September 4

Serious Illness Insurance

China on August 30 announced a decision to expand the coverage of the country's health-care insurance system to include the treatment of critical illnesses, aiming to prevent patients from being reduced to poverty from high healthcare costs.

The new arrangement will further increase the level of coverage that China's healthcare insurance system can offer, according to a document co-issued by the National Development and Reform Commission and five other central government departments.

Sun Zhigang, head of the Health Reform Office under the State Council, said it aims to ensure that each patient's total medical expenditure is no more than the "household expenditure for healthcare," which is set at the level of the regional annual per-capita disposable or net income.

Though around 1.3 billion people, or more than 95 percent of China's population, were covered by the healthcare insurance system at the end of last year, medical expenditures incurred by patients with severe medical conditions remain huge, Sun said.

Local governments have been asked to design regulations on fundraising, reimbursement and other details regarding the new insurance plan in line with local conditions, according to the document.

Qualified commercial insurers will be se-



NEW UNIVERSITY The South University of Science and Technology of China (SUSTC) is unveiled in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong Province, on September 2. SUSTC is widely regarded as the country's first professor-led and bureaucracy-free higher education institution



SHOOTING COMPETITION
Soldiers compete in a shooting exercise during military training in Hohhot, capital of north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, on September 5

lected to operate the critical-illness insurance program through bidding, the document said.

Official Facing Charges

Wang Lijun, former vice mayor and police chief of southwest China's Chongqing Municipality, was charged with bending the law for selfish ends, defection, abuse of power and bribe-taking by the Chengdu City People's Procuratorate, Xinhua News Agency learned from authorities on September 5.

According to the indictment, although Wang had known beforehand that Bogu Kailai, the wife of former Chongqing Party chief Bo Xilai, was under serious suspicion of murdering Briton Neil Heywood, he consciously neglected his duty and bent the law for personal gain so that Bogu Kailai would not be held legally responsible. Wang was indicted for the crime of bending the law for personal gain.

Prosecutors said that Wang, while he was performing his official duties, left his post without authorization and defected to the United States Consulate General in Chengdu.

He was therefore indicted for the crime of defection.

Wang was indicted for the crime of power abuse for illegally using technical reconnaissance measures, either without the approval of authorities or by forging approval documents. Wang also took advantage of his position and accepted massive bribes in a bid to secure benefits for other individuals, leading to the indictment for the crime of bribe-taking.

The Chengdu City Intermediate People's Court has accepted the case and will hold a trial at a later date, said a Xinhua report.

Far-sea Territory Monitoring

The availability of remote-sensing images brought by China's satellites has allowed the country to better monitor its territory in the far seas, including Huangyan, Diaoyu and Xisha islands and the surrounding sea areas.

The Overseas Edition of the *People's Daily* cited sources with the State Oceanic Administration (SOA) as saying it is a significant move in terms of extending China's maritime monitoring network coverage from

A Giving Garbageman

Liu Shenglan, a 90-year-old trash collector in a village of Yantai, east China's Shandong Province, has recently moved the nation with his selflessness.

Liu has used his meager income to aid more than 100 poor students nationwide for the past 17 years. He has sent these poor students more than 70,000 yuan (\$11,000) after reading about their hardship in newspapers. Liu himself, however, lives on vegetables collected from garbage heaps.

He receives 1,800 yuan (\$283.5) a year from the government, which he donates to struggling students. His neighbors and relatives cannot understand why Liu donates all his savings to others, leaving little for himself. Liu responds that he has no children and he doesn't want to pass away without leaving anything to the world. Liu stopped collecting trash earlier this year due to old age.



the near to far seas.

The network went into service in 2009 after construction began in 2006.

By combining satellite, aerial remote-sensing and ground-based monitoring methods, the system monitors development activities in China's coastal and sea areas "in a stereo and dynamic manner," the paper said on September 3.

China's monitoring of its sea territory had long been constrained by its lagging monitoring capacity, mainly due to the shortage of satellites, the report said, citing experts. The situation improved following the activation of the maritime monitoring network.

Pensions Recipients

More than 180 million Chinese were receiving their basic pensions in August with some 600 million people covered by the country's pension system, a senior social security official said on September 3.

Among the pension recipients, 116 million were rural and urban residents who contribute to their own pension accounts while 70 million are retirees from enterprises and public institutions, said Hu Xiaoyi, Vice Minister of Human Resources and Social Security.

The official said that the government will gradually increase the fiscal support for the new rural endowment insurance and urban residents social pension insurance programs.

About 427 million Chinese have been insured by the programs at the end of August, according to the Ministry of Human



DENG HUA

KUNG FU TRIP French martial artists train in Liuzhou, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on September 2. They excelled in this year's French National Martial Arts Competition and were sent to Liuzhou to study for 20 days

Resources and Social Security.

Colliery Safety

China will launch a new round of safety inspections in collieries nationwide, said Yang Dongliang, head of State Administration of Work Safety, on September 4.

Yang stressed that the inspections would be panoramic and thorough.

The announcement came after a deadly colliery blast on August 29 in southwest China's Sichuan Province, which caused the death of 45 miners.

For mine owners who push miners to work overtime or under high intensity in order to increase coal output, Yang ordered an immediate halt of production and temporary seizure of business licenses.

Yang urged mine owners to make detailed precautions and implement reliable technical measures to guarantee safety.

Those who fail safety inspections will not be allowed to continue in the mining business, Yang said.

Mobile Map Users

China is boasting a promising mobile map market, with the number of users estimated to reach 600 million at the end of 2015, according to a report released by market researcher Analysys International on September 5.

Mobile map clients will account for about 64.6 percent of all cellphone users, the report stated.

By the end of June, the average number of daily active mobile map users in China had reached 5.54 million, or only 2.4 percent of mobile phone users, the report said.

The total number of mobile map users is expected to hit 287 million at the end of the year.

DORAEMON INVASION Hong Kong holds the largest ever Doraemon exhibition on August 14-September 16 to celebrate the character's fictional birthday—100 years in advance



WU JIA WANG

PMI's New Low

China's manufacturing activity slid further in August, with the purchasing managers index (PMI) standing at 49.2 percent, the lowest pace in nine months, according to the China Federation of Logistics and Purchasing (CFLP).

It marked the first time the index has fallen below 50 percent since December 2011. A reading of 50 percent demarcates expansion from contraction.

The falling PMI showed growth in the world's second largest economy remains in a downward movement, said Cai Jin, Vice Chairman of CFLP. The PMI reading in August retreated 0.9 percentage points from July.

"The [weak] external demand remains the biggest factor dragging down China's economic growth; meanwhile, domestic demand has not yet improved," said Fan Junlin, an economic researcher at the Agricultural Bank of China.

The PMI of China's non-manufacturing

sector rose 0.7 percentage points to 56.3 percent in August.

"The rebound shows the non-manufacturing sector has played a more significant role in stabilizing economic growth," Cai said. "The recovery in the consumer service sector and dynamics of the information service industry have been building up a solid foundation for stabilized growth."

Disappointing Profits

Chinese listed companies disappointed investors with bleak reports over the first half of the year against the backdrop of the economic slowdown.

As the period of disclosures came to an end on August 31, 2,475 companies listed on the Shanghai and Shenzhen stock exchanges posted a combined first-half net profit of 1.02 trillion yuan (\$160 billion), down 1.51 percent from the previous year, according to *Shanghai Securities News*.

The figure marked a steep downturn in combined net profits of listed companies, which saw profits surge more than 20 percent year on year during the same period in 2011 and 40 percent in 2010.

Among all listed enterprises, 2,130 companies made profits in the first six months but 46 percent of them saw their gains fall, while about 14 percent of all companies posted losses, 5 percentage points higher than the figure registered last year.

The average earnings per share of listed companies also went down 6.59 percent to reach 0.27 yuan (\$0.043) in the first half of the year.

Rice Price Up

The National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) said on September 3 that it will raise the minimum purchase prices for mid-season and late rice in 2012, as severe droughts in the United States and other grain-



UNDERSEA CABLE A 3,000-ton ship lays undersea cables at Penglai Port of Shandong Peninsula on September 2. The cable will carry electricity to the Changdao Islands in the Bohai Sea

Numbers

180 million

The number of Chinese who have received their basic pensions exceeded 180 million by the end of August, said Hu Xiaoyi, Vice Minister of Human Resources and Social Security.

100 billion yuan

Sales of welfare lottery tickets in China this year hit 100 billion yuan (\$15.78 billion) as of September 2, a rise of 21.47 percent year on year, according to the Ministry of Civil Affairs.



WANG PENG

CHARITY-ORIENTED

A worker is busy on the assembly line in a fabric factory in Hongsipu Industrial Park in Wuzhong, northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region on September 4. The park, aimed at helping the poor and disabled, has attracted more than 140 enterprises to settle there

producing countries have driven up food prices in the global market.

The minimum purchase price for mid-season and late indica rice will be raised to 2.5 yuan (\$0.39) per kg, up 16.82 percent from a year earlier, according to the NDRC.

Meanwhile, the minimum purchase price for japonica rice will be set at 2.8 yuan (\$0.44) per kg, up 9.38 percent from last year.

The new prices will be effective in Jiangsu, Anhui, Jiangxi, Henan, Hubei, Hunan and Sichuan provinces and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region from September 16 to December 31, 2012.

In northeast China's provinces of Liaoning, Jilin and Heilongjiang, the new minimum purchase price for rice will be applied from November 16, 2012 to March 31, 2013 due to different climate conditions, said the NDRC.

Elevator Giant

China has become the world's largest manufacturer and seller of elevators, with an average annual growth of 20 percent over the past 10 years, said the organizers of the upcoming 2012 World Elevator Summit.

By the end of 2011, China had installed

more than 2 million elevators nationwide, while its elevator sales and production volume both topped 450,000 units, accounting for more than 60 percent of the global total. Elevator exports volume exceeded 47,000 units in the same period.

The huge demand has helped boost the development of domestic elevator producers, who now occupy almost 40 percent of the domestic market, up from 20 percent 10 years ago.

There is still a great deal of room for future development, as the country's per-capita ownership of in-service elevators is only one third of the global average.

The 2012 World Elevator Summit, which is set to open on October 25 in Beijing, will focus on future trends in the elevator market and improving elevator security.

Subway Order

CSR Sifang Co. Ltd. and Japan's Kawasaki Heavy Industries Group have obtained a joint contract to supply subway vehicles in Singapore, according to CSR Sifang.

This marked the third time the two companies have won such a contract from the Land Transport Authority, a board under

Role Model for Youth

Houston Rockets basketball star **Jeremy Lin**, an emerging pop idol with a huge following of young fans in China, sent his best wishes to Chinese youth in a message from the United States, highlighting the importance of teamwork and encouraging students to bravely pursue their dreams in a video shot for a program called *The First Lesson* of the China Central Television (CCTV) on September 3.

The Chinese Ministry of Education and CCTV have been producing the program since 2008 as a welcoming gift for students. The show invites dozens of celebrities to give speeches on a topic at the beginning of each autumn semester. This year's theme is *The Beauty Around You*.

Lin, 24, is a Harvard-educated guard and the first American-born NBA player of Chinese heritage. He became an international sensation earlier this year with his exceptional skills, humor and work ethic.



Singapore's Ministry of Transport.

CSR and Kawasaki were awarded the latest contract for their reliable technology, advanced operating experience and strong production capacity.

The two companies will work together to supply 132 train cars to Singapore's Mass Rapid Transit system. The contracted subway vehicles will be delivered between 2015 and 2016.

CSR Sifang, based in Qingdao, Shandong Province, is a subsidiary of China South Locomotive and Rolling Stock Corp., the country's biggest train maker.

11.35 billion yuan

Sales revenue at China Vanke Co.—the country's largest property developer by market value—increased 8.3 percent year on year to 11.35 billion yuan (\$1.79 billion) in August.

200,000

More than 200,000 people made reservations for hotels in Hong Kong through Taobao between January and June, making Hong Kong the most popular travel destination among Chinese netizens, according to a survey by Taobao, China's largest online marketplace.

IRAN

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad (right) talks with his Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Salehi during the closing ceremony of the 16th Non-Aligned Movement Summit in Tehran on August 31. The summit's resultant documents laid emphasis on peace



YONHAP



XINHUA/AGF

Musicians perform as fireworks light up the sky during the Spasskaya Tower International Military Music Festival in Moscow on September 1

RUSSIA



XINHUA/CFP

A villager performing a ritual places flowers over a dead wild Asiatic elephant in Panbari in the northeastern state of Assam on September 1 after it was hit by a train

INDIA



XINHUA/CFP

Prince Andrew abseils down the Shard in central London on September 3. The 52-year-old royal lowered himself from the 87th to the 20th floor of Europe's tallest building in a fundraising campaign for charity

BRITAIN

<http://www.bjreview.com>



XINHUA/CFP

Lawmakers sit next to a giant poster of former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko displayed by the opposition during a parliament session in Kiev on September 4. Ukraine's top court earlier rejected Tymoshenko's appeal, upholding a seven-year prison sentence imposed on her for abuse of office

UKRAINE



XINHUA/CFP

People wearing traditional costumes cruise along the Grand Canal in Venice on September 2 during the annual Historical Regatta

ITALY



MAGNIFICENT: Tengwang Ge (Pavilion of Prince Teng), the most renowned ancient structure in Nanchang, capital of central China's Jiangxi Province, was first built in 653 and rebuilt in 1989

COVER STORY

GOING GREEN

Nanchang takes steps to achieve low-carbon dreams By Yu Lintao

As far as nominal GDP is concerned, Nanchang, capital of central China's Jiangxi Province, can only be listed among the middle and low-ranking second-tier Chinese cities. However, based on its own realistic conditions, the city has followed a unique way to develop.

"As a relatively underdeveloped city, if Nanchang tries to follow the development models of developed cities, it would be very hard for it to catch up with the others," said Liu Hua, chief economic planner with the Nanchang Municipal Commission of Development and Reform, the local economic planner. "Nanchang has a good ecological base. The key point is to make full use of this advantage to achieve rapid development in a green way."

Adjoining Poyang Lake, China's largest freshwater lake, and with a green coverage rate of 42 percent, Nanchang has a sound

ecosystem. On this basis, the city has formed a low-carbon development strategy on every level from industrial development to agricultural production, from municipal construction to the lifestyle of residents.

According to a low-carbon development roadmap Nanchang released at the end of 2011, the city will invest 81.7 billion yuan (\$12.88 billion) in 52 key projects in the next several years, including eight photovoltaic projects, four LED projects, nine cultural tourism projects, three outsourcing projects and two transportation projects.

"Low-carbon development is a worldwide trend, and Nanchang is at the same starting line with other Chinese cities in this regard. Therefore, it is very possible for Nanchang to leap ahead," Liu said.

Green industries

Although the Poyang Lake Ecological

Economic Zone Plan, an ecological development scheme of cities around Poyang Lake, was finally approved by the Chinese Central Government in 2009, Nanchang actually started its industrial transformation and restructuring in 2002.

"In the last decade, Nanchang has invested more than 2 billion yuan (\$315.37 million) in industrial transformation and restructuring. Now you cannot find any signs of those old industries such as big chimneys in the city," said Liu Li, a spokesman for the Nanchang Municipal Government.

Based on a comprehensive scheme, all of the 40 large and medium-sized enterprises in downtown Nanchang were relocated to suburban industrial parks while dozens of other polluting companies were renovated or shut down in the past decade. These efforts contributed greatly to improved air quality in Nanchang. In recent years, its yearly ratio of



days with good air quality has exceeded 94 percent.

The original industrial base of Nanchang was relatively weak, but in the eyes of local officials it puts the city at an advantage to develop low-carbon industries.

“As Nanchang doesn’t have many high-polluting and high energy-consuming industries, it is much easier for the city to pursue the development of emerging green industries such as solar energy, green lighting, aviation, outsourcing, information technology, biopharmaceutical manufacturing and new-energy vehicles,” said Zeng Guanghui, Director of Publicity Department of the Nanchang Municipal Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC).

To seek high-speed economic development, most Chinese cities have spared no efforts to attract investment in recent years. However, enterprises from high-polluting and high energy-consuming industries are not allowed in Nanchang even as it seeks faster economic development. “No matter how much of a contribution those enterprises might make to the economic development of Nanchang, the city will close the door to them,” Zeng said.

The Nanchang National Hi-tech Industrial Development Zone (NNHIDZ) is the only state-level hi-tech development zone in Jiangxi. However, the primary precondition of a company to settle in the zone is not its scale or capital strength but whether it is “green” or not.

“Years ago, a renowned Spanish enterprise engaged in dyeing and bleaching planned to invest \$15 million to set up a branch in NNHIDZ. But the project failed to gain approval because it would consume a large amount of water and cause water pollution,” Zeng told *Beijing Review*. “Every year, dozens of companies with huge investment are rejected for environmental concerns.”

On June 6, the China Energy Conservation and Environmental Protection Group officially started a 10-billion-yuan (\$1.58 billion) project in NNHIDZ, including the building of a low-carbon industrial park as well as its regional headquarters.

In addition, in Qiaoshe, a northern suburb of Nanchang, there is another low-carbon

industrial park. The park, covering an area of 30 square km, will focus on developing low-carbon building materials and low-carbon device manufacturing among other things. At present, a Sino-Austrian rock wool product project with an investment of 1 billion yuan (\$158 million) has settled there. In the future, an integrated low-carbon industry chain is expected to take shape in the park.

“So far, Nanchang has established eight low-carbon industrial bases, each in a different industrial cluster. Low-carbon industries account for 30 percent of the total industrial output value of Nanchang. We will try to make low-carbon industries the pillar for Nanchang’s economy as well as develop traditional industries in a low-carbon way,” said Liu Hua.

Nanchang Quick Facts

Nanchang is the capital of central China’s Jiangxi Province, and has a history dating back more than 2,200 years

Area: 7,402 square km

Population: 4.85 million

Location: Bordering Poyang Lake in the southwest, and economically developed Guangdong and Fujian provinces in the south,

and Jiangsu, Zhejiang and Hubei provinces in the north

Industries: Aircraft manufacturing, automobile manufacturing, metallurgy, electromechanics, textiles, chemical engineering, medicine, electronic information, biological engineering, new materials and others

Logistics: A convenient and bustling commercial trade hub and distribution center for consumables and industrial products in south China, and the only provincial capital located on the Jingjiu Railway linking Beijing and Hong Kong

(Source: Nanchang Municipal Government)

Eco-agriculture

Qianfang Township is located on the shore of Junshanhu Lake in Nanchang’s Jinxian County. The vast area of orchards and tea gardens in the township presents tourists with a unique and pleasant sight. What’s more, they are all cultivated using organic farming methods.

“The tea gardens are more than 600 hectares while the orchards cover an area of 530 hectares mainly farming pears and pomelos. As the gardens and orchards are all fertilized by natural fertilizers such as livestock waste, they cause very little pollution while the quality of fruits and tea is improved,” said Tu Lihua, a local official.



FREE RENTAL: A bicycle-sharing site in Honggutan New District in Nanchang

The orchards and tea gardens are operated by eco-agricultural companies, but the organic farming methods also attract local farmers to join in.

“As the organic way of farming by the eco-agricultural companies can bring more economic benefits, many villagers follow their way with the help of the companies and incentives of the government, which not only increases the villagers’ income but also brings many ecological benefits,” Tu said.

Li Xingguo, a villager in Qianfang, said that his family’s income has multiplied several times since he began cultivating organic fruit instead of growing crops.

“Qianfang is an epitome of the eco-agriculture development in Nanchang. Eco-agriculture is a necessary part of the city’s efforts to realize its low-carbon dream,” said Wu Yongming, Director of the Science Department of the Nanchang Agricultural Bureau. “Nanchang is striving to develop eco-agriculture with its own characteristics. Now it has established several such agricultural bases with different functions, including natural rearing, ecological aquaculture and modern agriculture.”

“These bases have provided platforms for standardized agricultural production in Nanchang and guided farmers toward the way of ecological farming,” Wu added.

In the process, agricultural research institutions help farmers test the soil and give them advice on how to apply fertilizers rationally and reduce farm pollution.

“Applying fertilizers with soil testing is a good way to keep a sound agricultural ecosystem. It will promote resources recycling and the sustainable development of agriculture,” said Wu.

To make full use of the agricultural waste and protect the agricultural ecosystem, Nanchang vigorously promotes the use of methane in rural areas.

Official statistics show that at the end of 2011, there were in all about 43,400 methane pits in use in rural areas in Nanchang, which could provide about 180,000 people with their household energy consumption. They could also provide more than 1.1 million tons of organic fertilizer.

“The application of methane pits helps extend the ecological chain. It helps dispose of agricultural waste and produce organic fer-

tilizer; on the other hand, it provides farmers high-quality household energy and increases their income,” Wu said. “All these contribute to environmental protection and the efficient utilization of agricultural resources.”

Low-carbon life

It is very clear to Nanchang officials that a low-carbon development way is not only limited to economic development, it is deeply involved in and of benefit to the daily life of local residents.

Honggutan New District is a newly developed downtown area in Nanchang. In the process of its development, low-carbon life and energy-efficient buildings were comprehensively taken into consideration. With full urban planning, the new district has a half-hour daily commuting circle with optimized urban layout, shortening the travel time of residents and highly reducing the traffic carbon emission. Architectural utilization of solar energy was promoted in the construction of buildings of many public facilities and residential quarters. Many buildings are equipped with solar-heated water systems and photovoltaic systems.

“The solar energy program has also been expanded to new buildings in NNHIDZ as well as Wanli District, a district mainly focusing on ecotourism,” said Liu Hua.

On the streets of Nanchang, people can sometimes see rows of identical bicycles. These bicycles are not for sale but for residents’ use for free.

Nanchang has launched the bicycle-sharing program to encourage residents to travel in a low-carbon way. Because it is

Statistics from the Nanchang Science and Technology Bureau show, at the end of 2011, about 18,000 energy-efficient LED street lamps were adopted in major avenues, while 1 million LED landscape lamps were in use in public venues in the city



NIGHT CROSSING: Bayi Bridge in Nanchang City turns off some of its lights as part of the city's support of the world's fifth Earth Hour on March 26, 2011

so convenient, people often choose to rent a bicycle instead of taking a taxi or bus. So far, Nanchang has established more than 80 free bicycle-sharing sites with about 7,500 bicycles.

"I do not need to take a taxi or walk home after getting off the bus anymore since there are free bicycles," said a Nanchang resident surnamed Deng, who lives in Honggutan and works in Nanchang's old downtown area. There is no direct bus from his workplace to his home.

"It is very popular among citizens. It has not only helped to ease the traffic congestion but also contributed a lot to reducing carbon emissions," he said.

In the meantime, public transport operators and government departments are encouraged to use new-energy vehicles such

as electric buses and hybrid-electric vehicles. At present, more than 500 such vehicles are in use. Another 500 will be added by the end of this year.

In Nanchang, LED street lamps are widely installed in public places. Statistics from the Nanchang Science and Technology Bureau show, at the end of 2011, about 18,000 energy-efficient LED street lamps were adopted in major avenues while 1 million LED landscape lamps were in use in public venues in the city. In addition, the government also encourages households to use energy-efficient lamps with fiscal subsidies.

"In the old downtown area, infrastructure improvements such as restoring the natural gas pipelines are also underway for the purpose of energy conservation," Liu said.

"Residents can see the tangible benefits that the low-carbon life brings to them. It helps them save money. The air is cleaner and cleaner. Their daily lives are much more convenient," Liu said.

Posters depicting a low-carbon lifestyle are commonly seen at residential quarters in Nanchang and people are proud and happy to talk about their knowledge of low-carbon life which has made the city more dynamic.

International cooperation

For low-carbon development, there is no doubt that Western countries have been at the forefront in green technology and expertise. To speed up its own green economy development, Nanchang has sought wide cooperation with world low-carbon leaders in Britain, Germany, Austria, the



GREEN TRANSPORTATION: Residents get on a new-energy bus in Nanchang, capital of central China's Jiangxi Province on July 18, 2011

United States and other countries.

“In cooperation with Wellcome Trust, a company from Britain, we made the low-carbon development program of Nanchang. And with the help of a U.S. institution, the Energy Foundation, Nanchang established a new-energy replacement scheme. In particular, we have made the most comprehensive cooperation with green technology companies in Austria,” said Liu Hua.

The cooperation between Nanchang and green technology companies in Austria began in 2010. In that year, the Nanchang Municipal Government signed a cooperation memo with the Austrian Federal Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology, under which the Austrian side helps Nanchang build a low-carbon community. Within the community, advanced heat insulation and renewable-energy technologies such as solar energy and biomass energy are widely employed in the construction of buildings, which greatly helps

reduce carbon emissions in people's daily life. In addition, natural cooling and ventilation concepts are also adopted in the community, trying to help residents get rid of overusing air-conditioners and heating installations.

Liu said that if the low-carbon community scheme proves successful, the model will be promoted across the whole city gradually.

Austria is a global leader in rock wool manufacturing and energy-saving technology. Under the cooperation framework, Austria's largest rock wool manufacturing base in the Far East has settled in Nanchang.

Liu said that the manufacturing project could also benefit the entire energy-efficient building industry in China.

“We would like to be inspired by international cooperation projects, especially in the field of energy-efficient building technology. The cooperation with Austrian businesses contributed a lot,” said Liu.

Austrian partners have also agreed to help

Nanchang build a world-class low-carbon hospital and develop an intelligent transportation system, as well as waste sorting and other low-carbon businesses.

In 2009, the first World Low-Carbon and Eco-economy Conference and Technical Exposition was held in Nanchang. Since then, Nanchang has been designated as the permanent site of this biennial world low-carbon development platform.

“Through international cooperation, Nanchang has attracted global advanced technologies, expertise, projects and capital to the city. It has also lifted Nanchang's profile in the world,” said Zeng of the Publicity Department of the CPC Nanchang Municipal Committee. “Nanchang is willing to be an international platform for global low-carbon development.” ■

✉ yulintao@bjreview.com

COVER STORY

A RIGHT WAY OF GROWTH

Nanchang's eco-industrial park integrates economic growth with environmental protection By Yu Lintao

Aixihu Lake lies in the eastern part of Nanchang, capital of central China's Jiangxi Province, and is within the jurisdiction of the Nanchang National Hi-tech Industrial Development Zone (NNHIDZ).

From 2005 to 2008, many real estate developers were eyeing up the lakeshore for commercial development. However, the management of NNHIDZ refused all bids. Instead, it tried to improve the environment surrounding the lake and plant trees. In 2007 the land was transformed into a public park.

Now full of singing birds and colorful flowers, the park has become an "air filter" of NNHIDZ. Residents nearby go there in the morning or on holidays to enjoy their leisure time. Office workers can take a breath of fresh air during breaks or after work.

The sound ecological environment also brings NNHIDZ great economic benefit.

In March 2008, when Hou Weigui, Board Chairman of ZTE Corp., the world's fifth-largest telecom equipment supplier by sales, made inquiries about investment in NNHIDZ, he was fascinated by the its sound ecosystem, and decided to invest in building cellphone

production lines in the development zone.

NNHIDZ does not take all comers. In line with Nanchang's low-carbon city development strategy, NNHIDZ is striving to build a first-class low-carbon industrial park in China. It actively attracts hi-tech enterprises to settle in the zone but also specifies environmental standards that all projects in the zone should reach.

"Though we lost out on much investment, we have attracted more high-quality and environment-friendly enterprises," said Wu Yujiang, Deputy Director of NNHIDZ.

NNHIDZ is focusing on green industries including low-energy lighting, photovoltaics, outsourcing, information technology, biopharmaceuticals and new-energy vehicles. With a favorable investment environment, it has gathered a big group of renowned enterprises in low-carbon industries from home and abroad, such as Lattice Power, Thermonamic Electronics (Jiangxi) Corp., Kohler, Yates Foil and hi-tech companies including Microsoft, ZTE Corp. and Inventec Appliances (Nanchang) Corp.

Low-carbon industries have now become the pillar of NNHIDZ's success.

Lattice Power, a world leader in light-

emitting diode (LED) manufacturing, is the only Chinese enterprise with intellectual property rights in the industry. With its silicon substrate-based gallium nitride LED technology, Lattice Power's products enable better communication and greater productivity throughout the world.

Thermoelectric technologies are based on the Seebeck effect, the conversion of temperature changes into electricity. With independent research and many patents, the products of Thermonamic Electronics (Jiangxi) Corp. are very popular in Western markets and widely used in low-carbon industries, such as converting car exhaust heat into electricity. Thermoelectric technologies are also used in manufacturing energy-efficient fans, generators and stoves.

The outsourcing industry, with little energy consumption and free of pollution, is a development priority of NNHIDZ. It's now home to hundreds of outsourcing enterprises including Hitachi, Microsoft, Dell, Oracle and Bertelsman, which have a combined office area of 300,000 square meters.

Jason Chuang, Director of Performance Management Development of Inbentec Appliances (Nanchang) Corp., a Taipei-based software enterprise, said that as Nanchang is building a low-carbon city, the fine investment environment provided by NNHIDZ and its talent pool make it an ideal place for investment.

Nanchang has 30 colleges and institutes. Their graduates provide the intellectual underpinning for the development of hi-tech outsourcing industry in NNHIDZ.

In 2011, the main business income of the industrial zone reached 90 billion yuan (\$14.17 billion). NNHIDZ, which accounts for 0.08 percent of Nanchang's total size, has created about 25 percent of the added value of the city's large industrial enterprises.

"By 2015, NNHIDZ will be built into the largest LED chip manufacturing base worldwide and the largest outsourcing industrial base in central China. Its main business income is expected to surpass 200 billion yuan (\$31.50 billion)," Wu said. ■

LOW-CARBON TECHNOLOGY: An employee works in a precision instrument laboratory belonging to Lattice Power, a world-leading light-emitting diode manufacturer based in Nanchang National Hi-tech Industrial Development Zone, on August 8



✉ yulintao@bjreview.com

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