



AWARD
Guangzhou

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Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation

Contents

I. Updates and Events P01

Highlights of Major Activities P01

- 1.Experts Brainstorming for Urban Innovation Index P01
- 2.Sharing Innovative Experiences and the "Chinese Approach" for Urban Governance P2
- 3.My City, My Song. Let' s Sing the Sound of Guangzhou P03
- 4.Guangzhou Award and Guangzhou Multilateral Cooperation P04
- 5.Why Guangzhou's Culture Favors "Innovation" P05

International Exchanges P06

II . Case Presentation P07

Guangzhou Award Case P07

- 1.Care about Vulnerable Groups in the Cities and Share Our Development Fruits P07
- 2.From Trash to Treasure P10
- 3.Citizen' s Participation Makes the Future of the City P12

An Overview of Innovative Cases P15

- 1.Small Acts Bring Great Changes P16
- 2.Reduce Waste for Better Environment P17

Observe Urban Innovation Governance Case P19

- Green-Sharing at the Heart of Guangzhou P19

III . The Latest of the 5th Guangzhou Award P24

I. Updates and Events

Highlights
of Major
Activities

1 Experts Brainstorming for Urban Innovation Index — Guangzhou Award Experts Seminar

A lively discussion about urban innovation and its index was held on July 7 in the office of Guangzhou Award Secretariat. At the conference, Liang Guiquan, president of GIUI and Yao Yi, deputy director of The Institute of International Relations of Guangzhou Academy of Social Sciences, Wan Xiaohong, vice president of the School of Public Administration of South China Normal University, and Zhan Meixu, deputy chief engineer of the Planning Research Center of Guangzhou Urban & Rural planning and Design Institute discussed the definition of the Urban Innovation Index and the establishment of its system, providing professional and forward-looking suggestions on its development.



2 Sharing Innovative Experiences and the "Chinese Approach" to Urban Governance

—An 2020 online meeting on videos sharing about the excellent international urban innovation initiatives

Under the guidance of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC) and the Foreign Affairs Office of Guangzhou Municipal People's Government, during the time of the Meeting for UCLG Members of Chinese Mainland on July 9, 2020, the Guangzhou Award Secretariat has organized the 2020 online meeting on videos sharing about the excellent international urban innovation initiatives, aiming to share the excellent initiatives and governance experience of urban innovation with cities around the world. A total of more than 80 representatives from 27 cities in China attended the meeting.

At the meeting, Nicholas You explained the adjustment of the rules of the 5th cycle of the Guangzhou Award in response to the Coronavirus epidemic, and took the following three initiatives from previous years, Surabaya (Indonesia), Milan (Italy) and Boston (USA) as examples to illustrate the highlights of innovation. In conjunction with the Guangzhou Award, Mr. Bao Yajun gave a speech on urban governance in China. The participants interacted actively and shared their governance experiences with each other.

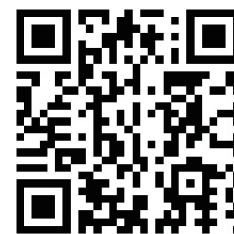
The meeting encouraged and promoted innovative governance in cities around the world to contribute more "Chinese Approach" to global sustainable development.

3 My City, My Song. Let's Sing the song of Guangzhou

— the Theme Song Competition and Award Presentation Ceremony of Guangzhou Award



On August 21, 2020, Secretariat of Guangzhou Award held the Theme Song Competition and Award Presentation Ceremony of Guangzhou Award in the Guangzhou Urban Planning Exhibition Center. More than 200 submissions were collected for this event. After preliminary evaluation, 18 songs were shortlisted for the finals. These songs were performed by singers in live and scored by five professional judges. At last, "The Voice of Guangzhou" stood out from many works and won the first prize, becoming a candidate for the theme song of the Guangzhou Award. In the future, the theme song of Guangzhou Award will have opportunities to appear on important occasions of international city exchanges, and help Guangzhou Award to promote the realization of the good wishes of the global city for comprehensive, harmonious and sustainable development.



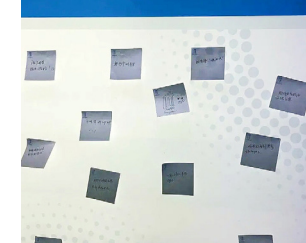
Scan the QR code to enjoy Voice of Guangzhou

4 Guangzhou Award and Guangzhou Multilateral Cooperation

— Guangzhou Award Attended the 28th Guangzhou Fair



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The 28th Guangzhou Fair was held in Pazhou International Exhibition Center from August 28 to 31, 2020. This is the first time that Guangzhou Award has taken part in large-scale offline exhibition activities in China since the outbreak of COVID-19 this year. The exhibition of Guangzhou Award is themed by "Guangzhou Award and Guangzhou Multilateral Cooperation". The contents of Guangzhou Award exhibition are four parts: the background of Guangzhou Award's Establishment, Introduction of Organizers, the Development Process and Award-Winning Cities Cases. There was a display screen to broadcast videos such as Guangzhou Award Promotional Video, online press conferences, anti-epidemic seminars and media reports. Introduction of Winning Cities exhibition area introduces six outstanding cases from three aspects: community governance, cultural integration and environmental improvement, it fully displayed the development history of the Guangzhou Award and the city's innovative style. Besides, there was an interactive area, audiences were invited to participate in the game and express the words you want to say to Guangzhou Award.

5 Why Guangzhou's Culture Favors "Innovation"

—The 15th Urban Innovation Forum

On September 17, the 15th Urban Innovation Forum was held at the Multicultural Center on the eighth floor of the North Building of Guangzhou Library. Zhu Haisong, vice-president of Guangdong Southern Personnel Science Research Institute and a popular science writer, was invited as the guest to introduce Guangzhou's urban culture, which is "informal" and "fond of tradition and innovation". Using examples of Guangzhou's historical figures and the top of the world in Guangzhou, he explained what is "be fond of the old" in culture -- one of the characteristics of Guangzhou, an important city in the south of China. At the same time, he also introduced Guangzhou's innovation support system of "a pilot zone, a laboratory, a batch of major innovation carriers" and its demonstration role in promoting the high-quality development of digital economy in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, which all demonstrate Guangzhou's "love for innovation" in culture.



International Exchanges

Aug 6th

Nicholas You, Executive Director of GIUI, visited the European Alliance of Anti-Racist Cities to discuss the possibility of cooperation between the two sides and issued an invitation to its members to apply for the 5th Guangzhou Award.

Sep 19th

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations held an online activity entitled "Green Cities to Build Back Better for SDGs". Guangzhou Mayor Wen Guohui was invited to make a special speech in the form of video to promote Guangzhou's international cooperation such as the Guangzhou Award. He expressed his support for the "Green Cities Initiative". He also expressed his hope to learn from each other and jointly contribute to the realization of the UN's sustainable development goals.

Sep 30th

Nicholas You, Executive Director of GIUI, attended the "Inclusive and Prosperous Society" network side event of U20 Mayor Summit as a representative of Guangzhou. He participated in discussions on issues such as gender equality, youth empowerment and future work.

Sep 1st

Guangzhou Municipal Planning and Natural Resources Bureau and Nicholas You, Executive Director of the GIUI, held an online meeting to discuss the possibility of cooperation between "China Sustainable Development Urban Cooling Project" and Guangzhou Award. According to the bureau's announcement on September 21, Guangzhou has been selected as the first pilot city of the World Bank's "China Sustainable Development City Cooling Project" to carry out a pilot work lasting about one and a half years and strive to become a "leading city" in global climate governance.

Sep 25th

The Urban Innovation Professional Committee completed a new round of member invitation updates and annual summaries. The Committee was set up by Guangzhou under the guide of United Cities And Local Governments (UCLG) and relying on the Guangzhou Award. The Committee aims to promote the contribution of urban innovation programs among its members to the global agenda. At present, there are 35 unit/individual members.

Sep

The shortlisted city cases of Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation were included as part of UN-HABITAT's Urban Best Practices Database (<https://www.urbanagendaplatform.org/best-practice>), which is another progress made by Guangzhou Award in helping to localize New Urban Agenda and SDGs. On October 6, 2020, UN-Habitat launched the Urban Agenda Platform to assess the progress made by countries in implementing New Urban Agenda and achieving the 2030 SDGs. The addition of the shortlisted city cases of Guangzhou Award has enriched the experience of global urban governance innovation.

II . Case Presentation



1. Care about Vulnerable Groups in the Cities and Share Our Development Fruits

In a society where economic development is a priority, there are also many vulnerable groups, which need much love and care from us. Thanks to several previous initiatives of Guangzhou Award, the living conditions of vulnerable groups in many cities have been improved a lot. Let's review these heart-warming cases with Guangzhou Award Secretariat, share the wisdom of the city, and perform social responsibilities.

Deserving Cities of 2016 Guangzhou Award ♦ Junín, Colombia

Ancestral Wisdom as a Tool for Peace

Between 1994 and 2004, Junín in Cundinamarca, Colombia was an area of conflict occupied by illegal armed groups. To keep away from being kidnapped or killed, many habitants in Junín had to escape their hometown. However, with the great assistance and continuous effort of the government, army and the police, this region has become relatively safe by now. The government can promote inclusion policies to attract displaced people to return. Additionally, to solve the housing problem, the government learns from the ancestral wisdom, using environmental-friendly materials to reconstruct vernacular houses at a low cost.



Deserving Cities of 2016 Guangzhou Award ♦ Seferihisar, Turkey

Public Card Financial Aid System: A Pre-paid Public Card in Seferihisar



The Seferihisar's government uses a pre-paid public card to provide basic financial aid for vulnerable groups which makes them affordable for daily necessities. In every month, the municipal government transfers a certain amount of money to these public cards, whose owners are vulnerable groups of all ages as well as students between the ages of 10–17. Judged from the aspects of social responsibilities and professional skills, this program is a great innovation in Turkey. In this way, the Seferihisar's government can directly give the allowance to the poor online without injuring their pride.

Deserving Cities of 2016 Guangzhou Award ♦ Kfar Saba, Israel

Innovative Public Community Services to Enhance Social Tolerance for Groups with Special Needs

The ultimate goal of this initiative is to change our attitude towards special groups in city communities. On the basis of equality, exchange, friendliness and tolerance, everyone should learn how to accept "others who are different from us" to create a better society. With this goal, the initiative will narrow the gap between different groups and change social perceptions and attitudes. The project sponsors believe that activities such as holding continuous and regular meetings and exchanges, together with cooperation and volunteer activities in the community, will promote mutual understanding and respect between different groups.



Deserving Cities of 2014 Guangzhou Award ♦ B ü y ü kç ekmece, Turkey

The Disabled Must Also Move Forward

At first, the organizers aimed to reach out to at least 30 disabled children and their parents, giving them confidence to overcome difficulties in their lives. After achieving this goal, they started to reach out to 80 disabled people, and finally to 180. The initiative helps teenagers to find jobs, cheering them up and making them realize that they' re as competent as other children in the community. In spite of their disabilities, they can go forward and chase their dreams bravely. Now, the initiative is going on with new people and their parents, and the ultimate goal is to help and support all 4000 disabled people in the local district. Moreover, the cooperation with hospitals makes it possible for the disabled to be rehabilitated, which is the reason why the organizers keep following their health conditions.



Winning Cities of 2014 Guangzhou Award ♦ Dakar, Senegal

Municipal Finance Program



With the rapid growth of Dakar' s urban population, a majority of people engage in informal jobs. Therefore, a central market place is needed to accommodate street vendors, so as to improve their social and economic situation and to provide more a convenient and hygienic environment for consumers. To finance the project, Dakar decided

to access capital markets, which makes it the first city to use the new financing mechanism in a transparent and responsible way in Africa. With this breakthrough, there is now a precedent for other cities across Africa to benefit from lower transaction costs and lower credit terms as well as less skepticism from investors as they seek mainstream sources of finance for their respective capital projects.

2. From Trash to Treasure

The earth's resources must be cherished, and protecting the environment is a consensus. With the progress and development of social life, people's lives are constantly moving towards convenience. The domestic waste generated by a large number of express delivery and takeaway: express boxes, delivery bags, beverage bottles, food waste, etc. are increasingly occupying our living space. So how can we reduce waste and recycle valuable resource? In the following excellent initiatives from Guangzhou Award, we may find the answers.

Deserving Cities of 2016 Guangzhou Award ♦ Jeonju, Republic of Korea

Innovative Food Waste Reducing and Recycling Project Using Scientific Technology



The goal of this initiative is to reduce the amount of food waste and related costs by turning the waste into resources. Furthermore, the waste of resources would be minimized and environmental pollution could be prevented. The organizers are committed to provide a comfortable life with high quality for residents in Jeonju through “building an environmentally-friendly food

culture, reducing energy consumption and realizing economic development in a green and low-carbon way” . For example, Jeonju City has changed its practice of charging a fixed fee for food waste, instead using radio frequency identification (RFID), charging fees based on the amount and weight of food waste.

Deserving Cities of 2018 Guangzhou Award ♦ Nanning, China

Kitchen Waste Resource Utilization and Harmless Treatment Plant Project

The Kitchen Waste Resource Utilization and Harmless Treatment Plant Project of Nanning city has literally turned the kitchen waste into usable biogas and oil and reduced environmental pollution. It effectively improves the environment of residential areas by eliminating the run-out, spillage, dripping, leakage and odor of kitchen waste during the collection and transportation process, for



which this project obtains great support from the general public. The project cooperates with universities to study technologies such as oil production of diesel oil, biogas residue composting, biogas purification, etc., which all provide technical support for the terminal treatment and resource utilization of kitchen waste.

Deserving Cities of 2014 Guangzhou Award ♦ Kisumu, Kenya

Waste to Wealth

Kisumu City has formulated a solid waste management strategy to start from the source classification of wastes, promote the partnership between the government and the masses, and call on young people in the city to participate in solid waste management, which can promote employment and improve people's livelihood. Urbanization has brought us challenges. A large amount of garbage needs to be disposed of. The high unemployment rate of young people and women has given birth to waste disposal companies that can recycle, collect, transport and decompose waste to create a clean environment.



Deserving Cities of 2012 Guangzhou Award ♦ Belo Horizonte, Brazil

Public Private Partnership on Urban Solid Waste Management



The state government of Minas Gerais put forward the innovative plan early, making efforts to perform the sustainable treatment, transshipment and final disposal of municipal solid waste through public private partnership. From the aspect of system and regulation, it's an innovative project. Now, the Belo Horizonte Metropolitan Region BHMR has become the only metropolis in Latin America which can have 100% of its solid waste treated and correctly disposed according to international standards in an environmentally friendly manner.

Winning Cities of 2016 Guangzhou Award ♦ Qalyubeya, Egypt

Integrated Community Based Solid Waste Management

This application focuses on an initiative aiming at improving the collection of waste in the city of Khosoos. It assisted the formalization of informal waste collectors through one NGO and three private sector companies, and supported ten of the poorest collectors with motorized tricycles for waste collection. Within the neighborhood, a transfer station equipped with three trucks and ten containers is constructed, in order to help informal waste collectors transfer waste to landfills more conveniently. Besides, there are a few supporting measures, which can awaken inhabitants' awareness of waste management better.



3. Citizen's Participation Makes the Future of the City

As the main characters of the city, the importance of citizens is reflected in every aspect of the city life. Only by listening to their voices and working with the citizens can a city grow faster and serve its people better. As an award concerning urban innovation, Guangzhou Award appreciates excellent initiatives that promote cooperation between government and citizens. Let's review these excellent initiatives together with Guangzhou Award Secretariat!

Deserving Cities of 2012 Guangzhou Award ♦ Ashkelon, Israel

A Smart City Decision Support System

The strategic principles of Ashkelon are: 1) the participation and response of citizens; 2) the sustainable development of smart and green management.

The Smart City Decision Support System has a positive influence directly on the quality of people's life. According to the statistics, citizens' satisfaction with services is increasing steadily.



By carrying out a thorough survey, Ashkelon knows people's needs for different departments, emphasizes the crucial role of the public in decision-making process, and expresses the determination of raising the quality and efficiency of public services. This case indicates great significance of meeting citizens' needs, taking follow-up actions and taking on responsibilities.

Deserving Cities of 2016 Guangzhou Award ♦ Moscow, Russia

Collective Decision-making System “VMESTE!” (“TOGETHER!”)

The municipal decision-making system named “VMESTE!” provides citizens with an entire set of online tools to improve the city life. This unique initiative is awarded with 9 prizes at home and abroad, and it's one of the top 50 social applications in the world. In this system, citizens can make online complaints about municipal services, and the government must solve problems within 8 days, and release a public report. In conclusion, this innovative and practical initiative gives citizens an opportunity to influence administrative decisions at all stages.



Deserving Cities of 2012 Guangzhou Award ♦ Sabadell, Spain

Public Transparency and Citizen Participation Projects



Goals of the Initiative include: improve the citizen's proximity feeling, encourage citizens' participation and implication in strategic decision processes and shared project management; establish a trust and legal security climate to attract business and investment events and boost economy; spread informative tools to support business development; and keep information and achievements open to improve the prestige and recognition of Sabadell.

Deserving Cities of 2014 Guangzhou Award ♦ Tel Aviv, Israel

The Tel Aviv-Yafo Municipality Residents Club – “Digital”

The municipal government of Tel Aviv-Yafo enables clients to choose channels of communication which are most convenient for them to receive information and services, as well as encouraging continuous and accessible use of the digital connection.



The government initiates proactive provision of information to clients, facilitates the digital delivery of all its services, makes use of cutting-edge technologies to create customized services of high quality, and lets its clients take part in democratic dialogues regarding social issues on the municipal website and other platforms. In all, this innovative digital system enables citizens involved in more initiatives, activities, events and plans.

Winning Cities of 2012 Guangzhou Award ♦ Vienna, Austria

Integration of New Migration Projects



Vienna is a city of immigration: 20% of the population has a nationality other than Austrian, 11% was not born in Austria but has been naturalized, and 13% has at least one parent who was born abroad. That is to say, 44% of the total Viennese population has a migration background.

New migrants are provided with the most important information on life in Vienna as early as possible to help them find their way around Vienna. To clear their reading barrier, it is written in their mother languages. This is also an advantage for public authorities, because new migrants would know who to contact for specific inquiries after reading the information, instead of asking authorities, advice centers as well as other institutions for help aimlessly.

An Overview of Innovative Cases

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a collection of 17 interlinked goals set by the United Nations General Assembly. They guide the global development work from 2015 to 2030 after the expiration of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The SDGs are set to thoroughly solve the problems of social, economic and environmental development and build a sustainable future. To achieve them requires the joint efforts of mankind.



The Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation has been dedicated to find inspirational solutions to solve developing problems and build a sustainable future, in line with the global vision set by the United Nations General Assembly. In previous editions of the Guangzhou Award, the judging panel also considered the extent to which a city's innovative practices are aligned with the SDGs.

In July 2020, a new column named “An Overview of Innovative Cases” was launched by Guangzhou Award Secretariat, so as to share with our audience more excellent international cases about urban governance which are aligned with the SDGs.

1. Small Acts Bring Great Changes

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Revitalising the Kuala Lumpur Klang River Waterfront into Resilient Sustainable Pedestrian Areas



Within the heart of the historical Kuala Lumpur area, the city council has focused on transforming the district surrounding the confluence of the Klang and Gombak Rivers into a vibrant and livable waterfront with high economic value. Through this project, the government of Kuala Lumpur is set to revitalize the Klang River waterfront into resilient sustainable pedestrian Areas.

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Shegole and Kality Climate-Smart Bus Depots



In 2016, Addis Ababa launched the construction of two bus depots (“Shegole” and “Kality”). Both depots host multiple services, which include washing bays, fueling stations, maintenance services and parking (both underground and ground level). The depots

are climate-smart and CO2-mitigating, as waste and wastewater treatment systems, green roofing, charging points for electric buses and solar panels are incorporated into the depots’ design. Additionally, both depots will enable the acquisition of new, fuel-efficient vehicles. Responsible waste management in the depots will also have an impact on reducing air pollution.

Bangkok, Thailand

Bangkok’s City Hall Makes the Switch to Better Energy Efficiency



Due to having been in use for more than 30 years, the electrical and air conditioning systems of the buildings of two major city departments in Bangkok have become less energy efficient and now cause high monthly electricity charges as well as incomplete usability. Consequently, the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) has allocated the budget of the 2017 fiscal year in order to renovate the buildings. The scope of renovation includes improving the capacity of the sanitary system, the electrical system and the air conditioning system.

Yokohama, Japan

Zero Carbon Yokohama – Renewable Energy Partnership



Based on the global trend of decarbonization, City of Yokohama is channeling efforts towards reduction of energy consumption through energy savings, and shifting towards renewable energy resources under the “Zero Carbon Yokohama” framework. This framework targets to reach zero carbon, create a regional circular and ecological sphere, and a carbon neutral society by 2050.

Madrid, Spain

The Madrid Recupera Plan



Madrid City Council is carrying out a plan to implement changes to residential buildings which include energy efficiency improvements and CO2 emissions reduction. The plan, called Mad-Re (Madrid Recupera), provides economic support for works like façade retention, improving lighting, heating and cooling facilities, or putting in place renewable energy systems or green roofs. These interventions help to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

Guangzhou, China

Solid Waste Disposal Project



Offering more efficient treatment and wider service coverage, the Solid Waste Disposal Project is designed to effectively reduce adverse environmental impacts while promoting economic efficiency. Promulgated by the government, waste classification policies in Guangzhou have gained significant progresses so far, with classified kitchen waste (food and beverage industry) and resource recovery increasing to 1,000 tons/day and 7,500 tons/day respectively.

Copenhagen, Denmark

Resource and Waste Plan 2024 (RPA24)



The Resource and Waste Plan 2024 (RAP24) addresses municipal waste from households and light industry waste. The target is to recycle 70 % of the municipal waste by 2024. This will amount to a reduction of 59,000 tons of CO2 per year. Recycling must triple in municipal reuse facilities in order to achieve this goal.

2. Reduce Waste for Better Environment

Johannesburg, South Africa

Johannesburg's Landfill Gas Project



Johannesburg has developed a project which harvests methane gas from landfill sites and then generates electricity. The project is implemented on three landfill sites. The electricity generation capacity by the project is approximately 19MW which is fed to the grid and distributed to households. The project is registered as a Clean Development Mechanism

(CDM) project and generates over 250,000 carbon credits annually.

Stockholm, Sweden

GrowSmarter Sustainable Delivery Platform in Stockholm



The City of Stockholm partnered up with GrowSmarter to pilot a smart, automatic and sustainable parcel delivery room located on the bottom floor of a multi-storey apartment block in Årsta, Stockholm, where residents can order their home deliveries to a pick-up point. By using electric assisted bicycles for the delivery of the goods to the delivery room, the project reduces CO2 emissions since the goods otherwise would have been distributed by a truck or car.

Green-Sharing at the Heart of Guangzhou

— Conservation and Restoration of Haizhu Wetlands in Guangzhou, China

Observe Urban Innovation Governance Case



Abstract

Haizhu National Wetland Park is located at the heart of Guangzhou metropolitan, and has been the winner of struggling in trade-off between develop and conservation. The government decided to conserve and restore degraded orchards and tidal creeks into wetland park by utilizing tidal forces to enhance hydrological processes, purify water, improve wildlife habitat, and biodiversity. Meanwhile, the natural based solutions also reduced restoration costs, and provide solutions for urban flooding, cooling down urban temperature, and reducing pollution. The project has also harmonized land use for local communities in living, production and



ecological environments, and thus to achieve coordinated development and co-management with local communities, and has developed the area as the best practices for national ecological civilization strategies, as well as the model for sustainable city in the great bay areas in Pearl River Delta.

Background Information



Stage 1 (before the reform and open): The Origin of Fruits in Lingnan Area

Haizhu Wetlands grew out of the “Acres of Orchards” , living in company with Guangzhou ancient city. With more than 2,000 years history and abundant Lingnan folk culture. Haizhu wetlands is also a significant access way for migratory birds, and origin of Lingnan fruit.



Stage 2 (1990–2010) : Erosion Degradation

At the end of 20th century, the orchard had decreased from 20,000 to 10,000 acres. The degradation of orchard threatens the local economic production and daily life of local people.



Stage 3 (since 2012) : Wetland Revitalization

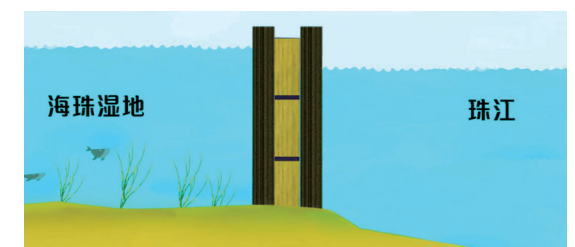
In 2012, Guangzhou government invested 4.585 billion RMB, in order to protect the wetlands and prevent excessive commercial development. Aiming to perpetually preserve wetland’ s ecological functions and considering it as a public asset of citizen, finally 27,000,000 acres wetland

has been retained.

In 2012, “Flagship Precinct (Phase 1)” has been generated, which remarks the starting point of the revitalization process. The Guangzhou Municipal Government issued the "ten wetlands" to protect wetlands from degradation.

Project Characteristics

- **Megalopolis Central Wetlands.** Haizhu Wetlands, a 1100-hectare central wetlands park, has since been known as the “green heart” of Guangzhou, which is the largest urban wetland in the city center.
- **Demonstration of Ecological Civilization in the Greater Bay Area.** Haizhu wetlands is of great benefit to local economic and social development.
- **Local Structural Integration.** Haizhu wetlands integrates three local characteristics and embodies the integration of Lingnan agriculture and Pearl River Delta network.



Innovation Initiatives

1. Government Policy Support

Guangzhou regards the Haizhu Wetland as the central “green heart” determined by the city’s strategic planning and overall planning, and as an important regional ecological node as defined in the Outline of the Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. It wants to achieve permanent protection of wetlands through the compilation and promulgation of the “General Guangdong Haizhu National Wetland Park” Planning, “Haizhu Wetland

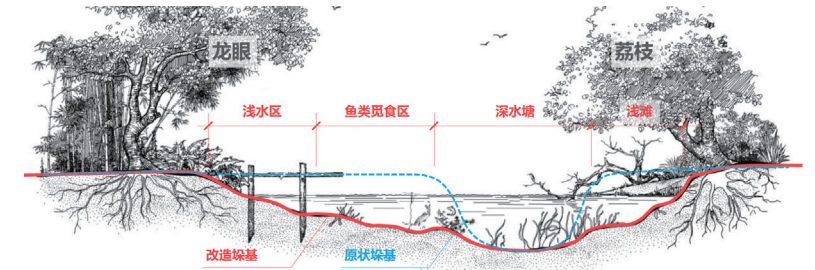


Ecological Restoration Plan”, “Haizhu Wetland Ecological Monitoring Plan” and other plans, as well as the implementation of management and control measures such as the delineation of ecological red lines in Guangzhou. Among them, the “Master Plan of Haizhu National Wetland Park” aims to build a modern urban central delta wetland park, and coordinate the six functions of urban wetland, ecological protection, cultural inheritance, science education, leisure tourism, and rational utilization to realize the joint development of wetlands with surrounding cities and communities. In 2018, the “Guangzhou City Wetland Protection Law” was promulgated, linking the overall plan of the wetland park to further clarify the red line of wetland protection and implement rigid control. In 2018, the “Guangzhou City Wetland Protection Law” was promulgated, linking the overall plan of the wetland park to further clarify the red line of wetland protection and implement rigid control.

2. Natural Solutions

The Guangzhou Municipal Government insists on “solutions based on nature” and emphasizes the focus on natural restoration. For example, repairing tidal river networks, realizing natural water circulation and rain and flood regulation through the power of tidal water level changes, effectively reducing mechanical power input, reducing energy consumption, and alleviating waterlogging, heat islands, and pollution problems; creating animal and plant habitats to enhance biodiversity to create habitats for birds, fish, insects and beasts from a biological perspective. This work has increased the number of bird species from 72 to 177, insect species from 66 to 325, and fruit tree species from more than 10 to more than 200 species and a century-old tree re-bears fruit; the whole area adopts clean energy, provides transportation services through battery cars

and battery boats, and reduces carbon dioxide emissions; green waste is used for fences, plank roads, insect houses, ecological art sketches, etc., to realize the recycling of green waste and reduce environmental pressure; the silt generated during the construction process realizes the earthwork balance on site, pile up into a “pile foundation” and become the foundation soil for planting fruit trees; through digging trenches along the river, piling up soil to form a foundation, planting trees on the foundation, and flooding (ponds) to raise fish, a complete ecological chain is formed, ecological farming methods are preserved, and inherited ancient agricultural ecological wisdom, etc.. Through these innovative technologies, environmental problems in the process of urbanization in mega cities can be solved so as to make efficient use of resources and reduce pollution emissions.



3. Co-construction, governance and sharing

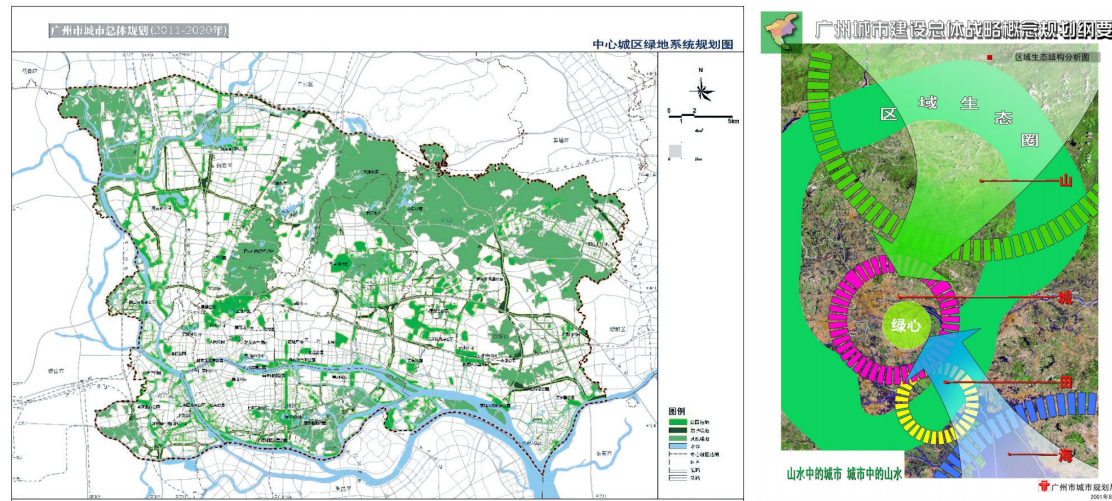
Guangzhou Municipal Government has launched an international contest for Haizhu Wetlands plan and design before the project implementation. To ensure the participation of citizens and the adoption of constructive suggestions, expert committee was established to provide professional advice on wetland conservation, restoration, environmental education and urban integration that integrated into urban planning. Besides, Guangzhou Municipal Government conducts public survey every year. Constructive proposals will be adopted as references to formulate work plan for the next year. Guangzhou Municipal Government also signed a common protection agreement with surrounding communities to achieve harmonized development.

Effectiveness

1. Form a win-win situation between ecological civilization and traditional agricultural heritage inheritance ✓
2. Realize environmental governance and reproduce the vitality of the city center ✓
3. Inherit the traditional cultural heritage of Lingnan ✓
4. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth ✓
5. Widely recognized and internationally influential ✓
6. Best Practices for Maintaining Harmonious Relationship between Man and Nature ✓

Since a series of wetland restoration work, good results have been achieved. In terms of the ecological environment, the project provide ecological services as "urban green lung" function, and the PM 2.5 level around the wetland is 20% lower than the average of Guangzhou. Besides, it mitigates the effect of urban heat island, the average temperature of the wetland is 0.5-1 degree lower than surrounding urban areas. Water quality is purified, water quality in wetland has been improved from grade V to grade III, and some indicators have reached grade II standard. In terms of economic development, Haizhu Wetlands conservation and restoration project has greatly improved the quality of life in surrounding areas, and attracted 30 Global Fortune 500 companies to invest in the district, which contributed 50% increase in GDP, and it is projected to reach one-hundred-billion level industrial cluster in near future. In terms of community development, the project promoted the improvement of 8 old communities in surrounding areas. The project also focuses on the needs of marginal groups, so establishing a free-access wetland park that is equal and open for everyone. Besides, the project secures women's rights, and establish baby care room, provide free tour for women during International Women's Day. More than 50% of the jobs are provided to women. Social insurance is provided for all local villagers, which provides a stable life security for them.

Haizhu National Wetland Park has harmonized land use for local communities in living, production and ecological environments, and thus to achieve coordinated development and co-management with local communities, and has developed the area as the best practices for national ecological civilization strategies, as well as the model for sustainable city in the great bay areas in Pearl River Delta.



III . The Latest of the 5th Guangzhou Award

Secretariat of Guangzhou Award has received **162** applications from **107** cities in **48** countries and regions by the Early Bird Submission Deadline on September 30. The number of countries (regions), cities and initiatives registered are **73%**, **55%** and **60%** of the 4th Guangzhou Award respectively.

List of previous application for Guangzhou Award

The 1st Guangzhou Award (2012)	56 countries and regions	153 cities and	255 initiatives signed up
The 2nd Guangzhou Award (2014)	57 countries and regions	177 cities and	259 initiatives signed up
The 3rd Guangzhou Award (2016)	59 countries and regions	171 cities and	301 initiatives signed up
The 4th Guangzhou Award (2018)	66 countries and regions	193 cities and	273 initiatives signed up

Famous Cities

At present, the following well-known cities have signed up for the Guangzhou Award:

