

Projects set to ignite port's future economy

Baosteel Group gives momentum to local resources and development, **Zheng Caixiong** reports.

The Zhanjiang local government anticipates that the city's gigantic Baosteel project will become a model for industrial transformation and contribute to the construction of a modern coastal eco-city.

According to Wang Zhongbing, mayor of the port city in the western region of Guangdong province, the Baosteel project is vital for Zhanjiang's economic revitalization, but he stressed that the city would not sacrifice environmental protection for the sake of economic development.

Zhanjiang's environment will remain healthy, even after the Baosteel project starts operation, Wang said.

Wang made his remarks at a meeting with Xu Lejiang, chairman of Baosteel, in the city last month.

Both sides promised to introduce concrete and effective measures to protect Zhanjiang's environment and ecology while speeding up construction of the complex project.

Xu, along with a senior executive delegation from the company, arrived in Zhanjiang to attend the ignition ceremony for the project's second blast furnace, marking the completion of construction work on the Baosteel production facility. The ignition cer-



Zhanjiang Far East Steel Structure, a subsidiary of Baosteel, started trial production in Zhanjiang last June. PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY



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Wang Zhongbing, mayor of Zhanjiang

emony for the project's first blast furnace was held last September.

Baosteel Group is the largest steelmaker in China.

"The Baosteel project is expected to become a new economic growth point for Zhanjiang in Guangdong's Leizhou Peninsula," said Wang.

To prevent the city's environment and ecology from being damaged after the project is completed, more than 6 billion yuan (\$909 million) has been invested to under-

take energy-saving and emission reduction in the past years, he added.

And 116 emission-reducing technologies have been introduced so far, Wang said. Baosteel also plans to share energy resources and materials with the Sino-Kuwait petrochemical project that is slated for construction just 500 meters from its own production facility.

The two projects will share transportation channels to maximize environmental efficiency.

Wang said he hoped the Baosteel project would become an example of environmental protection in Zhanjiang, a city that is witnessing rapid economic growth.

Located on Donghai Island facing the South China Sea, the Baosteel complex's construction costs topped 50 billion yuan.

The project is also expected to help stimulate economic development in the western part of Guangdong province in the years to come, Wang added.

According to industry insiders, the Baosteel project also has the potential to be expanded in future, because the products it produces will be exported globally.

Wang said the project has helped stimulate more than 200 industrial chain projects in the city, which has seen economic growth of 7.8 percent in the first half of the year.

In the steel and supplementary industrial development zone that covers more than 300 hectares on Donghai Island, 59 projects with a total investment of 12.5 billion yuan, have been agreed, while construction work on a further 37 projects with an investment of 6.7 billion yuan is also well underway.

To further improve the city's investment environment, construction work on numerous expressways has also been accelerated.

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Distance between Zhanjiang and foreign ports



A transport hub in China's Guangdong province, Zhanjiang connects to ports in 100 countries and regions. WANG MIN / FOR CHINA DAILY

Former fishing island aims to net commercial rewards

By ZHENG CAIXIONG

The construction of Zhanjiang's Baosteel factory and related supplementary projects are expected to transform the former fishing sanctuary of Donghai Island into a newly modern industrial town.

Covering nearly 500 square kilometers, Donghai Island is the fifth largest island in China.

To facilitate its transformation from a sleeping fishing enclave to a modern industrial center, the construction of a new central business district, costing more than 3 billion yuan (\$461.5 million) began last month.

The 544-hectare CBD project includes a plaza that will combine offices, commercial services and scientific research and related facilities.

A park that will cover an area of 138.6 mu, or 92,300 square meters, is also slated for construction, and the project will cost 117 million yuan.

There will also be a scientific and cultural exchange service center, with a con-



A technician works a vessel at Shihua wharf in Zhanjiang. YANG BIN / FOR CHINA DAILY

struction floor space of more than 30,000 square meters. The center will cost more than 280 million yuan.

The center will house an exhibition and convention center, a cinema, a library, a museum, a cultural center, an archive and a business incubator.

A commercial and entertainment center has also been

planned for the district. Covering an area of some 30,000 square meters, the center will include restaurants and entertainment facilities.

Construction costs for the project, which has a planned floor space of 70,000 square meters, are estimated to reach more than 200 million yuan.

A luxury hotel covering an

area of 19,700 square meters is also planned at a cost of more than 500 million yuan.

There are also plans for a housing estate and a sidewalk that will cover a total area of 290,800 square meters at a cost of more than 2 billion yuan. Construction work on a high school, a hospital and a waterworks is being accelerated.

Coastal city sees prospects in Indonesia

By LI WENFANG
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Indonesia has become one of the key destinations for investment from Zhanjiang, as enterprises in the city in Guangdong province are being encouraged to invest abroad.

Zhanjiang Yuexin Refined Mining Industry Co, which produces kaolinite for items such as water-based paint, rubber plastic filler, petroleum catalyst carrier, pesticide carrier, glass fiber, fire resistant material and building ceramic, has invested in a kaolinite mine in Indonesia.

The 200-hectare mine is estimated to hold more than 27 million metric tons of high-quality resources.

The site is designed to have an annual production capacity of 2 million tons, which supports annual revenue of 1.3 billion yuan (\$195 million). The mine will have new world-leading technology for its production line.

Zhanjiang-based Evergreen Group, a market leader in Zhanjiang's aquatic industry,

has pledged \$650,000 investment for a fodder joint venture in Indonesia.

The group is involved in almost the whole aquatic industry chain, from breeding, sea-farming, seafood processing, fodder, aquatic medicines, foreign trade and machinery for aquatic processing, packaging, storage and transportation.

A leading worldwide supplier of aquatic fodder and a standard setter in China's aquatic fodder industry, it is also one of China's top five suppliers of aquatic machinery and freezing systems.

As a pivot city in China's Belt

and Road Initiative and a pilot city in connecting Guangdong to ASEAN, Zhanjiang is stepping up its efforts to advance its maritime economy.

During his visit to Indonesia late last year, Zhanjiang Mayor Wang Zhongbing said his city would import more aquatic products from the Southeast Asian country and support corporate cooperation between the two places.

It serves the interests of both sides to strengthen trade and maritime economic ties, Wang said, adding that Zhanjiang enterprises had invested \$100 million in Indonesia in the past five years. During the visit,

representatives of Fenyong Economic Zone in Zhanjiang and Millennium Danatama Group signed a framework agreement to jointly develop industrial parks.

Johan Suryadarma, an executive at the Indonesian Fishery Product Processing & Marketing Association, arranged for 11 Indonesian exhibitors, including government agencies and aquaculture companies, to attend the 2016 China International Aquatic Products Exposition in Zhanjiang in June.

"The United States and the European Union have been our major markets," he said. "China has been a large exporter but its imports have increased greatly."

Suryadarma has been promoting exports to China and educating exporters about the stricter Chinese coding and labeling requirements on such imports.

Hengki Ang, from PT. SK Foods Indonesia, said his company is exporting shrimp products to Japan, the United States and Europe and is looking for a new market in China.



With good environment and economic foundations, Zhanjiang eyes on global market for future growth. HUANG GUANDI / FOR CHINA DAILY

Company eyes sweet blueprint through Cambodian connection

By ZHENG CAIXIONG

Hengfu Group Sugar Industry Co Ltd, a major sugar manufacturer in Zhanjiang, has seen its international trade spike in recent years, thanks to Belt and Road Initiative.

The company began operations at a new production facility earlier this year in Preah Vihear, Cambodia, said its director, Liu Feng.

Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun Sen said the sugar production facility has created more than 7,000 jobs for local residents, while the entire project will create over 14,000 jobs for Cambodians.

Covering an area of 120 square kilometers, the sugar production facility has a total investment of more than \$360 million, and will produce more than 360,000 tons of sugar a year.

"The project will help build Cambodia, which produced less than 30,000 tons of sug-

ar last year, from a country that has to import sugar into a nation which exports its sugar," Liu said.

The project is also the largest Chinese sugar production facility in Cambodia.

In the second and third stages of the project, the company has planned to invest more than \$1 billion to construct a modern agricultural development zone that will cover an area of 180,000 hectares.

In its entirety, the project will result in the annual production of more than 1.08 million tons of sugar.

In addition to production facilities, other amenities including modern commercial streets, sports venues, apartments, parks, hospitals and schools will also be constructed to meet the growing demand from industrial and economic development, Liu said.

The project will help create substantial employment

opportunities for Cambodian citizens, said Liu. Liu said he believed the company's Cambodia project has great development potential and he expressed his hope that the project would help further advance cooperation between China and its good neighbor, Cambodia.

To accommodate future development plans, the company has been granted land covering an area of 424.22 square kilometers.

Meanwhile, Guangdong Hengfu will seek opportunities to expand its investment in Cambodia's infrastructural facilities, as well as its energy, telecommunications, financial, cultural and modern service sectors in the coming years, Liu said.

Liu added that the company will work to support the development of Cambodia's education and public health systems, as well as industries that impact on people's livelihood.