

GETTING CREATIVE GARNERS GREAT HIGH-TECH PAYOFF

By YUAN SHENGGAO

Xinwu district in Wuxi, Jiangsu province, has made progress in cultivating local high-tech and innovation-driven companies, citing a list from financial information providers C&A and chinanews.com.

The list calculated the number of enterprises listed on the Science and Technology Innovation Board — also known as STAR Market — across Chinese city districts. Xinwu district ranked 10th.

As of 2021, there were seven listed companies from Xinwu on the board, which accounted for 70 percent of Wuxi and 8.9 percent of Jiangsu.

Xinwu district, also known as the Wuxi National Hi-Tech District, was established in 1992. It has played a role in propelling innovation since its establishment, with a host of innovative businesses launched in the district.

Chisun Medical Technologies is the first Wuxi-based company listed on the board. Founded in 1996, it has grown to be one of the leading manufacturers for ultrasonic systems. Adhering to independent research and development, it has set up R&D centers in China and the United States.

China Resources Microelectronics is a high-tech enterprise in the district engaged in the investment, development, operation and management of microelectronics. It was listed on the Science and Technology Innovation Board in 2020.

With a total market value of 100.2 billion yuan (\$15.9 billion), it is the first listed company in the district and the third one in Wuxi with a market value exceeding 100 billion yuan.

Founded in 2010, Wuxi Autowell Technology is a key player in the photovoltaic and thin-film battery industry. On May 21, 2020, Autowell was listed on the STAR Market.

MODERN AGRICULTURE A GROWING SUCCESS

By CAO YINGYING

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Xinwu district in Wuxi has made great efforts to promote the development of intelligent agriculture and is exploring a new path for modern agriculture in southern Jiangsu province.

The district reached an agreement with global high-tech agricultural company Syngenta Group in January to build an intelligent farm.

According to the agreement, the project will be backed by the Xinwu district government and Wuxi Urban Construction Development Group with a 200 million yuan (\$31.46 million) investment, and is to be operated by Syngenta Group China.

Based on the business ethos of "new farming, new life and new model", the Future Farm project will serve as a modern agricultural Internet of things demonstration base, a modern agricultural science and technology demonstration promotion base, and a teen education and research base.

The Future Farm will cover multiple application and experience scenarios. These include a digital plant factory, a modern agriculture platform developed by Sinochem Agriculture Holdings, which allows whole-process traceability, a modern agriculture node materials demonstration farm, a Syngenta-funded modern agricultural science and technology experience center, an outdoor science popularization area and a leisure experience area.

According to the Xinwu government, the Future Farm project aims to transform the traditional agricultural model, demonstrate modern agricultural innovation and explore new approaches fit for southern Jiangsu.

Moreover, the agricultural IoT demonstration base, the modern agricultural science and technology demonstration and promotion base, and the teen education and research base will play a key role in promoting the integration of agriculture, tourism and culture, according to the Xinwu government.

Chipson Micro-electronics is a high-tech company, founded in 2005, engaged in analog and mixed-signal integrated circuit design. In July 2020, the company was listed on the Science and Technology Innovation Board. It was Wuxi's first integrated circuit design enterprise to join the board.

Wuxi Hysench is a professional manufacturer of aero engines and medical orthopedics, focusing on independent R&D in the field.

Erick Microelectronics is an analog IC design company. It has specialized in the field of power management for nearly 20 years. Its products are mainly used in mobile phones and wearable devices.

Dizal Pharmaceutical focuses on the treatment of major diseases, such as malignant tumors and immune diseases, and has set up a leading technology transformation and R&D platform.

The impressive performance of these companies is linked to the services and guidance of Xinwu district officials said.

Since the establishment of the Science and Technology Innovation Board, Xinwu district has been improving its investment in high-tech companies and cultivating new paths for their development.

Guided by the national industrial development direction based on the district's foundation, the district is striving to set up a 1-trillion-yuan industrial cluster to cultivate six landmark industries: the Internet of things and digital industry, IC, biopharmaceuticals, intelligent equipment, auto parts and new energy.

The district will also give full play to two major service industries — the high-end software and digital industries, and high-end commerce and air services — and the three future industries of artificial intelligence, hydrogen fuel cells and third-generation semiconductors.



Foreign canoeists compete in a canoeing race on the Bodu River in Xinwu. PHOTOS PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY



International school students play soccer after class in Xinwu district. WUYUAN / FOR CHINA DAILY



The Wuxi Zero-Carbon Technology Industrial Park, the first of its kind in Jiangsu province, is located in Xinwu.



A foreign guest tries his hand at playing erhu, a traditional Chinese musical instrument, when participating in the International Day event at Boston International School in the district.



The Wuxi Branch of Shanghai-based Ruijin Hospital opens at Xinwu district in 2019, sharing prime medical resources from Shanghai with Wuxi and its surrounding areas.



A night view of the district.

XIN WU BLOSSOMS

Since its inception was approved by the State Council in 1992, Wuxi National Hi-Tech District, the city's first national economic development zone, has developed into a crucial platform to showcase opening-up and attract foreign investment, and a key engine to drive growth in the local economy. The district's GDP surpassed 220 billion yuan (\$34.8 billion) in 2021, with a year-on-year increase ranking top in the city. Emerging as a popular investment destination and building on its strength in technological innovation, the district is striving to create a high-growth modern industrial system with international influence.

Xinwu district, also known as the Wuxi National Hi-Tech District, will strive this year to set a benchmark for high-quality growth and better implement its new development concept featuring innovation, coordination, environmentalism, openness and sharing.

It also plans to play a leading role in the modernization of Wuxi, Jiangsu province, in East China.

These initiatives are part of Xinwu's efforts to celebrate the high-tech district's 30th anniversary and welcome the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, according to the district government.

"In the next five years, Xinwu will focus on balancing development and security; integrating into the new growth pattern; supporting major strategies, such as the development of the Yangtze River Economic Belt and the Yangtze River Delta region; modernizing the governance system and pursuing common prosperity," said Zhang Jinwei, head of Xinwu district.

According to the district's latest government work report, Xinwu has set major targets pertaining to its social and economic growth.

For example, by the end of this year, its GDP is expected to increase by 6.5 percent year-on-year; the general public budget revenue will go up by around 5.5 percent; total research and development input will account for 4.8 percent of the district's GDP; and investment in fixed assets will reach 84.5 billion yuan (\$13.4 billion).

To reach these goals, Xinwu will pour resources into the development of seven areas including industries, innovation, reform and the environment.

The district will continue to strengthen the real economy and construct an industrial system with more distinctive features. Efforts will be made to attract major projects and promote cooperation with State-owned enterprises, Fortune Global 500 companies and leading private businesses.

This year, Xinwu plans to introduce more than 100 projects, each with an investment exceeding 100 million yuan; three projects each with an investment of over 5 billion yuan; and two projects each with an investment of over 10 billion yuan.

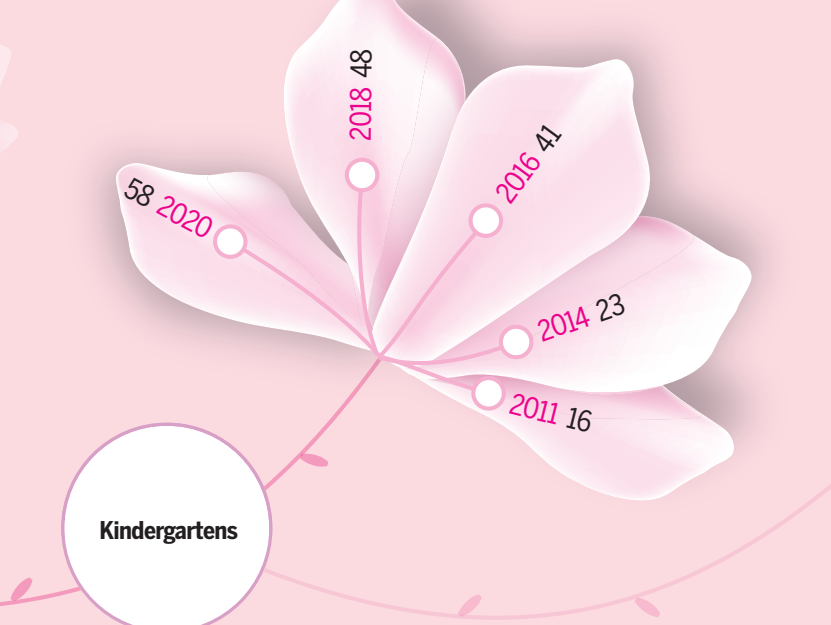
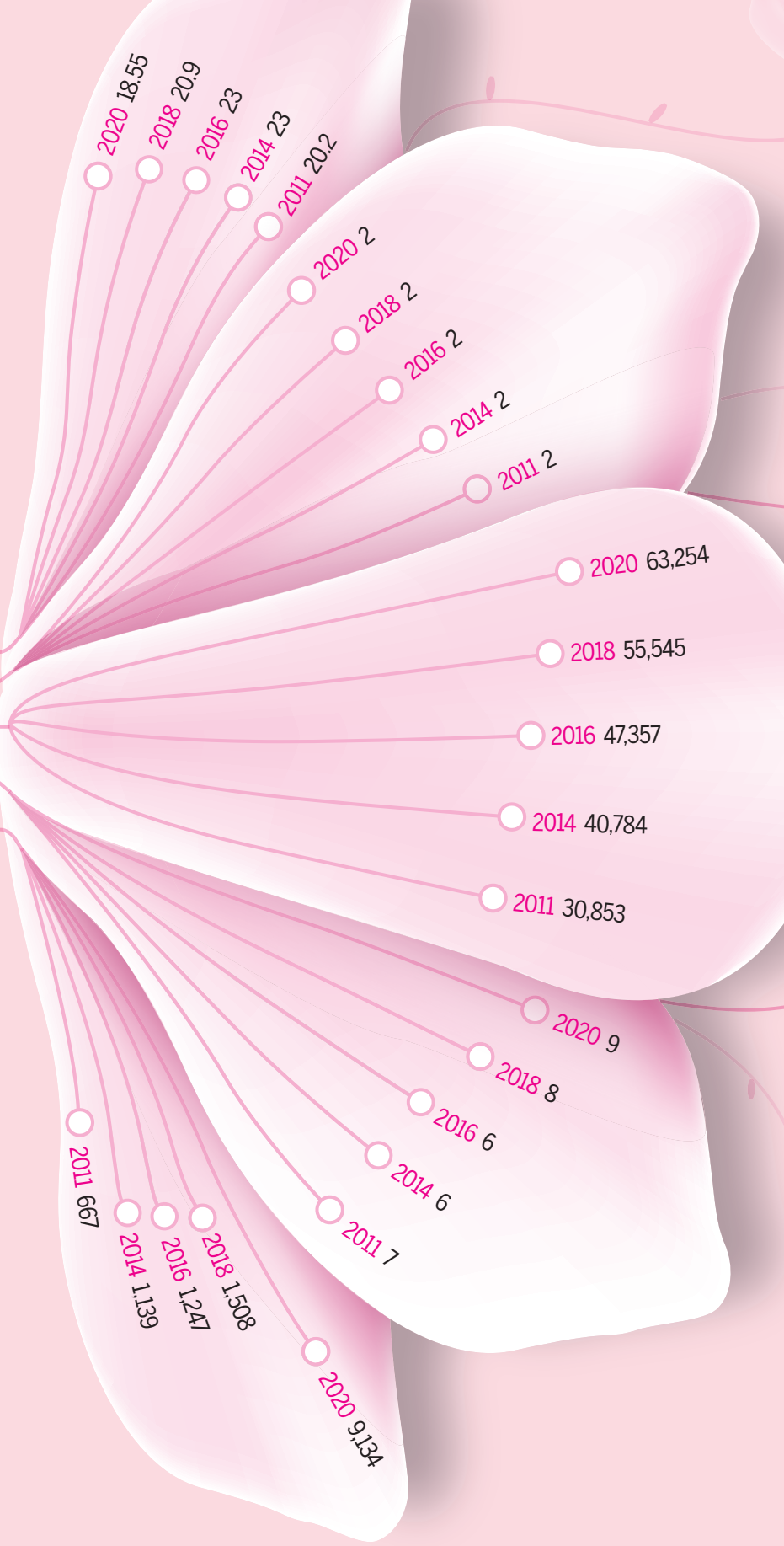
It will also speed up the development of some pillar industries such as the development of the Yangtze River Economic Belt and the Yangtze River Delta region; modernizing the governance system and pursuing common prosperity," said Zhang Jinwei, head of Xinwu district.

The integrated development of manufacturing with new-generation information technology such as artificial intelligence, 5G and the industrial Internet will be intensified. As a result, Xinwu plans to add 50 provincial and municipal intelligent demonstration workshops and a service-oriented comprehensive bonded zone.

The improvement of functions to speed up construction of the modern district is another highlight. This year, Xinwu will continue the infrastructure construction planning and evaluation project in a bid to optimize its district functions and the distribution of public service resources.

It will also enhance the district's image by forming a number of international streets and roads with cultural assets,

- Forest coverage
Unit: percent
- Higher education schools
- Per capita disposable income of urban residents
Unit: yuan
- Elder care centers
- Sport and fitness facilities



BIOPHARMA SECTOR BRINGS CITY DOSE OF PROSPERITY

By SONG MENGXING

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Construction began in Xinwu recently on a large-scale biopharmaceutical innovation and incubation center, and Dizal Pharmaceutical's new research and development and production headquarters in China, reinforcing the district's progress in the industry.

Zhao Jianbin, acting mayor of Wuxi, said that as the project began in January, the city has been spurred to promote other important industrial projects.

The district, also known as Wuxi National Hi-Tech District, will implement a strategy of using industrial chains to attract investment from State-owned, private and foreign companies in 2022, local officials said.

The authorities plan for more regional headquarters, subsidiaries and industrial projects to operate in the district.

Dizal Biopharmaceutical, founded in 2012, is an innovation-driven and competitive enterprise. It will invest about 1 billion yuan (\$182 million) in building a headquarters and incubation center project and some 2 million yuan in R&D in the first phase to build its innovative drug R&D and manufacturing center.

The center also launched promotion and discussion events with healthcare security authorities and hospitals to publicize new products, technologies and services.

Among leading companies operating in the center is AstraZeneca, which produces and sells nearly 40 kinds of drugs. It set up its Chinese logistics center in Wuxi while its supply center in the city has exported products to nearly 70 countries and regions.

Chisun Medical Technologies is another representative company. It boasts 46 key technologies involving drugs, some fields and sells its self-developed products to more than 100 countries and regions.

The center plans to attract major projects and become more influential in the biopharmaceutical field during the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-25).

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ALL-AROUND SERVICES CARE FOR THE ELDERLY

By ZHANG LINWAN

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Xinwu district in the Jiangsu city of Wuxi is improving care services for the elderly to ensure their health and happiness.

Xinwu is home to 91,000 senior residents, accounting for 23.68 percent of the district's registered population.

One of the priorities for many community officials is to offer the elderly quality care services at home or in their neighborhood, according to the district government.

With a combined investment of 950 million yuan (\$150.3 million), Xinwu has built an array of elder care facilities over the past few years. These include six home care service centers, 73 service stations and nine food delivery centers.

Its Wangzhuang Street was honored as a provincial smart elder care demonstration site just thanks to its various services that utilize advanced technology.

For example, the street has established a big data system to monitor the elderly's service quality but assists in government regulation, an industrial expert said.

At the Wangzhuang Nursing Home, senior citizens are provided with a smart security card, which can be used to alert the front desk if users fall down or get lost.

Meanwhile, elderly people's daily needs, medicine and health information as well as career work are managed by different applications and a central computing system. Their families can keep themselves in touch with carers through an online social network.

The Xinwu civil affairs and health bureau has also launched a house-refitting project for the elderly who have lost some or all capability to take care of themselves.

The refitting scheme is customized according to a professional evaluation of residents' needs and building conditions, said a representative from the bureau.

If they need to use a wheelchair, all entrances and steps in their house will be rebuilt. If they are bedridden, they will be offered automatic nursing beds, the representative added.

Other refined items included an anti-slip treatment for floors, installing handrails in the bathroom and providing assisted-living facilities such as shower chairs and everted tables, according to the bureau.

By November 2021, 210 households had been renovated in Xinwu.

"Thanks to the senior's right in the corridor, I won't worry about falling down when going to the bathroom at night," said Qian Fuzhen, a 93-year-old resident in Xinwu. She sent a silk banner to the bureau to express her gratitude.

Equal attention has been given to the elderly's dining and recreation in Xinwu. The canteen in the home care service center on Xin'an Street serves up healthy dishes and delivers meals to 140 senior residents.

At the center, elderly people can participate in courses ranging from photography and handicraft to dancing and baking.

Community officials and volunteers also visit senior homes to help them with housework, offer massages and other healthcare services or simply chat with them.