

City of Houbi, TAINAN

Whole City Category B

► Population ► 25,745 people

The Houbi District of Greater Tainan is a plane farm village located at the plant area of Taiwan. The location of the island, Taiwan, is at the border of the Pacific Ocean and the Continent of Asia. As the North Tropic Mark goes across the center of Taiwan, its yearly average temperature is $25^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 10^{\circ}\text{C}$. Sea breezes bring rich rainfall to Taiwan and also moderate the humidity. A diverse ecological environment has been developed from sea level to 4,000 high mountains.

From the Houbi District to the high mountains and to the sea are both 40 Kilometers. Due to the remarkable geographical features, the Houbi District was gifted to the naturally livable environment.



To review the development chronicle of the Houbi District, the reason would be demonstrated to show why it is an ideal place to work and live. The earliest ancient records is from the Pingpu Tribes, the aborigines of Taiwan. They had discovered the environmental-friendly techniques to build houses. Moving to the modern history, the Houbi District was benefit from the construction of the irrigation system named Chianan Canal during the World War II. Observing the Houbi District from a bird's eye view, it looks like an island floating on shallow water in the summer. Wetlands nourish farms, develop green resources, and help the Houbi District to farm in the way of water resources conservation and environment protection.

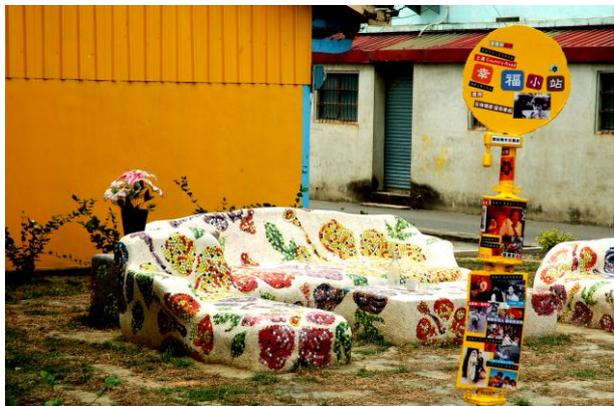


Around the industrial era about 1960's, the agricultural policies of Taiwan had turned to developing the high-valued diverse commodities and investigating farming techniques by the experimental ways. These policies were helpful to the stabilization of the agricultural population and prevented the primary production dominated by big capital groups. That is exactly the reason why the Houbi District could still keep the tradition of mutually supportive agricultural life and culture. No large agricultural machines were used; no chemicals sprayed by aircrafts. Responsibilities were taken for environmental sustainability as well as tasty products and reasonable prices.



The 1970's is the planning stage of the Houbi District. Toward being the compact village, the Houbi District had been built into a mix community matched the needs of a small-scale urban area and the functions of an agricultural farm. To reduce the carbon emissions, all the destinations of living in the township are accessible with environmentally friendly vehicles, such as bikes, scooters, and agricultural machines.

The awareness of community's characteristics was start from 1990's. With the support of government, civilians' community building movements had been launched. It developed the Houbi District to a modern village which meets the goal of sustainable management especially on the cultural aspect. Most of the activities were focusing on cultural artifacts, crafts, and historical streets and sites preservation.



In the 20th century, with the launch of "Agenda 21", the government and local organizations of the Houbi District started to promote the ideas of sustainable development. We made the most efforts of maintaining rice cultures. Not only combined academia and art to develop the diversified applications of rice, but integrated old and new agricultural life models.

Along the grown of the knowledge level of communities, the government began to focus on adult and elderly education besides K-12 education. Through the implementation of public education, not only could facilitate organizational cooperation, but the residents of the Houbi District could be empowerment to deal with the communities' public affairs. It could be also seen as the implementation of the civilization.

The Houbi District would go for being the livable place. Till now, we've pay lots of effort to make our living environment better and better. Next step, the energy saving and interconnected tourist routes, and in-depth ecological environmental education tours would be settle down. At the same time, the integrations and reutilizations of cultures and the improvements of the quality of existing recreational sites would be put into process. The Houbi District is ready to be the livable place. As the brief introduction of the Houbi District grabs your interests, remember, you're welcome anytime!