

New Taipei City is situated at the northern part of Taiwan, occupying an area of 2,052 square kilometers and a coastline of 120 km. The Tamsui River and its main tributaries of Xindian Creek, Dahan Creek and Keelung River flow across the area, providing the region with a diversity of geographical environments. There are over 3.92 million residents in New Taipei City, making it the most populous administrative division in Taiwan. In order to create a comfortable urban environment, the city managers pursued numerous sustainable environment improvement projects extensively, achieving the Cleanest City of Taiwan Award and the first place in the national river restoration project for the past five and seven years respectively. In 2011, the City was awarded by the Environmental Protection Administration as national model city for lowering carbon emissions. In 2012, the City once again received recognition by the Intelligent Community Forum (ICF) as one of the Intelligent Community-Smart 21 cities for her excellent information technology services provided to citizens of New Taipei.

### **1. Improvements to Natural and Human Landscapes**

- (1) Creating a natural ecology in the river channels and doubling biodiversity; establishing conservation zones in the river, increasing the number of wild ducks by 42% within a year.
- (2) 53 rivers and creeks were designated as protected fishing areas; 「Tree banks」 were established to protect precious and ancient trees.
- (3) Creating elevated riverside parks occupying 1300 hectares; park area has increased by 175 hectares in a decade; 70 garden communities were establishing, while 212 dilapidated sectors were reorganized into mini gardens. Multi-layered planting technologies were introduced to improve the aesthetics of city infrastructure.
- (4) In the past 5 years, 221 km of pedestrian sidewalks were improved, 18 km of covered walkways were renovated and 449 streets were improved. Historical streets buildings within the city dating back to the 18th and 19th centuries were designated as historical landmarks.

## **2. Arts, Cultures, and Legacies**

- (1) The City has over 400 years of history, with 128 tangible and intangible cultural assets, and established 57 public and private museums.
- (2) The Liugong Canal, the Lin Family Mansion and Garden, the Former British Matheson Warehouse and other historical landmark restoration projects are amongst our successful cases.
- (3) Sculptor Ming Chu, the Cloud Gate Dance Theatre, and Ju Percussion Group have all established an art district in New Taipei City.
- (4) In 2011, over 5000 cultural and art activities were held, with an attendance of 23.18 million people, 5.9 times higher than the total population of the city. Pingxi Sky Lantern Festival as well as Gongliao Ocean Music Carnival has become internationally renowned holiday festivities.

## **3. The best measures to protect our environment**

- (1) Over 15 artificial wetlands were established, processing up to 1/6 of residential effluents of the entire City.
- (2) Mandatory garbage sorting and garbage disposal charges by the bag were implemented citywide in 2010, reducing daily garbage production by 50% per person. Up to 214.8 million kWh of electricity were produced from our garbage. A service to provide reusable items to families in deed was provided, reducing garbage volume equivalent to 101 Taipei 101 towers.
- (3) 620 professional carbon reduction diagnostics were completed, helping to reduce CO2 by 19,518 tons. 50% of old public buses were replaced by environmentally friendly models.
- (4) Sewers connectivity has increased from 7.24% in 2005 to 45.1% of today; 22 sewage interception stations were built, processing up to 98.69% of sewage waste.

#### **4. Community Participation and Rights**

- (1) The Mayor of the City, City Councilmen, District Supervisors and other official postings were publically elected. Various policies also invite popular participation; public opinion investigations by telephone were carried out.
- (2) The 1999 hotline service center was established to provide inquiry, complaints, and reporting services through an expedient telephone counter. Standardized and simplified forms and electronic government was setup to improve the efficiency of administrative services.
- (3) Community creation Program was implemented; over 50 communities participate actively in the program every year.
- (4) The City has over 85,000 volunteer workers in the areas of social services, education, culture, environmental protection and other diverse fields.

#### **5. Healthy Lifestyle**

- (1) 115 hectares of organic farms were established, providing 100 junior-high and elementary schools with organic vegetables for the student lunches.
- (2) People's exercise centers and parks were established throughout the city. Low carbon tours were encouraged. The bicycle routes, with a total length of 347 km, were built. 165 hiking walkways, measuring a total of 600 km, were built.
- (3) Life-long learning projects, Songnian Universities, Women's Universities, and colleges for the physically and mentally handicapped were established.
- (4) Various health screening and vaccination services were provided; long-term nursing services were improved. Think Positive Campaigns were promoted in addition to weight control measures to take care of resident health.

## 6. Policy Planning

- (1) The following four major policies were planned to establish a friendly environment, low carbon emissions, sustainability, deep-reaching culture, and a healthy and enjoyable lifestyle:
- (2) Improvements to our aquatic environments will be continued for the next 4 years. Greenhouse gas reduction plans were formulated to reduce emissions by 20% of 2006 levels by 2026. From 2012, mandatory green requirements were implemented for new buildings.
- (3) To increase the length of the metro system by 146 km and establish about 121 metro stations by 2030. Establish an environmentally transport system via solar powered bus stations, recharging stops for electric scooters, and rental systems for bicycles.
- (4) Expand cultural participation on the themes of “joy”, “beauty” and “hope”.
- (5) Make further improvements to our preventive health, medical treatment and nursing services so that average life expectancy of a New Taipei resident can be increased to 81 years by 2016 (an increment of 1 year compared to 2010).