

PRESS RELEASE

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Chinese city to host International Awards for Liveable Communities Finals 2013

The coastal city of Xiamen, China, is set to play host the 2013 finals of the International Awards for Liveable Communities (28th November-2nd December).

Now in their 17th year, this is the fourth time that the prestigious LivCom International Awards – which are devoted to championing and rewarding sustainable development, quality of life and environmental best practice in communities – have been held in China.

In 2002 Xiamen achieved first place, with a Gold Award, in the whole cities category of the LivCom Awards, and in 2004 the city gained the coveted UN Habitat Award. The city also achieved recognition as “Top Destination for Foreign Investment” and “City of Excellence in Civil Ethics” titles in three consecutive years, as well as various other awards including “National Model City for Environmental Protection”, “National Award for Excellence in Sanitation”, “National Excellence in Tourism” and is regarded as one of China’s top ten most liveable cities.

Mr Liu Keqing, Mayor of Xiamen said: “Xiamen is proud to host the Finals of the 2013 International Awards for Liveable Communities, and will endeavour to provide finalists with a memorable event.

He said: “Xiamen, one of the most livable and eco-friendly cities in China. For many years, Xiamen has been seeking harmony between society, economy and nature. The people of Xiamen are encouraged and empowered to actively

participate in urban and community development. Through its own efforts and international collaboration, Xiamen has grown into a friendly community with healthy ecological system, a livable environment, high living standards and a strong public awareness of the environment.”

Alan Smith, Chief Executive and Founder of LivCom said: “We are delighted that the awards are to be hosted by Xiamen where we are assured of a very warm welcome in one of China’s most beautiful coastal cities.”

At the awards finals, which have been held every year since 1997, judges evaluate the approach to individual criteria for sustainable development – enhancement of the landscape, heritage management, environmentally-sensitive practices, community sustainability and planning for the future.

The finals, which see representatives of the various towns and cities make their case to an international jury, last for five days, culminating in an awards ceremony. The closing date for entries to the 2013 finals is 31st May. For more information please contact tel/fax: +44 (0) 118 946 1680 E-mail: info@livcomawards.com

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Note to editors:

You can follow the LivCom on Twitter [@LivcomAwards](https://twitter.com/LivcomAwards) and find out more at www.livcomawards.com

The International Awards for Liveable Communities (The LivCom Awards) was launched in 1997 and is endorsed by the United Nations Environment Programme, with which it partners an MoU.

LivCom is non-political, embracing all nations and cultures, and over 50 countries are represented within the Awards. The LivCom Awards are the only forum in which International Best Practice may be observed and developed, and participation in the Awards is an investment in the future of a community.

For further details see www.livcomawards.com or for media enquiries please contact livcommedia@gmail.com