

Guian looks to big data for big growth

Authorities make electronics industries a priority to drive regional industrial growth

By ZHAO SHIJUN
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Guian New Area in Southwest China's Guizhou province plans to highlight the emerging big data industry to drive its economic growth, according to the local government.

Construction of Guian New Area began in October 2012. It became a national-level new area in January 2014 with the approval of the State Council.

The 1,795-square-kilometer new area consists of 20 townships formerly belonging to the cities of Guiyang and Anshun. It is designed as a new economic driver and a demonstration area for opening-up and eco-friendly development in Guizhou province.

Since its establishment, the local authorities have made big data and its related electronics industry a priority for development.

According to the general

development plan for the new area released by the local government, Guian's goal is to develop a green data center with international influence, a nationally leading innovating and application base for big data, an intelligent IT terminals manufacturing base in western China, an integrated circuit production base and a hub for cross-border big data transactions.

A green data center refers to facilities for the data storage and management in which the mechanical, lighting, electrical and computer systems are designed for maximum energy efficiency and minimum environmental impact.

In addition, the plan also highlights big data-led information and electronics sectors as well as such industries as e-commerce, software outsourcing, smart city development and internet-based finance.

Construction of the new area has gone smoothly in the past years.

According to the local government, more than 400 enterprises had registered in the new area by the end of 2015.

Total output value of the big data-led information industries reached 14.29 billion yuan (\$2.2 billion) in 2015, growing about 160 percent from the previous year. The value hit 3.6 billion yuan in the first three months this year.

From January 2015 to March 2016, a total of 1.96 billion yuan had been invested in infrastructure construction, as 34 key projects were well underway, laying a solid foundation for the area's future development.

Big projects

Renowned companies from home and abroad have opened or plan to open operations in Guian, including Foxconn, Huawei, Qualcomm, China Mobile, China Telecom, China Unicom, Microsoft, IBM, Sina and Centrin Data Systems.

Famous IT original equipment manufacturer Foxconn has a green industry park in Guian. From January 2015 to March 2016, the facility produced 7.3 billion yuan worth of products, including smartphones for the Huawei, Xiaomi and Meizu brands.

Foxconn said its output value is expected to reach 10 billion yuan this year, creating more than 20,000 jobs.

The country's three biggest telecom operators — China Mobile, China Telecom and China Unicom — have data

centers in Guian. With the completion of their first-phase construction last year, these facilities now can accommodate more than 100,000 servers.

On March 2, Guian New Area held an investment promotion in Beijing, signing agreements for 16 big projects worth 16.1 billion yuan in investment with domestic and overseas investors. The projects include big data centers for medical imaging, modern agriculture and cloud-based payment, and also cover such fields as smart manufacturing and internet-plus automaking.

Local authorities expect the big data industry will have great significance for Guian's development.

Ma Changqing, Party chief and head of the administrative committee of Guian New Area, said "the big data industry will play an important role in helping Guian build a modern industrial system, create more jobs and improve administrative efficiency" by developing a smart city and communities.

Ma said Guian has recently launched a smart city operation center, using a cloud platform to facilitate the administration for a range of sectors including medical care, social welfare, education, transportation, tourism, environmental protection and poverty relief.

"The center can lead to a better connection between the government and residents and help people access more public resources," Ma said.



The Western Green Orange Technologies (Guizhou) is a major IT terminal manufacturer in Guian New Area. FU BOLIN / FOR CHINA DAILY



Foxconn's data center in Guian has 6,000 servers. LI FENG / FOR CHINA DAILY

Guian events at Data Expo 2016

Joint news conference by Qualcomm and Guian New Area Administrative Committee

10:30-11:00, May 24
Meeting Room 2, Guiyang International Ecological Conference Center

The 2016 Guian Global Summit Meeting for Intelligent Terminal Industry Innovation and Development and the Academicians Forum for Big Data Industry and Intelligent Technologies

May 24
Kaiyuan Hotel, Beidouwán, Guian New Area

International Forum for Green Data Center Development

May 27
Kaiyuan Hotel, Beidouwán, Guian New Area

Zone to support development of local firms

By TANG ZHIHAO
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The Guian New Area Comprehensive Bonded Zone in Guizhou province will strongly support regional economic development, local officials said.

"The bonded zone will be an important platform to strengthen communication between Guian New Area and the outside world. It is a solid foundation for building a demonstration area for Guizhou's opening-up," said Ma Changqing, Party chief and head of the administrative committee of Guian New Area.

The bonded zone, covering 2.2 square kilometers, went into operation on March 30.

Ma said the zone will grow into a demonstration area for industrial upgrades and a role



The Guian New Area Comprehensive Bonded Zone is the second bonded zone in Guizhou province. PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY

model for promoting opening-up in China's inland areas.

The State Council approved the establishment of the Guian Bonded Zone on Jan 12 last year.

The first phase of the zone, including six roads, warehouse facilities and an information-sharing system, was

completed in eight months. Office and urban facilities were also built during the first phase, allowing companies to begin operations immediately after moving into the zone.

The bonded zone passed appraisal tests conducted by a group of experts on Dec 23.

"I was impressed by the

construction speed of the bonded zone. It maintained high standards in construction and investment projects selection," said Li Zhihui, one of the appraisal experts and also deputy director at the processing trade and bonded system department of the General Administration of Customs.

The Guian New Area government vows to pay more attention to innovation and ecology to strengthen the zone's competitiveness.

Local officials said they will highlight the coordination between growth and ecology and they will stick to five principles for development: innovation, coordination, green growth, openness and resource sharing.

The local government said it will prioritize an innovation-driven strategy to sup-

port the bonded zone's development. The zone will cut unnecessary administrative procedures, promote free trade and provide market-oriented financial services in the coming years.

"Guian will have better economic structure with support from the bonded zone," said Wang Bing, deputy chief of the zone's administrative committee.

The zone will explore new growth models to better serve core industries such as advanced equipment, biotechnology and modern services.

According to local statistics, 15 investment projects have established offices in the bonded zone with investment of 2 billion yuan (\$307 million). Agreements for another 12 projects have been finalized between the zone and investors.

whattheysay

Editor's note: In less than five years since its establishment, Guian New Area has proved to be a hot destination for international and domestic investors in big data and related industries. In recent interviews, executives of the companies praised the environment and growth potential of the area, the preferential policies offered by the government, as well as the enterprising and practical spirits of the local officials.

Guizhou is a crucial strategic center for China to develop technologies of data centers and the partnership (the chip plant in Guian) is a great win-win opportunity for Qualcomm and Guizhou to seize China's huge market for data center technologies.

DEREK ABERLE, president of Qualcomm

We are proud that we have delivered our globally leading data center into a tunnel in Guian to process data for our advanced manufacturing. The site proves that cutting-edge technology can harmonize with nature.

GUO TAI-MING, founder and chairman of Foxconn

Tellhow E-style to usher in major companies

By TANG ZHIHAO
and DONG XIANWU

Tellhow E-style, the internet-based big data industrial park in Guian New Area, Guizhou province, will welcome its first batch of businesses in the second half of the year.

The park, jointly developed by Tencent and Tellhow Group, is the first of its kind

in China, claims the local government. The first-phase project, covering 100,000 square meters, is slated to be completed this year.

Developers said companies there will enjoy office facilities, commuting facilities, healthcare, online trading and property management services.

Tellhow E-style's operation

model is completely different from traditional industrial parks, said Qiu Jun, general manager of Tellhow Group's Guizhou branch.

"We plan to promote a sharing economy in the park," Qiu said.

"We will use big data technologies to analyze the common features and uniqueness of businesses to help them

lower costs and enhance efficiency," Qiu said.

"Tellhow is one of the companies that participated in setting up China's smart city standards. Our business achieved outstanding results in sectors such as smart energy, smart healthcare and smart government system design."

Tellhow has supported several government projects in Guian over the past few years including its recent cloud system development, Qiu said.

"The park's construction will be completed in 2020 to serve 800 companies," said Jiang Bing, customer relations manager at Tellhow. "The park will create up to 10,000 jobs upon completion."

"Companies can book meeting rooms and cars through our cloud system. The system can also help shops in the park deliver goods to buyers in 15 minutes," Jiang added.

Tellhow Guian Digital and Cultural Industrial Park, which is a part of Tellhow E-style, has attracted more than 30 leading companies, including Tencent,

IBM and Frank Russell. The industrial park has many support policies for startups.

"We will provide all the necessary support to businesses. We believe there will be many companies looking to establish offices in the park," Qiu said.

"The partnership between the Guian government, Tencent and Tellhow will accelerate Guian's smart city development," said Ma Changqing, Party chief and head of the administrative committee of Guian New Area.

Li Guoping from Peking University said local developers have to consider more about service quality in the park's construction process so as to support businesses growth. "Premium infrastructure is only a part of a smart park. It will not be a good industrial park if there is no professional service team and long-term development goal," Li said.

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Tellhow E-style uses its big data technology to help local companies lower costs and enhance efficiency. FU BOLIN / FOR CHINA DAILY

Guian is a national-level experimental zone for the big data industry, hosting a great number of data centers by domestic and international companies. A company focusing on the construction and application of educational big data platforms, Zhanneng Technologies has received crucial policy support from the local government.

QI XIANGDONG, president of Zhanneng Technologies Co

We recently signed an agreement with Guian for developing a big data-based smart agriculture project. We are optimistic about the project because of Guizhou's excellent ecology and the strong support of Guian's big data industry.

FU QIAN, vice-president of Nutshell Vision Information Technologies

We plan to establish a cloud platform to serve startups in Guian. The practical and enterprising spirits of local officials were one of the factors that helped us make that decision. We feel the new area is a hotspot for mass entrepreneurship and innovation.

ZHU TAO, chairman of Zhenghe Technologies