



Guangdong soaring to new heights

PROVINCE LOOKING TO REAP REWARDS FROM THE 26TH UNIVERSIADE IN ITS MAIN CITY

By MICHELLE FEI
CHINA DAILY

SHENZHEN — Everything has gone according to plan.

Now, it's time for a new plan.

Wang Yaming, deputy director of the Guangdong development and reform commission, revealed six new projects for the province's 12th five-year plan period on Saturday, saying the Universiade provided a springboard for the next stage of the area's development.

"The 26th Summer Universiade at Shenzhen is a good chance for the city to impress the world with its remarkable economic achievement, as well as promote the image of the city," she said. "Shenzhen is the pioneer of Guangdong — even the whole country — in economic reform. The young city has always retained its place as a leader in the service industry and financial industry."

Further development of the sports industry is part of the plan. About 37 billion yuan (\$5.79 billion) will be spent on enhancing the people's livelihood, security — including a community-based relief system — a social welfare system, a community-level medical and health system, and athletic infrastructures and public stadiums.

"For the sports industry, we will focus on promoting the concept of 'sports for all' in the next five years, by means of building more



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Wang Yaming, deputy director of the Guangdong development and reform commission, gives a speech.

public stadiums and sports facilities in communities, getting the public better engaged in sports," Wang said. "We will also promote interactive development among the industries of sports, tourism and culture."

About 2.38 trillion yuan will be invested in the construction

of six key projects in Guangdong province during the five-year plan period, with the total amount of planned investment on all key projects reaching 3.5 trillion yuan, according to Wang.

The six key projects aim at areas such as infrastructure, developing modern industries, the construc-

tion of livable cities and villages, green ecological initiatives, livelihood and environmental improvements, and establishing a strong provincial culture.

Construction of infrastructure will receive the largest investment, 1.523 trillion yuan.

That money will be mainly spent

developing four major systems — an integrated transportation system, an energy supply system, a water resources system and an information network system.

The province will emphasize the establishment of the railway from Shenzhen to Maoming, a highway that links Guangzhou and Lechang, the second phase of the Ling Ao Nuclear Power Station and the Huarun Haifeng project to supply large-capacity generator units.

By 2015, rail transit is expected to stretch to 5,000 kilometers, while highways will reach 6,500km. The power capacity is expected to amount to 100 million kilowatts.

About 536 billion yuan will also be invested to develop modern industries, such as high-end electronic information, new-energy automobiles, semiconductor illumination, energy conservation and nuclear power equipment.

In addition, about 124 billion yuan will be spent on promoting the modernization of cities while completing the redevelopment of more than 200 villages and townships.

Another 123 billion yuan will be invested in building a green ecological environment, improving pollution abatement in major river valleys and dealing with solid waste in a more environmentally friendly way. A total of 37 billion yuan will be invested to improve education and culture.

Greener city embraces Universiade and its legacy

By MICHELLE FEI
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SHENZHEN — "The grass gets greener, the air becomes fresher ... the evidence of Shenzhen's progress in improving the environment can be observed everywhere," said Lin Hanzhang, the deputy director of the Shenzhen Habitat Environment Committee on Saturday.

The city had been working on improving its environment since the day it was named host city of the 26th Summer Universiade in 2007. Noticeable achievements in environmental protection were revealed by the committee at the press conference.

Comprehensive measures were taken to diminish air, water and noise pollution over the past five years, with annual input in environmental infrastructure amounting to more than 20 billion yuan (\$3 billion) since 2008.

"Our single aim is to bring the world a greener Shenzhen, a green Universiade. As said in the slogan: 'start here, we want to make a difference,'" said Lin. "Most importantly, all the environmental infrastructure, together with all the achievements, are sustainable. The citizens could benefit from these differences over the long run."

Overall, the city's air quality has been significantly improved com-

pared with what it was in 2005. In 2010, air quality in 356 days out of 365 days was ranked as "good" or "excellent", while 179 days of 183 days in about the first half of 2011 were ranked "good" or "excellent". The comprehensive air pollution index had dropped from 1.803 in 2006 to 1.316 in 2010.

Water pollution has also decreased from 2005 to 2010. For example, the comprehensive pollution indexes for Guanlan River and Longgang River had dropped 58.1 percent to 53.1 percent since 2005.

As for the Universiade, there are 2,011 clean-energy vehicles running around the city, which also

account for 52.8 percent of the shuttle buses for the Universiade. The city is believed to possess the highest number of clean-energy vehicles in the world and they will continue to serve the citizens after the games, according to the committee.

"Besides the effort made by the government, citizens have also made their own contributions to a greener Shenzhen," said Lin.

He proudly announced that, up until Aug 11, 417,000 vehicles had been volunteered for suspension, so as to make way for public transportation and Universiade-designated buses. More than 90 percent were private cars.



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Lin Hanzhang, the deputy director of the Shenzhen Habitat Environment Committee