



From left: Shenzhen Bay Bridge spans the sea to connect Nanshan district with Yuanlang district in Hong Kong. PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY The multiple skyscrapers looking out over Shenzhen Bay illustrates Nanshan's strides in economic development. WU SHANGXIONG / CHINA DAILY



Pace of progress never stops in Nanshan

Key district of Shenzhen in Guangdong province making a name for itself as regional powerhouse and top business area

By CAO YINGYING
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Once a traditional agricultural town and now a modern coastal hub, Shenzhen's Nanshan district in Guangdong province has made great economic achievements as the district looks back at the 30th anniversary of its founding.

In 2019, the district's GDP totaled 610.37 billion yuan (\$86.17 billion) — 78 times its GDP 30 years ago. Nanshan's GDP has ranked No 1 for seven consecutive years among the districts of Guangdong province and accounted for 22.7 percent of Shenzhen's GDP in 2019.

The district also ranked first in research into the comprehensive competitiveness of districts in China. A top 100 was released by CCD Consulting, a firm affiliated with a think tank under the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, in 2019.

According to Nanshan government, the district achieved good results on investment, consumption and export sectors amid the economic downturn.

In 2019, the district completed its investment in fixed assets of 159.31 billion yuan, up 19.4 percent year-on-year. Total retail sales of consumer goods reached 86.67 billion yuan, up 7 percent compared with 2018. Exports totaled 212.74 billion yuan, with an increase of 4.9 percent year-on-year.

Nanshan district is also making efforts to attract businesses, with 61 investment projects of registered capital totaling 64.5 billion yuan in progress.

The headquarters of IT company Xiaomi, ride-hailing service provider Didi and other companies are to settle in the district. Also, domestic IT companies JD, Meituan and Byte-dance are to launch projects in Nanshan.

The district is home to innovation centers of a group of Global Fortune



A bird's-eye view of Shekou Sea World, a culture and arts center in Shenzhen's Nanshan district, which comprises a theater, restaurants, retail spaces and multiple galleries. PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY

500 companies, including European aerospace giant Airbus Group, global marketing consultancy Accenture and China Datang Corporation.

The newly-built Nanshan Science and Technology Finance Town, one of the six major financial bases in Shenzhen, is home to 21 key financial institutions including CMB Wealth Management.

Another highlight of Nanshan's development is that the level of industrial modernization has been improved and the economic struc-

ture continuously optimized.

Strategic emerging industries are developing rapidly, with an added value of 338.91 billion yuan in 2019, accounting for 55.6 percent of Nanshan's GDP.

The quality of industry and service in Nanshan district was improved, said the local government. In 2019, advanced manufacturing accounted for 65.7 percent of industry, 1.9 percent higher than 2018. The high-tech service industry also accounted for 72.3 percent of

the service industry.

Enterprises in the district demonstrated a strong driving force for their innovation-driven development and made great achievements in 2019.

There were more than 4,000 national high-tech enterprises in Nanshan. The number of applications filed via the Patent Cooperation Treaty accounted for 12.5 percent of China. The number of patents owned per 10,000 people reached 394, which is 30 times more

than the number of China.

Nanshan launched several strategic projects — including an international science and education center, a high-speed railway new city and construction of the Shenzhen Bay Central Business District in 2019 — with an eye on development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

The pace of progress never stopped as the district began construction of another project in 2020. In early June, the central green

axis project of the Shenzhen Bay Super Base broke ground in Nanshan district, showing the project has entered a new stage of construction from planning and design.

With a planned development area of about 5.2 million square meters, the Shenzhen Bay Super Base is expected to become one of the most important areas in the city and provide jobs for around 300,000 people.

According to the local government, the base is to be built as a future city model with a global headquarters cluster, cultural district and international business exchange center.

The total investment in fixed assets is estimated to be 300 billion yuan. By the end of April, 47 billion yuan had been invested in fixed assets, including 19.57 billion used in 2019.

The Shenzhen Bay Super Base is also designed to be a central park that brings a new leisure experience to local people.

To offset the influence of the novel coronavirus epidemic to its economy, Nanshan district has taken various steps to help companies resume operation and rev up its economy.

Nanshan government has made efforts to learn about the difficulties of companies and provide support.

The district set up an online meeting in February for government officials and companies' managers to solve corporate problems of capital guarantee, transporting staff back to Shenzhen and the supply of prevention and control materials.

By mid-May, Nanshan had 936,000 employees from 45,000 companies resume work, including 7,527 companies with an annual revenue of 20 million yuan.

In late April, the district launched a series of consumption promotion activities. A total of 250 billion yuan in coupons were offered to locals. The event will last till the end of June.

Standard of water now ranks best in city

By YUAN SHENGGAO

Nanshan district in Shenzhen is upholding its strategy of green development and ecological establishment which it first introduced in 1990, and has achieved notable results in improving the district's water environment.

Adopting a whole-basin water management mechanism, Nanshan district made efforts to not only reduce pollution, but also enhance its pollution control and treatment.

Statistics show that the overall quality of surface water in the district has improved markedly, with black and odorous water bodies being eliminated since tough measures were introduced by the district in 2016.

The rate of good water quality in the Nanshan district rose to 30.19 percent in the first five months of 2019 from 16.28 percent in 2017.

To strengthen efforts to prevent its rivers and lakes from becoming polluted, Nanshan district has implemented the river chief system at three administrative levels, which are district, street and community.

Adhering to the principle of integrating water control with city governance, the district launched a



The Dasha River in Nanshan district demonstrates the district's achievements in ecological protection. PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY

50 percent

green coverage rate of the Nanshan district

targeted project to guarantee the quality of citizen's drinking water.

The district is also working on drainage network transformation to split the flow of rainwater from sewage.

As of now, Nanshan district has completed its transformation of the drainage network, with the rate of sewage collection and treatment reaching 98 percent.

Looking ahead, the district is scheduled to entrust professional drainage companies to take over maintenance of all public drainage pipes and canals in its communities, which is expected to realize a refined and long-term management mechanism.

In addition, the district has cracked down on all kinds of illegal acts that pollute the water environment, especially from businesses.

The district has urged restaurants to treat catering waste considerably, automotive repair shops to set up sand sinks and sidewalk snack vendors to discharge waste into the specialized pipe network.

According to statistics, in 2019, Nanshan district investigated and prosecuted 77 violations of water regulations.

With efforts made, the district ranked first for water quality in Shenzhen in the first quarter of 2020, according to the local ecological authority.

Meanwhile, Nanshan district recorded a rate of good air quality maintained at more than 90 percent all year round. It has 136 parks in total, with a green coverage rate exceeding 50 percent.

Last year, Nanshan won a national honorary title as a Practice and Innovation Base of "Lucid waters and Lush Mountains". It was the only winner on the list located in a highly developed city center.

Area puts its weight behind innovation

By YUAN SHENGGAO

Shenzhen's Nanshan has made great progress in scientific and technological innovation, leading to a rising number of innovative startups in the district.

Taking innovation as an important driver for its high-quality development, Nanshan district has achieved breakthroughs in multiple fields of technology, including microchip design and manufacture, artificial intelligence, bio-pharmaceutical and new-generation information technology, according to the local government.

The district has 3,579 state-level high-tech enterprises and 162 listed companies, and research and development spend in Nanshan accounts for 4.71 percent of its GDP.

DJI, the world's largest commercial drone maker by market share, is headquartered in Nanshan district.

Through continuous innovation, DJI is committed to providing intelligent flight control products and solutions with advanced performance for the unmanned aerial vehicle industry, its users and professional aerial photography applications, according to the company.

Its technologies and products have been widely used in aerial photography, remote sensing mapping, forest fire prevention, power line inspection, as well as search and rescue.

Founded in 2006, the drone maker has attracted customers from more than 100 countries worldwide.

DJI won a spot on a list of the world's top 10 AI enterprises in 2019, with Baidu ranking fourth,

following Microsoft, Google and Facebook, according to a report released by the Chinese Academy of Science in January.

Hytera, a local innovative enterprise growing in Nanshan, has developed into a leading telecommunications company in China's private network communication industry.

Attaching great importance to its R&D to secure favorable development, the telecommunications company has recruited more than 3,000 R&D professionals, accounting for 40 percent of its total staff members. The company has also established 10 R&D centers around the world as of the end of 2019.

An executive at Hytera said that the achievements made by the company in innovative development have benefited from Nanshan's strong atmosphere of innovation.

In addition, the Nanshan district regularly holds entrepreneurship competitions to incubate technology startups and help accelerate their development.

Initiated by the local government and Shenzhen Science and Technology Innovation Committee, the competitions aim to pro-

mote the integration of all kinds of innovation resources and create the best entrepreneurship ecosystem possible.

Debuted in 2008, the contest has attracted innovation-driven companies and maker teams from home and abroad and its influence and coverage have expanded year by year.

In the past dozen years, a total of 19,587 innovative projects have been registered, of which 3,301 are overseas projects, and all of the 698 award-winners have settled in the district.

Meanwhile, the event has drawn investments exceeding 4.2 billion yuan (\$592.89 million) for more than 350 projects, contributing more than 20 billion yuan to the district's GDP.

Based in Nanshan but facing the world, the enterprise contest selects innovative projects with strong potential and assists them in joining hands with scientific research institutions and universities, to promote the optimization and upgrading of Nanshan's innovation and entrepreneurship environment, according to an official with the Nanshan Science and Technology Innovation Bureau.



An aerial photo of Shenzhen Bay. PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY