

## **Background information on the Sino-Singapore Tianjin Eco-city**

The Sino-Singapore Tianjin Eco-city is a bilateral collaboration project between Singapore and China to develop an economically vibrant, socially harmonious, environmentally friendly and resource-efficient city in Tianjin. It provides a platform for both countries to explore new collaborations, pilot new ideas and share best practices in the area of urbanisation. The Eco-city aims to be a model for sustainable development for other cities in China and the rest of the world.

2 As the second flagship project between Singapore and China, the Eco-city helps to further broaden and deepen the bilateral partnership, and provides a new platform for engagement between the leaders, officials and businesses of both countries.

3 The entire Eco-city project spans 30 km<sup>2</sup>, including a start-up area of 8 km<sup>2</sup>. When the project broke ground in 2008, it was a site comprising mainly saltpans, barren land and polluted water-bodies. Through the joint efforts of Singaporean and Chinese stakeholders, the Eco-city has made significant progress in the areas of environmental rehabilitation, green buildings, renewable energy, water management, and environmental protection. These include rehabilitating its 2.6 km<sup>2</sup> wastewater pond, conducting research in green development, developing green building standards and constructing green buildings, tapping renewable energy sources (wind, solar and geothermal energies), encouraging residents to lead environmentally-friendly lifestyles, and promoting green transport.

### **Development status of the Tianjin Eco-city**

4 The Eco-city has made significant progress in its development. Completed projects include industry parks<sup>1</sup>, Smart City Operations Centre (SCOC)<sup>2</sup>, residential developments, and social amenities such as three Community Centres<sup>3</sup>, 21 Residents' Centres, 10 schools and 13 kindergartens with over 10,000 students, public parks and a 350-bed Tianjin Medical University Sino-Singapore Eco-city Hospital.

5 The start-up area has been completed and the development has progressed to the central district with the focus on creating a vibrant city centre to serve residents and visitors in the Eco-city and its surrounding regions. The city centre, which will be about 1 km<sup>2</sup>, will be the heart of commercial, leisure and recreational activities to enhance the Eco-city's attractiveness to businesses and talent to support the future growth of the Eco-city.

---

<sup>1</sup>The three industrial parks that have been launched are the National Animation Industry Park, Eco-Business Park, and Eco-Industrial Park. Two more industrial parks – Eco-Information Park and Huaqiang 3D Movie Industry Park – are currently being constructed.

<sup>2</sup> Constructed in 2018, the Smart City Operations Centre (SCOC) is the flagship smart city project in the Eco-city. The SCOC aims to serve as a one-stop location to centrally monitor all public utilities infrastructure, and to be a one-stop command centre for all municipal services and emergency management.

<sup>3</sup> The Community Centre is a commercial-cum-community centre that provides a comprehensive range of social services and amenities. For example, the No. 3 Community Centre includes a polyclinic, a wet market and facilities for community activities. It has adapted elements of Singapore's Community Clubs.

6 The number of people living or working in the Eco-city has grown by five times from 20,000 in 2014 to over 100,000. There are some 9,500 registered companies in the Eco-city with a total registered capital of RMB 360 billion. These companies are in areas such as culture and creativity, information technology, energy conservation and environmental protection, research and development, modern services, etc.

7 Tourism and MICE<sup>4</sup> activities in the Eco-city are also enjoying increasing vibrancy. Facilities such as the Hilton Hotel and the Huaqiang Fantawild Adventure Theme Park have helped to attract over 6.5 million visitors in 2019.

8 The Eco-city is also deepening its development as a smart eco-city. It has a Smart Operations Centre, which serves as a “city brain” to integrate and analyse citywide data to deliver better government and municipal services. The Eco-city has been piloting smart solutions, such as autonomous public buses and smart carparks. A set of "Guidelines for the Construction of Smart Residential Areas" (Guidelines) was launched in June this year to provide guidance and evaluation standards for the construction of smart residential areas in the Eco-city. *Seasons Heights*, the Eco-city’s first smart estate in the start-up area, was also completed this year, piloting the five areas under the Guidelines. These smart initiatives will make the city greener and lives more convenient.

9 Beyond the smart and eco-development of the Eco-city, Singapore and China are also cooperating to promote replication of the Eco-city’s development experience to other cities in China and along the Belt and Road. The *Global Institute for Sustainable Urban Development (SSTEC)* will be jointly established by Eco-city Administrative Committee, Keppel Group, Sino-Singapore Tianjin Eco-city Investment and Development Co., Ltd. and other Chinese partners by 2021 as a platform to publicise, promote and export the Eco-city’s development experience.

. . . . .

---

<sup>4</sup> Meetings, incentives, conferencing, exhibitions