Shantou Coastal Wetland Protection and Sustainable Use under Urban Economic Development

Yaoguang SU, Vice Mayor of Shantou Municipality

Nha Trang, Viet Nam

Shantou City and Shantou Wetland Demonstration Site
- located in the east of Guangdong Province
- total area: 2,064 km²
- an important harbour and Special Economic Zone in China
- the most northern SCS project site

Combined Economic Development and Resources Protection

Mangrove plantation at Hanjiang River Estuary, Shantou
(by Dr. Sunny PENG)

Urban Development Planning

In the Shantou Urban Development Plan (2005-2020), an "Ecological Economic Zone" with an area of 388 km² and 68 km of coastline was planned for protecting wetland natural resources

Wetland conserved in the Urban Development Plan
(modified from Shantou Institute of Urban Planning and Designing)

The Present Sub-Demonstration Site - the Waisha River Estuary
- was supposed to be reclaimed for real estate and municipal construction previously;
- has been reserved to serve as a city wetland park.

Scene from the riparian/coastal area of Waisha River Estuary
(by Dr. Sunny PENG)
The Waisha River Estuary

The tidal sandy beach and mangrove plantations conserved at Waisha River Estuary (by Dr. Sunny PENG)

The Su'ai Wan Sub-Demonstration Site

– Is currently mangrove and impoundments for aquaculture;
– Was also programmed as mangrove wetland park in the development plan.

Mangrove at Su'ai Wan (by Dr. Sunny)

Visitors for the information of the proposed wetland park construction (by Dr. Sunny PENG)

• Establishment of a cross-sectoral management committee in 2006;
• In recent years, the municipality funded over 4 million Yuan to protect and equip the three nature reserves around Shantou;
• Cetaceans and dolphins observed in the Shantou harbour frequently.

1. Forestry Bureau
2. Environmental Protection Bureau
3. Real Estate Resource Bureau
4. Ocean & Fishery Bureau
5. Hydrological Bureau
6. Financial Bureau
7. Judicial Matters Bureau
11. Focal Point (Prof. Guizhu CHEN)

Project Management Committee (PMC)

Vice Mayor as the Chairperson (Mr. Yaoguang SU)

• Some threatened species, i.e. the Black-faced Spoonbill, Reef Heron, Red-footed Booby were newly recorded in Shantou;
• Their occurrence proved the achievement created by the UNEP/GEF SCS Project.

Newly recorded Black-faced Spoonbill (by Kanghua ZHENG)

Newly found habitat for Black-faced Spoonbill (by Dr. Sunny PENG)

Since last year, some tasks are being conducted according to the Medium Sized Project approved by UNEP/GEF
– Measuring and marking local boundaries;
– Setting billboards, constructing watchtower and platform; planting trees;
– Environmental monitoring;
– Organizing volunteers to conduct questionnaire survey and public education.

A Wetland Education Centre will also be constructed in 2009.
The Shantou Municipality
- support all work of the Shantou Wetland Demonstration Site
- I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the officials from UNEP and foreign experts for your efforts!
- We are confident that we can finish all the tasks
- on behalf of the Shantou Municipality, I welcome all of you to visit Shantou, our beautiful city!

The visitors of the 8th RWG/W
(by Dr. Sunny PENG)