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PRESIDENT TSAI REITERATES GOVERNMENT'S DETERMINATION TO SAFEGUARD CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

President Tsai Ing-wen said Nov. 20 that the Republic of China (Taiwan) government is committed to safeguarding human rights and will continue to work with local and international partners in strengthening implementation of the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Protecting the rights and dignity of children is of utmost importance in Taiwan society, the president said, adding that the government is prioritizing efforts to help disadvantaged young people achieve their full potential.

Tsai made the remarks at the opening of a five-day review of Taiwan's first national implementation report on the CRC. The eight-chapter document listing efforts to recognize and adopt children's rights measures was published Nov. 17, 2016, by the Ministry of Health and Welfare. A delegation of five international experts, headed by Jakob Egbert Doek, former chair of the U.N. Committee on the Rights of the Child, will hold discussions

with local officials, nongovernmental organizations and children during the review. At the conclusion, the panel will present a list of recommendations to the government. According to Tsai, though not a member of the U.N., Taiwan has incorporated five covenants into domestic law, including the Implementation Act of the CRC in November 2014. By taking the initiative to integrate the conventions and stage reviews, the country has underscored its commitment to working with the international community in defending and promoting human rights, she said. The president expressed appreciation to the foreign and domestic participants in the evaluation process, stating that their involvement will help fur-



President Tsai Ing-wen (right) speaks at the Review Meeting of the ROC's Initial Report under the Convention on the Rights of the Child Nov. 20 in Taipei City. (Courtesy of Office of the President)

ther strengthen children's rights regulations. Also speaking at the opening ceremony, Doek praised initiatives by the government and local NGOs as demonstrating an impressive interest and dedication to implementing protection measures. "There is no doubt in my mind that we are here in a country where we have partners in our efforts to respect and protect the rights of children," he said. Doek added that he looks forward to engaging in constructive discussions spanning a broad spectrum of children's rights issues including education, health care and juvenile justice.

Source: Taiwan Today

Taiwan ranked second regionally in Morningstar sustainability ratings

Taiwan is the second greenest equity market in the Asia-Pacific, according to the latest Morningstar Sustainability Ratings released recently by the Chicago-headquartered investment research and management firm.



TSMC's strong sustainability profile is the major reason behind Taiwan's improved rankings in the latest Morningstar Sustainability Ratings. (courtesy of Tainan city government)

Among the 46 major equity markets around the world surveyed in the annual report, Taiwan moved ahead of Japan, South Korea and the U.S. to trail only Australia in the region. The first three spots on the global list went to Portugal, Denmark and Finland in that order.

"Taiwan notably moved up the rankings into the globe's second quantile, owing to the strong sustainability profile of Taiwan Semiconductor [Manufacturing Co. Ltd.], the largest index constituent," the report said. Based in northern Taiwan's Hsinchu City, TSMC is the world's largest contract semiconductor manufacturing firm.

Among the ratings' three pillars, Taiwan is placed in the second best quantile in social scores, third in environmental scores and fourth in governance scores, with the survey praising the country as the highest-ranking emerging market when it comes to the overall scores. Launched in early 2016, the ratings gauge equity market indexes using company-level environmental, social and governance as well as controversy scores and divide them into five quintiles. The country indexes comprise 97 percent of global market capitalization.

Source: Taiwan Today



Realizing the Green Dream

Taiwan is accelerating construction projects aimed at promoting renewable energy generation.



State-owned utility Taiwan Power Co. operates wind farms in the Gaomei Wetlands of central Taiwan's Taichung City. (Photo by Jimmy Lin)

A ceremony was held last November in southern Taiwan's Tainan City to mark the start of an ambitious project intended to boost economic growth and protect the environment. The Shalun Green Energy Science City (SGESC), named after the pastoral setting in which it is being built, will be a base for the development of renewable energy technologies. Advances developed there are expected to prove crucial in achieving one of the country's major goals, namely the complete phasing out of nuclear energy – currently supplying some 15 percent of Taiwan's electricity – by 2025. At the same time, the government is working to increase the ratio of power generated via renewable resources from today's roughly 4 percent to 20 percent. Around NT\$8 billion (US\$266 million) has been allocated to the green energy in-

frastructure initiative's first phase, which runs until the end of 2018.

A former head of the Hsinchu Science Park Bureau under the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), Huang said the SGESC was designed to be different from other high-tech centers in Taiwan in that it will focus on R&D instead of manufacturing. It will also serve as a site to demonstrate the business potential of advances in renewable energy technologies. The green tech park is located next to the Taiwan High Speed Rail's Tainan Station with its core area spanning around 22 hectares. It also includes a branch at Taipei-based Academia Sinica, Taiwan's foremost research institute, and an exhibition center. Eventually, the SGESC will be built into a smart zone characterized by features such as electric vehicles, green buildings and



*Magong Airport in offshore Penghu County is equipped with solar power facilities.
(Photo by Chin Hung-hao)*

Taiwan has already made significant gains in the realm of smart energy conservation, with 200,000 low-voltage smart meters expected to be installed across the country by the end of 2017. This number is projected to increase to 1 million units by 2020, and 3 million by 2024. smart grids for electricity management.

KNOWLEDGE INTO PRACTICE

To reach the 20 percent target, renewables will have to generate 40 to 50 billion kilowatt-hours a year. The government intends to meet this goal by increasing the installed capacity of solar and wind power from the current roughly 1 gigawatt and 700 megawatts, respectively, to 20 GW and 4.2 GW by 2025. In the solar sector, 3 GW will come from rooftop panels with a further 17 GW from ground-mounted and floating systems. For wind power, offshore turbines will account for around 3 GW, while land-based units will generate approximately 1.2 GW.

As the world's second largest exporter of solar cells, Taiwan possesses the requisite technical advantages and industrial prowess to rapidly raise the solar ratio in the country's energy mix.

The initial results of local offshore wind power efforts have been promising. Earlier this year, two 4 MW demonstration turbines erected by Taipei-based Swancor Holding Co. began operations in the waters off northern Taiwan's Miaoli County. All subject to environmental impact evaluations, these projects, in particular the installation of offshore turbines, stand to benefit the local economy and ecosystem in more ways than one. Extensive work must be conducted at every potential wind turbine site. For example, offshore structures will act as artificial reefs that will make excellent habitats for marine life. Moreover, offshore wind farm operations and maintenance require familiarity with local environments and will create considerable job opportunities for locals.

Source: Taiwan Today

TAIWAN MAINTAINS 23RD IN IMD GLOBAL TALENT COMPETITIVENESS REPORT

Taiwan is the 23rd best economy in the world in terms of attracting, developing and retaining top talent for the second consecutive year, according to Switzerland-based International Institute for Management Development (IMD).

The result, which is contained in the latest World Talent Ranking released Nov. 20 by IMD's World Competitiveness Center, puts the country third in Asia behind

Hong Kong and Singapore. Top spot in the annual 63-economy survey went to Switzerland followed by Denmark and Belgium.



Source: Taiwan Today

Of the three main categories used to assess an economy's performance, Taiwan finished 22nd in Readiness, 25th in Investment and Development and 26th in Appeal. Strong showings were recorded in the subcategories of educational assessment, second, science in schools, 10th, and student mobility inbound, 12th, under Readiness; employee training, 10th, and health infrastructure, 12th, under Investment and Development; and effective personal income tax rate, ninth, under Appeal. Weaker performances took place in language skills, 36th, and labor force growth, 34th, under Readiness; total public expenditure on education, 46th, and secondary education pupil-teacher



Outstanding local science students are one of the reasons for Taiwan's assessment as the 23rd best economy for the second year running in the IMD World Talent Ranking. (Courtesy of National Taiwan University)

ratio, 45th, under Investment and Development; and brain drain and cost of living index, both 47th, and foreign highly skilled personnel, 44th, under Appeal.

According to the report, the other economies comprising the top 10 were Austria in fourth

trailed by Finland, the Netherlands, Norway, Germany, Sweden and Luxembourg. By comparison, Asian powerhouses Japan, South Korea and mainland China finished 31st, 39th and 40th, respectively. IMD attributed the dominance of the European countries to substantial investment in education complemented by high-quality primary, secondary and tertiary schooling.

TAINAN – THE CITY IN THE SOUTHERN TAIWAN WITH A LONG HISTORY THAT NEVER FADES

Tainan is the oldest city in Taiwan. With its time-honor 300-year history, the city is well woven into the fabric of rich culture and interesting anecdotes. Details hidden inside the corners of streets, they yield the footprints left behind by ancestors as well as those precious, little stories being passed down generation by generation.

Go on a gate trip to see and feel how Tainan, also once “Prefecture City”, has evolved and developed, and how those ancient gates closely interact with its geography, commerce and human activities. There are also many important heritage sites in Tainan. Due to traditional architectures and the surroundings around being revived and renovated, local art, industrial

activities, and sightseeing are hence enhanced accordingly. Historic streets and old houses, on the other hand, are life reflection of all different eras, carrying and preserving memories and spaces of ordinary Taiwanese people. Let those heritage sites and historic streets guide you to explore and witness Tainan cements an irreplaceable status in Taiwan history.

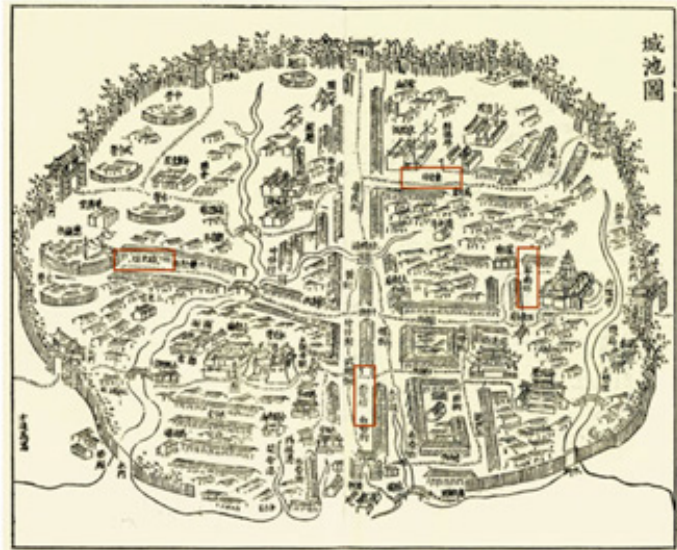


THE HISTORIC CHAPTER OF TAINAN

THE EVER CAPITAL OF TAIWAN PREFECTURE: THE ORIGIN OF TAIWAN'S PROSPERITY

Tainan City is the cradle where Taiwan starts to flourish, and it is also the city with the longest history in Taiwan. After Dutch colonist was expelled by Koxinga In 1661, Tainan was developed to be strong and prosperous. Many Chinese immigrated to or swarmed to Taiwan for commerce at that time. The economic boom and crowded streets set the solid foundation for urban Tainan.

Then in 1683, Tainan became the capital of "Taiwan Prefecture" governed by the Qing Dynasty. As Taiwan was further established as Taiwan Province in 1885, Tainan, previously "the capital of Taiwan Prefecture", was officially renamed to "Tainan Prefecture", from which its current names derives. Ever since then, Tainan had remained as the major center of politics, economy and culture in Taiwan through the end of the 19th century. Upon those historic facts, Tainan is home to enormous heritages sites and famous scenic spots, and it thus earns the title of "Taiwan's cultural capital", claiming a spot in Taiwan with the longest history as well the highest level of cultural development.



Map of Tainan During the Qing Dynasty – Source: National Taiwan Arts Education Center

Source : Tainan city government

CITY GATES WITH OLD STORIES

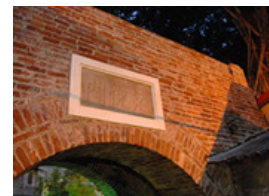


Ningnan Gate

CITY GATE AS A PASSAGE BACK TO THE PAST AND
LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Taiwan Prefecture was established in 1723. Firstly constructed with wood fences, it was later on rebuilt by three-in-one soil, made of lime, clay and fine sand. Fourteen city gates were therefore

magnificently produced. During the occupancy of the Empire of Japan, partial of the walls and gates were demolished and the spaces were transformed into new roads; nearly all of them were flatten in around 1917. Currently in Tainan City, there are only a few city gates preserved containing Duiyue Gate, Dadong Gate, Danan Gate, and Xiaoxi Gate.



Duiyue Gate



Yinchun Gate



Jingpo Gate



HISTORIC STREETS AND OLD HOUSES



Historic Streets



Old House, New Life



Old Houses

OLD TOWN VS MODERN CITY: NOW AND THEN OF OLD HOUSES

Tainan is an ancient city that has walked through its own long history from the Dutch colonist area, to the ruling periods by Koxinga and the Qing Dynasty, and to the occupancy of the Empire of Japan. As the centuries go by, Tainan remains the same gorgeous and never seems to age. In most recent years, lots of young artist and private entities have dedicated themselves to restoring or renovating no matter historic buildings, streets or old houses. Combining art with cultural and creative industries, they successfully revive vigorous blossoms of innovation from those old bricks.

Taiwan Snacks

DANZAI NOODLES

Oil noodles and bean sprouts are the main ingredients in this Tainan specialty dish. The noodles are served in a small bowl and usually topped with meat or an egg boiled in soy sauce for an extra flavor boost.



SHRIMP PORK SOUP

With seas on all side, Taiwan enjoys a bounty of seafood that is served up in a wide variety of snack foods that have become ingrained in the culinary tradition of the island. One of these dishes is shrimp pork soup, which has become a night market mainstay. This dish is made mostly of shrimp potage flavored with stewed pork and a thickening dash of potato starch to add flavor and chewiness. Add a splash of black vinegar to increase the sweetness of the soup and make this tasty dish even more delicious.





COFFIN BOARD

This Tainan specialty often turns peoples' heads for its very unusual name. The sandwich is a thick slice of toast with a hollow center filled with a mixture of chicken meat and liver, shrimp, carrots, potatoes, and milk. The filling is then covered with another piece of toast and cut into four pieces. The coffin board tastes best when served hot.

TAIWANESE MEATBALLS

Changhua and Hsinchu counties are the most famous places for Taiwanese meatballs. The meatballs are cooked in an outer wrapper made of tapioca powder, rice powder, potato starch, and water, while the filling includes pork, mushroom, bamboo shoots and other ingredients. The chewy outer skin and fragrant filling make a perfectly delicious match.



STEAMED SANDWICH



Steamed sandwiches ("guabao") were originally eaten during employee dinner parties held on the 16th day of the 12th lunar month, but today they can be enjoyed at night markets throughout the year. The sandwiches resemble a kind of hamburger made with a soft white bun. The bun is stuffed with melt-in-your-mouth pork and garnished with pickled vegetables, peanut powder and cilantro, creating a nose-pleasing and tasty combination.

OYSTER OMELET

Sea-fresh oysters are an important ingredient in this popular snack, available at just about every night market in Taiwan. The oysters are coated in potato starch and tapioca. Eggs and leafy vegetables are added to the mixture, which is skillet fried over a high flame. A sweet and sour sauce further adds to the addictively delicious taste.



Should you have any question, please contact us at taiwaninfo.hungary@gmail.com

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