

Shanghai MedValley



Biopharma business gets a boost with industry cluster

Li Pin and Ye Fengting

JIADING is establishing a biopharmaceutical industry cluster worth more than 100 billion yuan (US\$13.8 billion) with focus on high-performance medical equipment and precision medicine.

The district is working on significant initiatives such as United Imaging Town, Shanghai MedValley and Nanxiang Life Element Valley.

It intends to establish a strong industrial system in the biopharma sector, with a goal of 38.5 billion yuan in total output this year, or a 35 percent increase.

The United Imaging medical industrialization demonstration base, also known as United Imaging Town, is currently under construction. The second phase of the project is scheduled to be finished in 2025.

Covering some 9.5 square

kilometers, it will grow into an international high-end medical equipment industrial cluster and a demonstration zone for industry-city integration.

United Imaging, the major player, will entice several upstream and downstream biopharmaceutical companies to locate in this industrial park. It has already attracted almost 200 businesses.

In a separate move, Ruijin Hospital's innovation center and orthopedic traumatology institute were recently relocated to Shanghai MedValley in Malu.

"Jiading District and Ruijin Hospital are collaborating to build an innovation platform that combines healthcare and industry," said Chang Qing, director of the innovation center.

"With this top-tier hospital's high-quality scientific research and clinical resources, we can

progress exceptional projects through clinical trials toward industrialization, ultimately benefiting the public."

Since its inception in October, Shanghai MedValley has grown into a comprehensive industrial park that includes R&D and manufacturing.

Jiading has already attracted a total of 1,254 biopharmaceutical enterprises, including those involved in manufacturing, R&D, as well as services.

"In our ongoing efforts, Jiading will continue to strengthen its brand in the high-performance medical equipment and precision medicine industries," said Jin Shizhen, deputy director of the district's economic commission. "We will focus on expanding industrial capacity, modernizing industrial structure, and push for the development of thriving industrial clusters."

Valeo Group breaks ground on auto systems base in Waigang

Li Huacheng and Ye Fengting

FRENCH auto supplier Valeo Group has begun construction on the production and research and development base for the new "comfort and driving assistance systems" in Waigang Industrial Park.

Covering an area of about 45 *mu* (3 hectares), the base will focus on the R&D and manufacturing of autonomous-driving cameras, laser radars, domain controllers and chip-binding equipment.

It took just three months to complete all procedures from contract signing to commencing construction, and only 24 hours from the land acquisition to breaking the ground.

"Thanks to the efficient services of the Shanghai government, we saved at least six months in time costs," said Xu Kelin, general manager of Valeo Intelligent Transportation Systems Shanghai. "Mass production is expected in the first half of 2025."

"Jiading boasts a highly developed auto industry and supply chain, making it a pioneer in auto technology and a hub of talent in China," Xu added. "Our new project will integrate into its mature auto industry landscape."

The successful launch of the project owes much to the improving business environment in Jiading and the tailored, whole-process services provided by the government.

District and town-level governments in Jiading have created an efficient administrative framework to shorten approval times and enhance service quality, accelerating the construction of projects.

These projects involve key areas driving economic growth, such as the "new four modernizations" of the auto sector (electrification, IoT, intellectualization and sharing), high-performance medical equipment, and other emerging sectors.

"We are committed to bolstering our support services for factory production and amplifying policy support for enterprises, with the goal of cultivating a superior business environment in Jiading," said Zhang Jun, deputy director of the district's economic commission.

Blossoming sea of wisteria attracts visitors



The Jiading Wisteria Park is currently adorned with a stunning display of purple wisterias.

Si Shushu and Ye Fengting

THE wisteria at Jiading Wisteria Park is in full bloom, attracting visitors to its lovely purple cascades. The park is home to around 90 wisteria plants, including more than 20 species.

As the weather warms, more varieties will blossom, creating a beautiful sea of wisteria.

"The white and pink wisteria will bloom shortly," said Jin

Yingjie, director of the park. "The clusters can grow to be 80-120cm long."

For many residents, going to Wisteria Park in spring has become a tradition. Zhao has been visiting it for the past 10 years. Shan took photographs with her friends under the blossoms.

"The blooms are bright this year. It's beautiful!" she said.

Another resident, Tang, invited

her uncle's family from Chongqing to enjoy the wisteria. She sees the wisteria as a symbol of Jiading and takes joy in it.

The blossoms are projected to continue through early May. Other places to admire wisteria include Nanshuiguan Park, the Ziyun Corridor in Juyuan Garden, and the Wisteria Long Corridor on the outer ring of the Jiading Huancheng River.