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General Socio-economic Profile

Guangzhou Development District (GDD) is located at the mouth of the Pearl River, in the east of Guangzhou, the central city of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. It is among the first batch of 14 national development zones in China and is integrated with Guangzhou High-tech Zone and Guangzhou Huangpu District. In 2020, GDD achieved a GDP of RMB 366.267 billion, an increase of 4.1%,

and its total tax revenue exceeded RMB 130 billion, an increase of 11.6%. The total industrial output of enterprises above designated size exceeded RMB 800 billion, making it the top three among the top 100 industrial zones in the country in 2020. It won the United Nations Investment Promotion Award in 2019.

As the birthplace of China's ancient Maritime Silk Road

and the gateway of Guangdong to the outside world, GDD has always been committed to international exchanges and cooperation. It has established economic and trade relations with more than 100 countries and regions around the world. Currently, more than 2,300 multinational companies have settled down here, with a total foreign investment of USD 30.8 billion. Seven pillar industries, namely next-generation information technology, automobile manufacturing, high-end chemical engineering, bio-pharmaceuticals, new energy, new materials, food and beverage have taken shape in the district.

GDD actively promotes China-EU Regional Policy Cooperation, China-Singapore Bilateral Cooperation, China-Israel High-tech Cooperation, and China-Saudi Arabia Production Cooperation, opening to comprehensively open up to the outside world.

Guangzhou Development Zone



1,320,000



484 km²

Nature Based Solutions for Circular Cities and Regions

Technologies 4.0, Industry 5.0 & Digital Economy

Education, jobs & skills, Innovation centres, business clusters

Regional Innovation & Smart and Sustainable Specialization Strategies (RIS 4)

Preferred Areas of Cooperation

Information technology. GDD focuses on the research, development and commercialization of achievements in IT, automobiles, new materials, and new energy sectors, and expands cooperation in industrial transformation and upgrading.

Technological R&D and innovation. GDD promotes collaborative R&D efforts with Europe, strives to establish an innovation network, and facilitates SME incubation and technological innovation. At the same time, it learns from the science and technology subsidy model of Guangzhou Development Zone and introduces outstanding European start-up projects to deepen China-EU cooperation in science and technology.

Green growth and new energy development. GDD hopes to work with Europe in the new energy sector including hydrogen, and to learn from, and test the European concepts, technologies and mature systems in energy conservation and emissions reduction, so as to develop itself into a model of green, low-carbon and circular development.

Intellectual property (IP). GDD wishes to work with relevant EU agencies in intellectual property, especially on value-added services such as professional IP consulting services, IP asset evaluation, and IP pledge loans.