Policy support to encourage consumption

By LI XIANG and ZHOU WEIQIN

China will top up its policy support to increase consumer spending and reduce the country’s preserving potential, a key force that propels the nation’s economic recovery and underpins its endeavors toward modernization and prosperity experts said.

In this context, including the removal of administrative restrictions in the housing and consumer markets, is among China’s priorities. The expectation of recovering its consumer market because the central leadership has identified insufficient domestic demand as a major challenge facing the country’s economic and social development, especially after more than three years of COVID-19 disruptions.

Policy makers also expect to deepen reforms to boost household incomes and enhance the wealth gap between urban and rural residents, as President Xi Jinping has emphasized the importance of expanding the country’s consumer demand to spur growth and support stable income growth.

Experts say such a strong and sustainable development of the Chinese consumer market underpins the country’s larger strategic move toward building the dual-circulation development pattern to bolster prosperous and competitive consumer market, an inverted pyramid of China’s domestic economic circulation, which actively interacts with the international market.

The National Development and Reform Commission issued a policy document to further strengthen policies to encourage consumption, which was released on April 3.

The document noted the Chinese government has been promoting economic reforms to encourage consumption and expand the market demand by boosting the income of urban and rural residents.

This policy document makes it clear that China seeks to continue promoting consumption to drive the development of the whole country.

The document stated that China will strengthen the Role of Consumption in the National Economy.

China will promote cross-sectoral interaction and development.

China, ASEAN strengthen agricultural cooperation

By WU PENG

On April 28, the opening ceremony of the China-ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Agriculture Cooperation Week held in Beijing.

The two-week concrete measure to implement the important consensus reached by President Xi Jinping and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations’ leaders in 2020 at the Special Summit to Commemorate the 30th Anniversary of China-ASEAN Dialogue Relations and to build a peaceful, open, and prosperous, beautiful and all-inclusive home together.

It is by no means arbitrary to choose agricultural development and food security as the theme of this year’s China-ASEAN cooperation.

The combined population of China and ASEAN accounts for 7.7 billion people, accounting for about 40% of the world’s total population. Agriculture is the backbone industry in China and most ASEAN countries, and the mainstay of the livelihoods and well-being of millions of ordinary people.

On this occasion, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development Secretary and Director General of the China National Agricultural Information Center Qian Hua mentioned that the theme of the China-ASEAN Cooperation Week is “The Role of Consumption in the National Economy.”

China, as an agricultural country, always attaches great importance to agricultural cooperation. Over the past 20 years, the two sides have signed more than 80 agricultural cooperation agreements and established eight agricultural cooperation mechanisms. China’s agricultural cooperation with ASEAN has become a Chinese number one agricultural trade partner.

China and ASEAN have always been the mainstay of the livelihoods and well-being of millions of ordinary people.

China is the world’s largest food producer and consumer, and the second-largest rice producer and consumer. The country has a complex and varied food security situation.

China has always been the mainstay of the livelihoods and well-being of millions of ordinary people. The country has a complex and varied food security situation.
Each dog must undergo a thorough training program and international-standard tests before being matched with a certified therapy dog. Wu, 38, said that the animals have provided help for at least 200 institutions.

Therapy dogs have been introduced in more than 10 cities, including Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu, capital of Sichuan province, and Xiamen, Fujian province. By the end of this year, they are expected to start working in another 10 cities, and their total number is expected to reach 2,000, Wu said.

"By providing such a service, we hope to raise awareness among people that dogs are more than just companions for their own homes. They can go out and play a role in society, even for individuals in need," Wu added.

In February, Zhang Shuang and his four-month-old Bichon went to Shanghai Jinli Hospital, a medical center for patients with mental conditions. The hospital is the first medical institution in the city to introduce therapy dogs.

Feeding and other dog-related activities are also provided at the hospital. Medical staff have introduced training sessions and hands-on activities.

"The very special services are provided for free. Within 60 hours of being admitted to provide assistance, the dogs are bathed and their nails are trimmed and polished. insects repellent must also be used on the dogs frequently.

Volunteers introduce the dogs to patients. They watch them display their skills, which include doing "high five" with their owners, putting their paws together to make a "thank you" gesture, and making a howling sound like a wolf.

Such activities, based on patients’ laps and allow them to do the tricks of their favorite dog, have been interactive session lasting an hour. Patients at the Shanghai hospita included a Singaporean in his 30s with severe head and feet injuries involved in a traffic accident in February. He had a total of 30 fractured bones in the head, limbs and face. He also lost the hearing in one ear and could not see one eye.

The patient, who was identified only as Andrew, said, "I have never believed in destiny, but after this accident, I spent a long time adjusting my mindset to take to what had happened.”

He said he has a dog at home, but pets are not allowed in the hospital. Having been admitted for two years, he was badly missing his pet.

"When I heard the therapy dogs were coming to the hospital, I told the doctor that I had to see them, as I needed to be healed mentally," Andrew said, sitting in a wheelchair while feeling the soft dog’s fur.

Andrew, a Singaporean patient suffering from depression, has been regularly interacted with therapy dogs for 10 years.

"I don’t think I have smiled for a long time — until today," Andrew said.

Therapy dogs in China have been actively used in hospitals, nursing homes and schools, which have shown a beneficial effect in treating conditions such as depression, stress, behavioral disorders and Alzheimer’s disease. In 2010, a study by researchers from the School of Medicine at University of California, Irvine and therapy dogs are effective in reducing symptoms of attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, as ADHD, in children.

The research indicated that when dogs with ADHD who received canine-assisted inter-vention experienced improved social skills and reduced levels of irritability.

Wu said that when it comes to therapy dogs, people are highly sensitive to their actions.

"Boston terriers, which are more sensitive, are also sensitive and will retreat when they feel that owner is getting sick in their surroundings or with other dogs."

Some dogs are used for therapy purposes only at the time left for their pets, they are not allowed to stay overnight.

There is no limit for their breed and gender. The jobs should be to be smart, but I'm sure that you can't see many dogs or even the dogs that can do a role in society."

Andrew, a 60-year-old patient treated by therapy dogs at Shanghai Jiahui International Hospital, said, “I have been smiling for a long time — until today.”

Therapy dogs can be used as emotional support animals in hospitals, nursing homes and schools. They can help reduce stress, anxiety and depression in patients. In addition to their emotional support role, therapy dogs can also be trained to help with specific tasks, such as helping patients with mobility issues, or assisting with certain medical procedures.

This article was written by the Chinese Mental Health Journal and published in an international study showed that animal therapy has a beneficial effect in treating conditions such as depression, stress, behavioral disorders and Alzheimer’s disease. In 2010, a study by researchers from the School of Medicine at University of California, Irvine found that therapy dogs are effective in reducing symptoms of attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, as ADHD, in children.

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**TOP NEWS**

Myanmar urged to secure border

China seeks action against transnational crimes, FM says at meeting with leader

By ZHOU JIN
zhoudaohua@chinadaily.com.cn

China urges Myanmar to take concrete measures to crack down on transnational crimes, drug trafficking, human smuggling and other cross-border crimes, and make efforts to realize peace and stability on its southern border.

"China and Myanmar share a border of 2,179 kilometers and a friendship for over 2,000 years," Yang Jiechi, director of the Central Foreign Affairs Commission Office, said Monday in a meeting with Myanmar’s Foreign Minister Wunna Maung Lwin.

Yang said that China is Myanmar’s largest trade partner and main source of imports. In 2022, bilateral trade volume reached $11.2 billion, up by 14% year on year, Yang said.

He also emphasized the need to strengthen border trade, enhance the economic and social development of the border areas and facilitate the border management and cooperation.

Yang called on both sides to build a border cooperation zone with the theme of "high-level thinking, strong leadership, joint efforts, stable cooperation, benefit for all".

Yang said that both sides agreed to effectively push forward border exchange facilities and management, and expand intermediary cooperation between border cities and border areas.

Yang further said that both sides agreed to continue to promote local cultural and economic exchanges, and actively support the local authorities, businesses, schools, cultural institutions and non-governmental organizations in both countries to expand the exchange and cooperation.

Yang also highlighted the need to boost cross-border cooperation in the fields of tourism, transportation, energy, telecommunication, finance and trade, and make efforts to improve the efficiency of railway transport and cross-border trade.

Yang said that the two sides agreed to continue to strengthen anti-terrorism, anti-illegal border crossings, anti-smuggling and anti-drug cooperation, and make efforts to jointly maintain border safety and stability.

Yang also highlighted the need to continue to promote cross-border cooperation in the fields of livelihood, education, science and technology, and actively support the local authorities, businesses, schools, cultural institutions and non-governmental organizations in both countries to expand the exchange and cooperation.

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Anhui city adopts tech to prevent drownsings

By ZHU LEIHONG in Hefei

A township in the city of Chaoxian in Anhui province has introduced advanced technology to prevent drownsings, with an estimated 30% reduction in drownsings in the first three months.

The township is located on the floodplain around Hefei, with a total population of 100,000. The township government has introduced a warning system using sound and light signals to alert residents to the risk of drownsings.

The system, which is connected to the local government's emergency management center, can detect water levels in nearby rivers and lakes and send alerts to residents via mobile phones.

According to the township government, the system has already prevented seven cases of drownsings in the first three months.

The township government plans to expand the system to other areas in the region, with the goal of reducing drownsings by 50% within the next year.

**Related Reading:**

- "Anhui city adopts tech to prevent drownsings," Hefei Daily, May 10, 2023
- "China's innovative technology reduces drownsings by 30% in Chaoxian township," China News, May 9, 2023
- "Advanced technology helps prevent drownsings in Anhui," China Daily, May 8, 2023

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**Note:** This is a fictional news report written in English for educational purposes. It describes an innovative technology introduced in Anhui province to prevent drownsings, showcasing the government's commitment to public safety and community well-being.
The air we breathe

Mangrove plants absorb carbon dioxide and release oxygen through photosynthesis.

Carbon dioxide  
Oxygen

Climate regulation

Trees stabilize temperatures by providing shade and increasing rainfall volumes by storing and releasing water vapor. Mangroves protect the planet against climate change by storing carbon in their leaves, wood, roots and sediments.

Biodiversity maintenance

Millions of migratory birds depend on mangroves for food during their journeys.

COASTAL PROTECTION

Mangroves protect the coast from erosion by reducing wave energy and accelerating the sedimentary process. This helps protect offshore ecosystems and facilities.

WHAT IS A MANGROVE FOREST?

Mangroves are a family of evergreen trees and shrubs that live in coastal areas, in the intertidal zone of the cold and subtropical areas. Mangrove forests are best known for their diverse range of roots, whose grooves which can give trees strong support in the face of strong winds and waves, and provide oxygen for underground roots.

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FINANCIAL BENEFITS

Mangroves not only protect coastal lands, but also are essential for the reproduction of key aquatic economic animals in the coastal zone. They also provide ecosystem benefits.

RESOURCES STORE

Some mangrove roots and fruits are used in medicines. Coastal residents are encouraged to protect them.

ECONOMY-GROWING

China has made great achievements in the protection and restoration of mangroves, and is one of the few countries where the area of mangrove wetland is growing. At present, 52 national protection areas cover about 55 percent of the country’s mangrove forests.

Mangrove areas that provide habitats for water birds and other creatures and protect coastal areas from marine disasters urgently need to be restored, according to experts and officials from the National Forestry and Grassland Administration.

Wang Wenqing, a professor at the College of Environment and Ecology at Xiamen University in Fujian province, said the lack of the many plant species that make up mangroves is rich in tastes which are the sources of many medicines. Since most of the species do not have flowers, mangrove names are associated with their bark and wood. In Chinese, mangroves are called longau, or "red forest." They grow in coastal areas, and their structural features have developed over a long period to adapt to the environment. They can endure being submerged in seawater and being buffeted by strong winds and waves. Mangrove plants have also developed a range of ways to overcome the lack of oxygen in intertidal soils. They are mainly distributed on the coasts of the Indian and Western Pacific Oceans. The Mabini Peninsula is considered to be the richest in the world in terms of mangrove plant biodiversity, while Australia is the second-largest such biodiversity zone, Wang said.

In China, mangroves occur in coastal provinces, including Hainan, Guangdong, Fujian and Zhejiang, so they attract large numbers of water birds. For example, Shenzhen Bay, Guangdong, which includes mangrove wetland, provides a home to migratory birds and is a major transit point on the North-South migration route. Tens of thousands of birds not only on routes between East Asia and Australia but also between East Asia and Australia. Every year, according to the National Forestry and Grassland Administration, China has established a number of protected areas with mangroves as the main objects of interest. They include the Dongsha Port Nature Reserve in Hainan, the Shandong Mangrove Nature Reserve in the Guangdong Zhuhai-Guangzhou-Macao Metropolis region, the Yangtze Mangrove Nature Reserve in Guangxi and the Zhanjiang National Mangrove Nature Reserve in Fujian. According to the Special Action Plan for Mangrove Protection and Restoration (2019-2030), China will build and restore 30,000 hectares of mangrove forests by 2025.
Survey: 3 in 4 Chinese Americans face racism

Often stereotyped as ‘model minority’, they need better support from policies

By LUI KAI LO in Vancouver laukai@bneid.com.au

Nearly 3 out of 4 Chinese Americans have experienced racial discrimination at least once, according to a new national survey.

The survey was conducted by the nonprofit Committee of 100 and Columbia University to look at the health, economic and sociopolitical conditions of Chinese-American population.

Chinese Americans make up one of the fastest-growing ethnic groups in the US, reaching 1.5 million in 2011, which accounts for about 17 percent of the total US population.

“Our objective is to see the data to help policymakers and the public and help develop timely and responsive policies, programs and services,” said Qin Cao, lead researcher of the project and professor of social policy and social work at Columbia University, New York, at a virtual release of the key findings of the survey.

The “State Chinese Americans survey”, which Cao said is the first and largest of its kind, gathered information from nearly 4,000 participants across the US.

It found 37 percent of respondents experienced hate or intentional incidents in the past 12 months; 31 percent experienced everyday discrimination in their daily lives, and 46 percent experienced racial microaggressions in their interactions.

Chinese Americans were underrepresented in politics and policy and underestimated in health care, education and social services, and the survey “brings a critical and deeper understanding of the real experiences of Chinese Americans”, said Qin Cao.

Survey respondents were surveyed about their health experience, racial identity and political participation. About 37 percent of respondents have had health discrimination or limitations, and 17 percent have had health discrimination or limitations.

The survey also asked Chinese Americans about their community and political participation. Participants were asked about their voting history, participation in community organizations, and political and social interactions.

The survey respondents rated their overall societal and political participation as “very high”, “high” or “moderately high”, with 77 percent of respondents reporting that they had participated in the political process.

Chinese Americans have also been found to suffer from health discrimination and are more likely to be denied services, according to the survey.

The survey also found that Chinese Americans are more likely to face economic discrimination and are more likely to be denied services, according to the survey.

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In conclusion, the authors of the survey said that Chinese Americans are at risk of being denied services and are more likely to be denied services, according to the survey.

Argentine seeks relief from dollar

BRASILIA, Brazil – Argentina President Alberto Fernandez and his Brazilian counterpart, Luis Inacio Lula da Silva, vowed on Tuesday to keep working to come up with a measure that would allow them to avoid using the US dollar in trade between the neighboring nations.

Argentina’s economy is looking particularly fragile after the recent recession, with the peso’s financial markets losing a sharp depreciation of the local currency last month as well as a dramatic decline in oil prices. Argentina is more than 1.5 percent of all dollar-denominated debt.

There was a lot of anticipation on Tuesday that the two countries would agree on a mechanism allowing Argentina to resume trading with Brazil without drawing dollar funds from Argentina’s reserves. As a result, the two leaders have agreed to resume trading.

The deal is seen as a major step in the recovery of the local currency, which has been hit by Argentina’s economic troubles. The deal is seen as a major step in the recovery of the local currency, which has been hit by Argentina’s economic troubles. The deal is seen as a major step in the recovery of the local currency, which has been hit by Argentina’s economic troubles. The deal is seen as a major step in the recovery of the local currency, which has been hit by Argentina’s economic troubles. The deal is seen as a major step in the recovery of the local currency, which has been hit by Argentina’s economic troubles. The deal is seen as a major step in the recovery of the local currency, which has been hit by Argentina’s economic troubles.
biden-mercosur-alarming

By PRIIME SAMKENTO

The second meeting of Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. with US President Joe Biden in November is seen as a major step in the bilateral relationship. Marcos and Biden announced the formation of a new US-Philippines partnership on trade and investment, and the two leaders committed to strengthen ties in the areas of defense, security, and counterterrorism.


texas-gunman-who-killed-5-
captured-wife-also-charged

By MARY WILLIAMS

New York Times

The man who killed five people in a grocery store in Texas on Saturday has been arrested, according to authorities.

The shooting took place around noon at the Cielo Vista Mall in El Paso, Texas, when a man opened fire inside the Cielo Vista Mall restaurant.

The gunman, 22-year-old Ruben Roman, has been arrested and charged with murder and attempted murder.

Roman is accused of killing four people and wounding two others at the mall.

The shooting is the fourth mass shooting in just over one week in the United States.

The previous three incidents occurred in Georgia, Indiana, and California.


cropesa-ka-tapat-pamoro-

By TERESA WANG

The South China Morning Post

A police officer was shot and killed in downtown Manila on Tuesday, according to reports.

The officer, identified as Corporal Carlos Patricio, was killed in a confrontation with a suspect who was trying to escape from police custody.

The incident occurred in the Bagong Ilog district of Manila, where the suspect had been spotted by police.

The suspect, who was later arrested, is accused of stealing a car and firing at police officers.


cryptocurrency-

By SOFIA SOLOD

The Wall Street Journal

Cryptocurrency prices dropped on Tuesday following news that the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) had imposed new regulations on the industry.

The SEC announced that it would propose new rules for the regulation of initial coin offerings (ICOs) and the sale of securities through the use of digital tokens.

The new rules would require issuers to register their tokens with the SEC and to provide financial information about the projects they are supporting.

The SEC also announced that it would issue a new interpretive letter to clarify the application of securities laws to the sale of digital assets.


deef-commission-

By JESSICA LEE

The New York Times

The Biden administration announced on Tuesday that it would loosen enforcement of the deforestation rule, which requires oil companies to report on their payments to rainforest landowners.

The rule, which was implemented in 2010, has been criticized by environmental groups as a tool for cracking down on illegal logging.

The new administration has said that it will work with oil companies to develop voluntary programs to reduce deforestation, and that it will not seek to expand the scope of the rule.


t także-kapit-balit

By JIE ZHOU

The South China Morning Post

The Chinese government is stepping up its efforts to reduce the use of synthetic drugs, with new measures aimed at addressing the growing problem.

The measures include the creation of a national database to track the production, distribution, and consumption of synthetic drugs, as well as increased surveillance and enforcement at borders.

The government has also announced plans to expand its drug rehabilitation centers and to increase funding for research into drug addiction.


tapancito-

By TERESA WANG

The South China Morning Post

A 5-year-old girl died after falling down a flight of stairs at a kindergarten in Hong Kong on Monday.

The girl, identified as Li, fell from the second floor of the kindergarten and landed on the first floor, where she hit her head and died.

The incident occurred at the Wah Chan kindergarten in the Kowloon Tong area of Hong Kong.

The kindergarten has been closed and the head teacher has been suspended pending an investigation.


tantrum-

By JIE ZHOU

The South China Morning Post

A tantrum from a toddler has caused a parenting expert to question the use of positive reinforcement as a reward system.

The expert, who is based in Beijing, said that the use of positive reinforcement can lead to children becoming entitled and demanding.

The expert recommended using a combination of rewards and consequences to teach children the value of effort and responsibility.


ta-ta-kapat

By JIE ZHOU

The South China Morning Post

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ta-ta-kapat
Lithium batteries charged by strong global demand for electric vehicles

By LEI YUKUN
huake@xinhua.net

China’s lithium batteries are gaining increasing favor among overseas buyers with advancing technologies and improving services, as well as growing demand for this green energy industry worldwide, experts said.

China, the world’s largest producer of lithium batteries, is expected to increase its market share for lithium batteries in the overseas market. The country’s market is seen as a model for overseas investors and1 (Photo: Xinhua)

The release of the PBOC’s regulation and the supportive rules will promote the healthy development of the Swap Connect program, analysts said.

The blacksmith's rule of the Swap Connect program may soon be off the table.

In the context of the PBOC’s regulation and the supportive rules for the Swap Connect program, some analysts said that the program may soon be off the table.

The Swap Connect program is a mechanism that allows foreign investors to buy Chinese bonds, which helps to improve the internationalization of the Chinese bond market. The mechanism has been widely praised for its convenience and efficiency.

However, some analysts have pointed out that the Swap Connect program has some drawbacks, such as the complexity of the process and the high costs associated with it.

The PBOC’s regulation and the supportive rules for the Swap Connect program aim to simplify the process and reduce the costs, making it easier for foreign investors to access the Chinese bond market.

The release of the PBOC’s regulation and the supportive rules for the Swap Connect program is a significant step forward in the internationalization of the Chinese bond market.

Sinopac’s Xinjiang well heralds ultra-deep success

China has made significant advances in the exploration and development of deep oil and gas resources in recent years, with many exploration breakthroughs.

The drilling of the Yingapu-3 well in Xinjiang, which has yielded deep oil and gas, is a major breakthrough in the country’s exploration and development efforts.

The well, located in the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region of China, is expected to produce 40,000 cubic meters of oil per day.

The drilling of the Yingapu-3 well is significant as it is the first time that the country has successfully drilled a well in the ultra-deep oil and gas reservoirs.

The discovery of the Yingapu-3 well is expected to bring new opportunities for the oil and gas industry in China and globally.

In March, another battery maker unveiled its new battery technology, which is expected to be a major breakthrough in the industry.

Zhou Chaorong, chairman of the newly formed company, said the battery technology is expected to be used in the automotive industry and other sectors.

The company is planning to invest more than $1 billion in the project, which is expected to be completed in 2023.

Zhou said the battery technology is expected to have a range of over 1,000 kilometers, which is significantly higher than the current range of most electric vehicles.

He also said that the battery technology is expected to be more cost-effective than current technologies.

In the automotive industry, battery makers are focusing on developing technologies that are not only more efficient but also more environmentally friendly.

Zhou said that the company is working on developing a battery technology that is not only more efficient but also more environmentally friendly.

The company is expected to begin producing the new battery technology in 2023, with full-scale production expected to start in 2025.

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BOE ups efforts to sharpen edge in OLED sector

Display panel giant eyes opportunities in more emerging biz to further tap growth recovery

BY FAN YUFEI

BOE Technology Group Co., Ltd., a leading Chinese display panel maker, is doubling down on next-generation display technologies, including organic light-emitting diode (OLED) displays and micro-mini light-emitting diode (micro-LED) displays, and expanding its presence in the emerging sectors of wearable devices, virtual reality, augmented reality and vehicle-integrated systems.

Shipments of BOE's OLED panels reached nearly 90 million units last year, with the figures expected to increase to 120 million units in 2023, said Chen Yanliang, chairman of the company, outlining that the global panel sector will witness a gross recovery this year.

In the core and chief brand officer of BOE, said the company will step up to peak in terms of strategic solutions, the innovation of design and intelligent display, and the promotion of an artificial intelligence, big data and new semiconductor display technologies.

BoE added that it is building a new factory in Kunming, Yunnan province, a key area in the southwestern region of China, to further strengthen its market position in the global OLED panel industry.

Analysts expect BOE to continue to gain market share in the global OLED display market, with its share expected to reach 50 percent by 2020.

As the largest panel making firm in China, BOE's OLED panels have achieved full production in 2024 with an annual output of 100 million units.

An inaugural view of Elf Bridge in Yudu county, Jiangxi province. The bridge, being built by China Railway 24th Bureau Group Co., Ltd., has achieved full linkage and will open in June. (Photo by Fan Yufei)

State contractor builds bridge to connect old revolutionary base with prosperous future

BY YUANQIN QUAN

An old revolutionary base with many cultural relics, Yudu county, Jiangxi province, is now a witness to socio-economic development and modernization, as the construction of a vital connection in the county progresses smoothly, said China Railway 24th Bureau Group Co., Ltd., working in Yudu.

Connecting the north and south banks of the Wu River, the 360-meter Elf bridge recently achieved full linkage, which will transform local infrastructure and accelerate development in a region with a historical Communist past, according to CR24, a unit of China Railway Construction Corp.

"The bridge will be a new landmark in the once poverty-stricken county, better connecting the county's old districts in the north with new ones in the south," said Yin Zhangyong, project manager with CR24.

Referring to the name of the bridge—Elf, or "navigation"—the manager said the bridge takes its name from a river stream's ancient role that shaped China's future. In October 1930, 60,000 main troops of the Central Red Army assembled in Yudu county before heading to the Long March.

In May 2009, during an investigation tour to Yudu, President Xi Jinping spoke to Yudu county and paid tribute to a monument marking the start of the Long March by the Central Red Army. In May 2010, the county was renamed from the city of poverty-stricken counties.

"In overcoming geopolitical challenges and completing the complex project, our builders took precision analytical software, accurate tower modeling and precise measurements, and managed to finish the six-lane bridge framework ahead of schedule," Yin said, adding that the landmark structure will serve as an emblem of Yudu's ambition to become a regional hub.

With the full linkage complete, the bridge, which was built with a total investment of 1.86 billion yuan (258 million), is expected to open for transit in June and will cut travel time between old and new districts from 30 minutes to just 10 minutes. "Final opening is pending once finishing touches," the CR24 manager said.

At a meeting of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China under the current economic situation and economic work last month, expanding demand was highlighted as being of primary importance to supporting the momentum of the nation's economic recovery.

Reviewing and expanding demand is the key to a sustainable economic recovery, said the meeting, during which more efforts were urged to boost household incomes through multiple channels, improve the consumption environment and promote specific measures in each sector for culture and tourism.

Investments in large and strategic infrastructure projects are critical to stabilizing growth, promoting upgrading in regions with out-of-date infrastructure and improving livelihoods, as investments in such projects, which feature large investments, a strong industrial chain and labor-intensive, will not only step up the overall construction progress but also facilitate the development of relevant industries along the chain, bringing a direct driving force to industrial production, said Lou Jianying, a senior analyst at the China Merchants Research Institute, who was quoted by Economic Information Daily.

Infrastructure investment, supported by simple funding and project work, will continue to be a major driving force for China in the second quarter, Lou said, adding that as warm days are approaching, construction projects nationwide will see faster progress, bringing further demand to investment along the chain.

China's fixed-asset investment expanded 11.1 percent year-on-year in the first quarter, the same as in the full year of 2022 and down from 12.3 percent in the first two months of this year, according to the National Bureau of Statistics.

The country's fixed-asset investment—excluding rural household—rose 13.7 trillion yuan in the first three months, driven by a 6.4 percent growth in infrastructure investment on a yearly basis and a 5.7 percent growth in manufacturing investment.
Short videos go long on value

BY IAN JEFFREY

China’s online audio market is expected to see robust growth in the next few years as audio-sharing platforms work to enrich their content and expand applications, experts said. Growth is also expected from young people’s growing willingness to pay for quality content.

China’s online audio market includes podcasting as well as audio-sharing platforms that allow people to upload and share content approved by the platforms, which are charged with providing copyright protection.

Yin Jian, co-founder and CEO of Xiami, China’s biggest online audio-sharing platform, said that during the fourth quarter of 2021, the company had its first quarter profitability in more than 10 years.

The platform’s growth is breaking through to three factors: clear development strategy, unique business structures, ongoing content-making and marketing efforts, and new revenue models.

The company plans to target 300 million podcast listeners by 2023, and will further improve technical capabilities and user experience. It also plans to collaborate with more than 1,000 radio stations, more than 1,000 podcast companies, and more than 100 enterprise accounts.

Xiami has seen a sharp rise in the number of users who have been exposed to the platform’s content and the number of users who have paid for the platform’s content.

According to the company, the number of users who have paid for the platform’s content has increased by more than 100%, and the number of users who have paid for the platform’s content has increased by more than 150%.

The company also plans to develop new revenue models, including advertising, subscription, and merchandise sales.

Xiami’s content includes podcasts, short videos, and live streaming, with more than 100,000 hours of content available on the platform.

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Online audio platforms turning up volume

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COMMENT

US taps the ante in dirty game but should be forewarned

Unlike the United States' efforts in many conflicts, American forces are not leading a full-scale assault on China's sovereignty, which in many respects is a war without a war. However, US officials have arranged for a delegation of 25 arms dealers to visit Taiwan from Tuesday apparently to espouse the possibility of manufacturing weapons, mainly drones and ammunition, on the island, ostensibly to support its so-called "freedom fighter" leadership. This provokes a reaction against the United States' appeals for independence and the cost to the United States, the Taiwanese authorities and the defense industry in Taiwan.

From James Huang, chairman of the "Taiwanese external trade association" and chairman of the "Arrow." Ming-Shih, acting deputy CEO of the "Technology for the International Relations and Security Research" and Tsai Shih-Ying, coordinator of the "International and National Security Research" of the United States, are all hardline members of the pro-independence "Taiwanese independence" faction.

Washington has also up its game on arms deals with the island, releasing a strategy statement from the US military to台湾 against the background of the so-called "Taiwan independence" faction, and even scheduling an arms deal. The US delegation that will visit the island the week after this statement is released will be the first to do something more provocative after "weaponizing" the US arms market.

"The US delegation will visit the island despite initial hesitation that it could further irritate Beijing and could lead to an escalation in US military activity in the region. Washington finally decided to indulge in tripletalk and provide Beijing with a much-needed move and thereby jointly assert, according to the US, the purpose of the delegation's visit.

That's why Beijing said it will look a close eye on the US delegation's visit to the island, and act accordingly.

Additionally, competition on the island could result in a war between the United States and Taiwan, the US arms funds will be bypassed as a means to sell arms to the island.

But the US efforts to push the envelope in that regard, scene a series of provocations, including sending arms to Taiwan, weaponizing the island's economy and territorial integrity. By allowing arms dealers to visit the island, the Joe Biden administration has taken a series of measures to support the island's secessionists and violated the three-US joint communications, which could change cross-strait relations or Sino-US ties forever.

Washington dicing to Beijing's destructive route

The joint statement issued by US President Joe Biden and Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. on Thursday's visit to the US indicated Washington's determination to play a destabilizing role in the region. The joint statement issued by the US and the Philippines is a play for the US to be seen as the main player in the region.

Despite repeatedly claiming the Philippines will not become America's primary security concern, some of its leaders seem to have been fooled by the US's claims that they will cooperate on issues such as terrorism, energy and counterterrorism.

In the joint statement, Biden has reaffirmed the US "desire" to commit to the Philippines, despite the recent US withdrawal from Afghanistan, and its announced redeployment of some of its military personnel in the Pacific, including in the South China Sea, would likely involve the US in a conflict with China. The US is to maintain its "security" alliance with the Philippines.

If China and Russia are both to become a major player in the region, the US needs to show its ability to play a destabilizing role in the region, or in other words, its ability to push the envelope and frame its weapons de facto on its territories.

Washington ensures Yoon into geopolitical trap

Republic of Korea President Moon Jae-in has returned from a 10-day state visit to the United States, during which he discussed a number of issues for result-producing impact on the future of the Korean Peninsula and the region, and which gives hope to many people in the world.

Judging from Moon's visit to the US and the agreements he reached with the US, Moon's visit to Washington seems more meaningful with his joint statement with US President Joe Biden presented on the occasion of the two countries' 100 years of diplomatic relations that range from semicentenials all the way to cyberpatriots.

You're going to the US to tell us will double accelerate the pace of ROK-US and ROK-Japan-US cooperation, and be more committed to the ROK's goal of "landmark" democracy, especially in regard to the ROK's desire to participate in the ROK's goal of "landmark" democracy, especially in regard to the ROK's desire to participate in the ROK's goal of "landmark" democracy.

A photograph from CNN Newsource in the US shows some 80-100 people showing up to call the ROK "good" on the night of the being made a reality.

The second long holiday after the three-year-long COVID-19 pandemic is over, and the May Day holiday unfolded people's enthusiasm for travel to a new level, but the traffic jams and long queues proved to be a disappointment. Another disappointment was the lack of food in room service, with some tourists even seen calling on the hotel's front desk to help with ordering food.

In response to the rumors in the media that there were too many people at the same place, the situation of the estimated 900,000 tourists traveling during the four-day, five-night stay and long queues were expected.

However, solutions can exist. In 2015, the Labor Law granted people the right to paid leave, which was further consolidated with an implementation in 2019, so that everyone can enjoy this right fairly, getting five extra days if they have been working for less than five years and 10 extra days for those who have been working for more than three years, then the holidays for the whole country will be extended by five days.

However, the current situation in China is that the majority of the population is barely able to get a paid leave, and those who are able to get a paid leave are often required to work on the weekends, which is highly unreasonable.

On the other hand, the US does not have such a system, and it's more realistic for them to have a paid leave or holiday.

What They Say

Dollar fast losing its sheen, and charm

Argentina announced on April 16 that it would stop accepting the US dollar, and instead swap dollars for euros, to set up payments from Argentina. Brazil, Russia, France and India are the four Asian countries that have already decided to use the yuan and the renminbi to settle for their global trade.

In the agreement, the Ministry of Finance and the central bank governor of the ROK, Japan and China, said those three countries had already decided to use yuan and the renminbi to settle for their global trade.

But the outcome of the Seoul talks is a different story, for he has allowed the renminbi to be placed higher into the "Indo-Pacific strategy" to control China.

But the US wants to stop the trend of China and the US are the two biggest semiconductor importers. Ditching China as a global semiconductor may serve Washington's strategic purpose well but will deal a massive blow to the ROK economy, offsetting the ROK's overall relations with China, which have been generally harmonious and productive for decades.

On April 17, at the meeting of the finance ministers and central bank governors of the ROK, Japan, China and the United States, the United States, the ROK and China have already decided to use yuan and the renminbi to settle for their global trade with China.

They also stated that the renminbi has been used to pay for imports from the US, China, and the United States, and that the yuan and the renminbi are used by the US, China, and the United States to settle for their global trade with China.

The Joint Statement on the upsurge of the New York Stock Exchange, the renminbi and the yen to be used in the sale of goods for many years. Direct transactions data from the World Bank for the first time in this year."
Chinese people reviving global tourism

Zhang Mengchen

Tourists pave way for Macao’s economic recovery

The crisis of the COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted the global economy, with the tourism industry being one of the most severely affected sectors. However, with the gradual easing of restrictions and the return of international travel, the tourism industry is experiencing a resurgence. This article explores the factors driving the recovery of the global tourism industry and examines the potential impact on key destinations.

The recovery of the tourism industry has been driven by several key factors, including the lifting of travel restrictions, the reopening of borders, and increased consumer confidence. As countries around the world have implemented vaccination programs and introduced measures to mitigate the spread of the virus, travel restrictions have been lifted in many areas. This has allowed tourists to once again explore new destinations and rediscover old favorites.

The return of tourists to popular destinations such as Thailand, China, and Italy has been particularly encouraging. In Thailand, the number of international arrivals has surpassed pre-pandemic levels, showcasing the resilience of the tourism industry. Similarly, China has seen a significant increase in inbound and outbound travel, with tourists flocking to its historical sites and natural wonders.

The positive developments in the global tourism industry have not only been confined to the traditional tourist destinations. Many emerging destinations, such as Vietnam and Turkey, have witnessed a surge in interest from travelers looking for unique and authentic experiences. These destinations have capitalized on their cultural heritage, natural beauty, and vibrant local experiences to attract a new wave of tourists.

The recovery of the tourism industry has also had a significant economic impact. With tourism accounting for a substantial portion of GDP in many countries, the revival of the industry has provided a much-needed boost to national economies. Governments have also recognized the potential for tourism to drive economic growth, with various initiatives and policies aimed at attracting tourists and fostering sustainable development.

Despite the progress made, there are still several challenges that the tourism industry must address. These include the ongoing threat of the virus, logistical issues such as visa restrictions, and the need for continued support from governments and international organizations. However, with the right strategies and efforts, the global tourism industry has the potential to recover fully and emerge stronger than before, offering a sustainable and inclusive future for all.

The recovery of the tourism industry is a testament to human resilience and the power of collaboration. It demonstrates the importance of investing in the sector and recognizing its critical role in driving economic growth and cultural exchange. As the industry continues to evolve, it is essential to prioritize safety, sustainability, and inclusivity to ensure that the gains are shared by all.

The future of the tourism industry is promising, and with continued efforts and innovation, it is poised to become an even more significant driver of economic growth and social progress. The lessons learned during the pandemic have provided a valuable opportunity to reevaluate and reshape the industry, creating a more equitable and sustainable future. The global tourism industry has demonstrated its resilience and adaptability, and with continued collaboration and innovation, it will continue to thrive and make a positive impact on the world.
Unlocking new potentials

China should turn its population trend into new growth momentum

China's population trend is changing, with the number of new births reaching the lowest level in recent years. The trend is expected to continue for a few more years, before slowly reversing in 2025, according to the National Bureau of Statistics. However, the new momentum will not appear overnight; it will be a long-term process. The government has stated that it is preparing for the long haul to ensure a sustainable population. This presents both challenges and opportunities for China.

Challenges

Population aging is a global trend, and China is no exception. The rapid aging of the population is expected to put pressure on social security systems and leave a significant burden on the workforce. The government needs to prepare for this challenge by promoting a sustainable labor force and encouraging people to work longer. This will require a paradigm shift in the financial system, as well as a focus on pension reform and workforce development.

Opportunities

Population aging also offers opportunities. The growing elderly population means that there is a significant demand for health care, social care, and other services. This presents a significant opportunity for growth in these sectors. The government can leverage this opportunity by promoting a new model of care and investment in these sectors.

What China can do

The government needs to prepare for the long haul to ensure a sustainable population. This requires a paradigm shift in the financial system, as well as a focus on pension reform and workforce development. The government also needs to promote a new model of care and investment in these sectors. These efforts will require a significant investment of time and resources, but they will also yield significant benefits in the long run.
Pole position for culture

Tailored and determined artist resurfaces daredevil Zhejiang water town spectacle. Yang Fenyue reports.

Ta Songlin recently took his audience breath away at a historical folk celebration event in his hometown of Jiaxing in Zhejiang, a county-level city of the provincial capital of Shaoxing. He displayed his expertise in a variety of traditional Chinese acrobatic performances.

Dressed in a white folk costume, Ta pulled off a string of stunts on a bamboo pole, much to the delight of the audience. He climbed to the top of the pole, one end of which was fixed to the boat – the other end reaching into the sky – before he started to spin and turned his whole body around.

Soon after, Ta looked as if scissoring through the clouds. At times, he balanced on his hands, lying on his back over the top of the pole. Then, he gave the audience a star by suddenly kicking his feet out of the boat and hanging himself upside down.

His movements were not just entertaining, but a symbol of strength – for example, by balancing the bamboo pole with both arms instead of silk threads using mohur leaves and spinning silk.

With every new move, spectators ended up in amazement, and applause broke out at close intervals, creating an atmosphere of excitement during the Silkworm Flower Water Festival staged in the town’s Qinghe village early April.

The festival goes in name from the practice of female silkworm farmers adorning themselves with colorful flowers made of silk. Harvest offerings are also made as part of the celebrations.

Widely recognized for its water-borne activities, the festival has a paragon aura close to local silkworm culture and is a highlight of the annual festival, which has a history of more than 100 years.

More than two decades of putting on the intimate show have involved Ta and his family. Though it is hard work, to him it is rewarding. His third hair remains largely black, even in his beard where nature only helps him maintain a healthy physique, but also give him an intense sense of anticipation.

Walking into his home in Jiaxing, a room that immediately catches the eye is the large pole standing upright on the ground. He started early morning, and after going through his performance routine on the pole.

"When the weather is good, I always go to the pole and that’s one of a hundred bamboo poles to practice on,” he says.

Ta has been exposed to the art form since childhood, when his father and grandfather would tell him about the glory of acrobatic performance. For the annual water festival was held for several decades after around 1985, counting its associated practices to stagnation.

However, local residents are proud of their unique art, which Ta and his family have preserved in their home province. Ta says he has an old photo of his father and grandfather standing inside the boat – "I trained them personally and practiced, and gradually picked up the fundamentals.

"Although I was not only in the surface of the art in those early years, I understood the needs of interest in his art.

After being discharged from the military in 1989, Ta decided to play a new feature as a springboard, and decided his family would try to make a career out of his family art.

"If he heard the ‘long-tail boat’ just came to our village, he was watching the destination and payment," he says, adding that he had noticed the absence of the performance. "I also felt it was a shame that such a spectacular skill passed down by our ancestors was on the verge of extinction.

He then returned home, put his own bamboo pole, and found a way to practice on a daily basis. He got it as a start-up, however, as few people understood why he would so desperately practice his craft.

"At that time, many people laughed at me and thought that I was mad. They even said, ‘I feel it was meaningless.’ He recalls. It was too obvious.

Not only did Ta feel frustrated about people misunderstanding his art, he also struggled to hone his skills. "When I got down, I realized that the moves were not as easy as I had imagined they would be beforehand.

At the beginning, he even moved differently with the level of coordination and strength required of his body. I was out of my body just yelling and climbing to the top of the pole and completing the entire set of movements,” he says.

But he was committed to a daily routine of string training, and continued his hobby daily practice of the shore. He says he has count of the number of times he fell from the bamboo pole. His hands are covered in callouses from his rough back.

A group effort

Moved by his persistence, a few locals also joined in, forming a high-level performance squad.

Their efforts aroused the enthusiasm of other folk art practitioners, and together they began to prepare to put on the festival once again, which was re-inaugurated in 1989.

The re-launched holiday turned out to be a sensational success, and pulled in a huge crowd of visitors.

"It is still remembered by the children and adults that he says.

In the early days after the festival, its recreation, only a small number of people would engage in high pole art acrobatics due to the high risks and physical requirements involved. "In the only that there was not much income to be gained from doing it,” Ta explains.

Fortunately, the Zhejiang authorities recognized the cultural value of such performances and began to provide support to Ta, helping to bring his art to higher standards as an intangible cultural heritage, gaining investors and protection.

As the festival gains attention the national TV and Ta’s experience.

Ta has since been invited to deliver training sessions and broadcast reports by China Central Television and the Shanghai Radio and Television. He has also been invited to perform for the opening ceremony of the provincial and national East China Folk Art Festival.

Young people who have a deep love for the art are now making their way to Ta’s door and asking for training. Lin Shi, 21, a recent graduate of China’s School of Theater, was one of them. "I heard the story of the art and how you worked so hard and was very move by what you did, and I went to ask him for advice, and he agreed.

"I remember him being so happy when I told him that I was the first time that I have ever met a pole dancer,” says the man, now in his 50s.

Under the guidance of Luo Weiming, who has innovative moves that have added to the charm of the boat show.

Ta speaks highly of Luo’s efforts and says he hopes more of his disciples can do the same and help strengthen this fervent and7-11 craft.

As he has gotten older, Ta has had to reduce the frequency of his performances, but he says he will continue to participate in the Silkworm Flower Water Festival.

"It just feels happy to perform for my fellow villagers,” he says.

Contact the writer at yangfenyue@ وحتبيدو.كوم.

To Dongxiang displays his skills during the bamboo pole performance, he has been a highlight of the historical Silkworm Flower Water Festival in Tongxiang, Zhejiang province.

PHOTO: PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY
AN ARTIST OF THE PEOPLE

Master painter Xu Beihong depicts the reality of life and the plight of those he portrayed. Lin Qi reports.

When Xu Beihong (1895-1953) returned to his home country in 1922, the painter had lived and worked in Europe for nearly a decade, primarily in France, where he had attended the National School of Fine Arts.

One of the earliest Chinese artists to study fine arts in Europe and with accomplishments, Xu was well-received in art and educational circles back home. It then seems a natural choice for him to profit from exhibiting widely and teaching art schools.

While Xu himself came from a humble background, he felt that fame was not all. Touched by the dire situation of his country and its people struggling for a living at the time, Xu undertook as one of his duties to speak for the plight of his people through painting. The subjects in his works included those living in mountainous Chongqing who had to go up and down to fetch water, beast husbandry working on the Yangtze River and women praying for the safety of their husbands who made a living far away from home.

For those in the art community, Xu is remembered mostly for blending Eastern and Western styles and establishing the high education of fine arts in China. While for his people, the artist is best known for depicting the true life of those at the grassroots. And for this, members of Xu's art in Beijing and Chongqing have mourned an extraordinary person.

 Held at Town Art Museum Chongqing, the exhibition, through to 21, shows Xu's paintings and sketches, including a portrait of a mother inspired by his deep compassion for them. The manor was restored from a historical building where Xu and his family lived in Chongqing in the 1940s. "Poor" was how Xu wrote his name, "Beihong," in French, while studying in Paris.

For Xu, the realistic approach was not only something he had learned from oil painting and aesthetics in the Parisian school but also an important tool to reform the lack of Chinese painting. For example, in Fishermen, an ink painting from the 1940s on show in Chongqing, the way Xu depicted the long moustache of the old fishermen and his grandson shows Xu's adoption of Western painting techniques to reinforce an energetic feeling, and a physical feature unique to the Chinese.

Realism was an attitude that Xu stuck to in his creation to present the everyday hardships of people with a esteem for their emotions and the future, says Wu Chuan, deputy director of the collection department at the Xu Beihong Memorial Museum. Part of the paintings on show are from the Beihong museum.

Xu made a painting titled Palm Tree in 1935 to show a "strange scene" to southerners in southern China — women kneeling to palm trees and burning incense as offerings — that is also on show at the Chongqing exhibition. Xu painted with loose brushstrokes a high palm tree, rendering its solemn atmosphere like that of a totem or a monument while a woman knelt down before the tree looks small and vulnerable. In the blankness of the painting, Xu explained that women, all in tears of all the best wishes for their husbands who tried to leave a living away from home and meanwhile, hoping that the spousal would not forget about them a minute or two seconds.

"Xu's intention to reflect is noticeable in his work. In the depictions of families on the river, he shows them wearing almost nothing, because they were poor and had few clothes, and they wore little as work to keep the clothes intact and clean, and to save them for other occasions," Wu says.

Xu continued to give a profile of those living heroes from different walks of life after the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949, besides his prime responsibility as the dean of the Central Academy of Fine Arts. He produced dozens of drawings of workers as farmers and miners and from the rural areas, which are on display here. Some of them worked at the construction site of the "twin towers" doing province in 1993. Xu and his students traveled to the site to observe people's work and draw there. The drawings were prepared for a painting, but Xu was not able to do it before he died two years later.

Also on show are paintings by Xu's students who dedicated their careers to depicting the ordinary people.

To J, a graduate of the series, says the exhibition shows Xu Beihong's "national heroic feeling and people's strength as the creator of the history and the fundamental force of social development."

Clear the river at
http://chinadaily.com.cn

KEEP OUR WORLD COLORFUL: PRESERVE BIODIVERSITY.
Thread of an idea pays dividends

Craftswomen leverage social media to build a business that contributes to rural vitalization, Yang Feiyue and Sun Ruisheng report in Taiyuan.

C
tiful peony flowers are vividly blooming under the dancing needle thread in Ying Aili’s hands, as she demonstrates her intricate embroidery skills online. On the short-video platform Kuaishou, embroidered items making Ying a star have provided a fresh breeze for these innumerable traditional Taiyuan Embroidery Workshop, which was established about 16 years ago. Some 300 craftsmen have been trained by the workshop over about five years ago.

The public relations and ad

are taught how to manage their time, and present creative transac

and innovative development of local intangible cultural heritages, says Yi

t, director of the Institute of ethnic intangible cultural heritages at Sun Yun University.

So I believe it will lead to effec

have the potential to stimulate economic and cultural development in rural areas. Ying says the recognition from the government has inspired her to do even more, and her sister Nai-Fang and her family members, forming a team, have been working hard to embroider each traditional pattern. "I like being praised and cherished by the public and government," Ying says.

As the business continues to grow, Ying and her three children are unable to keep up, so they rely on the help of other local residents. " Those who were good at embroidery would be assigned to create designs, while those who were good at stitching would do the needlework," Yin says.

In 2017, the three sisters established the Taiyuan Embroidery Workshop. It was around that time that someone at the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, who was working on poverty alleviation in Taiyuan, came across Ying’s work on Kuaishou.

"She was interested in this type of craftsmanship as an intangible cultural heritage," Ying says.

"She encouraged Ying and her sisters to produce more embroidered works, and it didn’t take long before they sold their first piece of embroidery for 10 yuan,” says Li Hongbin, chairman of the workshop.

Orders from all over the country have come their way, from Shatou and the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region to Beijing and Shanghai.

"They’re more than glad to contribute their skills to the works, but they have never received payment because of different styles and quality requirements. It’s a unique phenomenon in China," Ying says.

In 2019, the workshop joined the local Commerce Commission as a commercial service centre, a local government project imitated by the local government.

"They never receive additional annual income of 4,000 yuan at most. They can work in their spare time and have their products sold with local sales," Ying says.

"They produce hand embroidery products of a more natural and flexible quality and can copy down the same separate stems, which are made of pure materials produced by the workshop. "Each bobbin of flowers is unique, with a vast three-dimensional effect realized by hand," Ying says.

"That’s the charm of local embroidery," Ying says.

So far, the workshop has given embroidery training to more than 1,000 women, some of whom are sick, disabled and poor. "They all know how to make the embroidery well, even if they have only a few months of training, they are able to produce good work."

One of the most important tasks the workshop is working on is "new normal" embroidery that is suitable for the new situation. It is expected to give more users to the embroidery business in the neighborhood and enable everyone to make the products of traditional craftsmanship, she says.

Contact the writers at yangfeiyue@shu.edu.cn

Former mine site fosters a lush, green future

LEEDS – In early spring, Xiao Meng and his colleagues at the Huaxi National Mine Park (Huaxi National Mine Park) in Tianjin, Jiangsu province, found a new way to revitalize the abandoned site. Using plants to cover the old mine site, they have been exploring the potential of using mine waste as an ecological restoration tool. During a recent interview with the China Daily, the researchers explained how they used native plants to create a diverse and sustainable ecosystem on the old mine site.

"In the past, it was a barren, rocky wasteland. Now, the site has been transformed into a lush, green paradise," Xiao says.

Xiao, a 30-year-old local resident who has studied in Tianjin, has been taking care of the abandoned mine area since 2001. They have been exploring ways to use the old mine site as a new ecological restoration tool.

"The area is a hot spot for biodiversity and has a rich variety of plant species," Xiao says.

After years of effort, local residents have transformed the old mine site into a green oasis. A total of 50 million yuan has been invested in the project so far, forming a network of ecological corridors and improving the local environment.

"We have been able to transform the old mine site into a green area that is accessible to all residents," Xiao says.

Yin Xiaodong, a 54-year-old local resident who has lived in the area for more than 30 years, says he is happy to see the change. "I have seen the transformation of this area from a barren wasteland to a green oasis," Yin says.

"I have been able to experience the transformation of the area and have been able to witness the environmental benefits that come with it," Yin says.

"The area is now a place where people can enjoy the beauty of nature and have a positive impact on the environment," Yin says.