

Cashing in on the booming M&A business

Xu Wei

With the settling of Shanghai United Assets and Equity Exchange, the nation's largest comprehensive platform for assets and equity transactions, Shanghai M&A Financial Agglomeration Zone has been founded in Putuo District. It is an effort of Putuo to follow Shanghai's development strategies, helping the city to become an international finance center and an influential hub for technology innovation. On the launch day the Xinhua-Shangpu M&A index was also released.

As China's first agglomeration zone themed on M&A, the Shanghai zone has made remarkable achievements over the past three years.

The zone now has seven M&A banking institutions, the M&A Financing Alliance, the world's first M&A themed museum, Shanghai M&A Financial Institute and Shanghai International M&A Arbitration Center. Relevant supporting policies have also been announced.

Shi Xiaolin, secretary of the CPC Putuo District Committee, says the zone has more than 230 investment projects, totaling 6.3 billion yuan (US\$910 million).

Several financial institutions have settled in the zone and the area is gaining increasing influence for its optimized environment, supporting policies, industrial guidance and talent service.

Attracting top names

Meanwhile, a comprehensive service platform for domestic and international M&A projects is taking shape. Several famous financial enterprises, law firms, associations and institutions have settled in the zone, such as Anxin Trust Co., Ltd and Far East Horizon.

Over the past three years, the zone has offered M&A services for more than 35,000 market entities. The equity transaction amount reached 545.56 billion yuan — an annual growth of 50 percent.

In the future, the zone will integrate and agglomerate a variety of resources.

35,000

Over the past three years, Shanghai M&A Financial Agglomeration Zone in Putuo has offered M&A services for more than 35,000 market entities. Transactions have hit 545.56 billion yuan, an average increase of over 50 percent annually.

The 28 technology innovation policies will provide support in platform construction, trade promotion, financial credit, environment, industrial guidance and talent.

The zone will continue to improve the M&A financial ecosystem, and establish alliances for cross-border M&A, M&A financing, talent cultivation and achievement display. Academic teams

have been enrolled by the Shanghai M&A Financial Institute to make a research on the M&A theories and cases. The institute will work with technology park to offer financial training. High-end financial talents will be introduced. Experts from Shanghai Stock Exchange will be invited to regularly analyze the latest policies. Enterprises will be organized to visit the district and receive relevant coaching.

The environment and ancillary facilities will be optimized. With the opening of Putuo District Administration Service Center last month, the district now has one-stop services. The surrounding office buildings will provide 600,000 square meters for enterprises and institutions to settle. Five-star hotels, the Jackie Chan Film Gallery and cruise docks will also offer high-end cultural and entertainment services. The zone also has middle schools and hospitals. Commercial and transportation facilities will be improved to attract talent and enterprises to work and live here.



Students from Caoyang Middle School test the water quality from Qiujiang River. This research project is an assignment of water quality and environment course, specially availed at the school.

Caoyang school wins key award

Yao Jialin and Xu Wei

ON April 17, Shanghai Caoyang Middle School was named the city's Characteristic High School by the Shanghai Municipal Education Commission. In the future, Caoyang Middle School can run based on the relevant policies and standards of experimental and demonstration senior high schools, covering enrollment, faculty, facilities and funding.

Officials from the Shanghai Municipal Education Commission gave high praise for Caoyang Middle School's efforts to develop curriculum with distinctive features.

Yang Lin, headmaster of the school, demonstrated their achievements and gave a theme report on the ideas and measures of their work.

The Characteristic High School building and evaluation project was launched in 2011 in Shanghai.

To receive the title, high schools should conform to the city's positioning role and function, the social and economic growth and student's development. They should also have characteristic curriculum and implementation system to form its own distinctive and stable style of teaching.

Founded in 1953, Caoyang Middle School used to be one of three schools in Shanghai which specially enrolled children of returned overseas Chinese.

In 1959, it was listed one of the first batch of 26 key middle schools by the Shanghai Municipal Government. In 1978 it was named the district-level

key middle school.

The cultivation of environmental literacy has been set to be the school's characteristic. Experimental curriculum has been adopted to explore the relationships of environment and humanity, environment and technology, environment and psychology.

The school has received more than 50 honors, including the title of international eco-school, experimental school of the UNESCO Education for Sustainable Development and national environmental education demonstration school.

The Shanghai Municipal Education Commission also plans to develop characteristic high schools into a site of distinctive courses and a training center for high-quality teachers.

Admin office opens to serve the community better

Ren Yingying and Xu Wei

PUTUO District Administration Service Center, at 602 Tongpu Road, has opened. With 22 government departments and 207 officials, the center has 111 public service windows for 279 types of services of administrative checks and acceptances.

Services cover business registration, taxation, construction, a public resources trading platform and a talent center.

These are no longer scattered in different places of the district, which is more convenient and human-oriented.

The launch of the Putuo District Administration Service Center is also a new start of the district's efforts to combine the Internet with government services, says Zhou Minhao, director of Putuo District.

Reform of the administrative check and acceptance system will be deepened.

Since its construction in 2013, officials from the Putuo have spared no effort to conduct surveys and learn from successful cases to improve administration services in the Big Data era.

The center will serve as a backbone of the district's "Internet-plus government services" mode.

The public can make online appointments by scanning the code, which enables services at the center more efficient.

Meanwhile, the official website of the center and WeChat public account have also been launched to offer online services for reservations, declarations and inquiries, which simplifies procedures and saves time.

Big data technology is applied to the data analysis center which is also connected with the district's foundation database.

The data will also be used to shorten waiting times, improve efficiency and provide information for government to make decisions.

Based on the current services, the center will optimize the existing processes and extend more government services to the online platform. In the future, the center tries to develop one-stop windows for comprehensive services.