



The first eco-sustainable city is being planned in China

Dongtan, the first zero-impact and eco-sustainable city, is being planned and built in Shanghai, on the island of Chongming, at the mouth of the Yangtze River. The Chinese Government and the Shanghai Industrial Investment Company (SIIC) want to realize, through the design of this city, an outstanding experience that can be reproduced in other areas of the country to meet the challenges of sustainable development of urban areas.

Designed to accommodate 500,000 people, and spread over 630 hectares, Dongtan will be realized with energy self-sufficient buildings, equipped with photovoltaic roofs and wind turbines. The infrastructures are designed using ecological and energy-saving criteria, with wastewater treatment systems. The city will recycle most of the waste produced. In Dongtan, transport (cars, trams and boats) will use electricity or hydrogen cells, reducing the emission of carbon dioxide and noise pollution. The city will be largely self-sufficient even for food, using the surrounding land for the realization of organic farms and agro-industrial activities, such as aquaculture.

The construction of this city, which represents a new approach to urban planning, as claimed by Alejandro Gutierrez of the ARUP Studio in charge of its design, is followed with great interest all over the world. The construction of the city of Dongtan will be a laboratory of great interest for the application of environmentally friendly technologies in all fields.

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