



Winner of the Policy and Lawmaking Category 2007
Li Zhaoqian, Mayor of Rizhao

Project
Popularization of Clean Energy in Rizhao, China

In a city of nearly 3m people the mayor has introduced many measures and policies to support the implementation of clean energy projects.



Project description

Dr. Li Zhaoqian was elected the mayor of Rizhao City in 2001, a city of 2.8m people in China. Since then measures and policies have been implemented to popularize clean energy. This has had the result that almost all of the 650,000 residents of the city's downtown, and around one third of rural households, use solar water heaters. Additionally most of the traffic, street and park lights that were built or transformed after 2005 are solar powered. Marsh gas generated from sewage is used for cooking and electrical power generation. All in all, the use of clean energy from solar and gas reduces CO₂ emissions by 3,340,000 tons and SO₂ by 12,500 tons annually.

The promotion and support of local authorities played an important role in the process. Regulations were made and special funds were established to promote technical innovation and popularization of clean energies. Urban development strategy and architecture designs were modified to facilitate the use of clean energies, especially solar energy. Enterprises producing solar facilities and energy-saving buildings enjoy preferential policies. Several residential areas using solar energy have been constructed for demonstration purposes. Various measures have also been taken to enhance public awareness of the importance of using clean energies.



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