

iFURBL3



PARTICIPANTS' GUIDE AND INFORMATION PACK

Content

✓ Overview	2
✓ Venue	2
✓ Location	3
✓ Accommodation	5
✓ Security & Health	7
✓ Spots of field trips	9
✓ Agenda	11



✓ OVERVIEW

The First International Forum on Urban-Rural Linkages will take place at **Songyang County, Lishui City, Zhejiang Province, China** between 29th Oct and 1st November, 2023. Suggested arrival date is Sunday, 29th Oct, 2023

✓ VENUE

Tianyuan Mingdu Hotel

Yaojin Road 155, Xiping Street Zhongnong 12, Songyang County



✓ REGISTRATION

There is no registration fee for the forum. Participants are asked to register in the hotels where they live.

From **8:30** to **20:00** on 29th October, 2023, participants can check in at the Information Desk at:

Tianyuan Mingdu Hotel (Yangming Mountain Villa No.1, Songyang).

✓ MEALS

The cost of all the rooms in the selected hotel includes breakfast. Lunch and dinner will be provided to all the participants in their hotels. Please let us know the special need of the participants in advance if there is.

The welcome dinner will be table meal, except this, all other meals will be provided as buffet

There will be no fee for the meals, including the sponsored participants and the non-sponsored participants.



✓ LOCATION

The Forum will take place at **Songyang County**, Zhejiang Province, China

Songyang County is a rural area south-west of Shanghai with around 400 villages. The county has special landscape with gentle hills, craggy rock faces, rice fields, and tea plantations that can be found in traditional Chinese literature and paintings.

Boasting a history of more than 1800 years and a landscape mostly kept intact, Songyang is known for being the areas where agricultural civilization and local culture are best preserved in China. As one of the "Famous Historical and Cultural Towns", Songyang County includes more than 100 traditional villages, and among them, 75 of which have been listed as Chinese Traditional Village. It has become a model region under the Conservation and Development Project of Traditional Villages, a pilot area for the National Traditional Village Protection and Utilization Project and a pilot county of the "Save the Old Houses Initiative". Praised as "the Last Mysterious Land of Jiangnan", Songyang is a well-preserved specimen of ancient Chinese counties.

Songyang has already become a popular travel destination since 2015—above all for residents from big cities in China. At the same time, a new, lively socioeconomic structure has developed in recent years as a result of various modernization measures. In order to provide sustainable incentives and for city residents to return, the government has been working on further strategies for the overall development of Songyang, including: improved accessibility by means of motorways, a connection to the high-speed train network and a regional airport are currently being developed including promotion of innovative projects as 'organic farming' or 'sustainable tourism'. A wide range of architectural interventions on a micro-level in cooperation with the respective village communities, the municipal government, and local craftspeople have been realized, such as the 'Brown Sugar Factory' in Xingcun Village, the village community centre in Pingtian Village, and a teahouse and a pavilion in Damushan Valley. This has consequently led to dynamic and organic growth in the rural region and offers the new generation of modern rural residents concrete perspectives.





In May 2019, the People's Government of Songyang County, as the only county-level representative among the three entities in China, participated in the first UN-Habitat Conference at the invitation of UN-Habitat, and signed a letter of intent for cooperation. Songyang organized and launched the 1st and 2nd Urban-Rural Linkage Forum in November 2019 and October 2021 respectively, yielding fruitful results. As such, Songyang agreed to hold such forum every two years.

In recent years, under the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, Songyang County has implemented the strategies put forward in the 20th CPC National Congress and of the central, provincial and municipal government, deepened the Double Eight Strategy, focused on the Two Priorities as key windows, adhered to the development concept that stresses "lucid waters and lush mountains are invaluable assets" in an innovative way to boost urban-rural integration and regional coordinated development, and explore path towards urban-rural sustainable development. It has strived to promote common prosperity, and become the demonstration county for concentrated conservation of traditional villages, one of the first pilot areas in Zhejiang province to narrow the gap between urban and rural areas, the first pilot county in Zhejiang province for the development of smart traffic industry, and the pilot area of county-level organizational reform of the Communist Youth League. Songyang's 78 villages have been included in the list of Chinese traditional villages, and its "Save Old Residences" project has been selected into the Rural Revitalization Strategy (2018-2022), and written into the No. 1 Central Document for 2022 and 2023.

To tell Songyang's stories well and promote the exchanges and cooperation in the coordinated and sustainable development between urban and rural areas as well as the urban-rural sustainable development of other areas, the 3rd Urban-Rural Linkage Forum serves as a research platform that brings together case studies in the field of narrowing the urban-rural gap, so that the concept of Chinese-style modernization and common prosperity in the county can be spread more widely.



Community centre in Pingtian Village © UN-Habitat



✓ ACCOMMODATION

All sponsored participants will be accommodated in Tianyuan Mingdu Hotel. The cost of accommodation will be covered by the organizers.

Non-sponsored participants will also be accommodated in Tianyuan Mingdu Hotel.



Venue, hotels and key spots of the Forum.



Transport

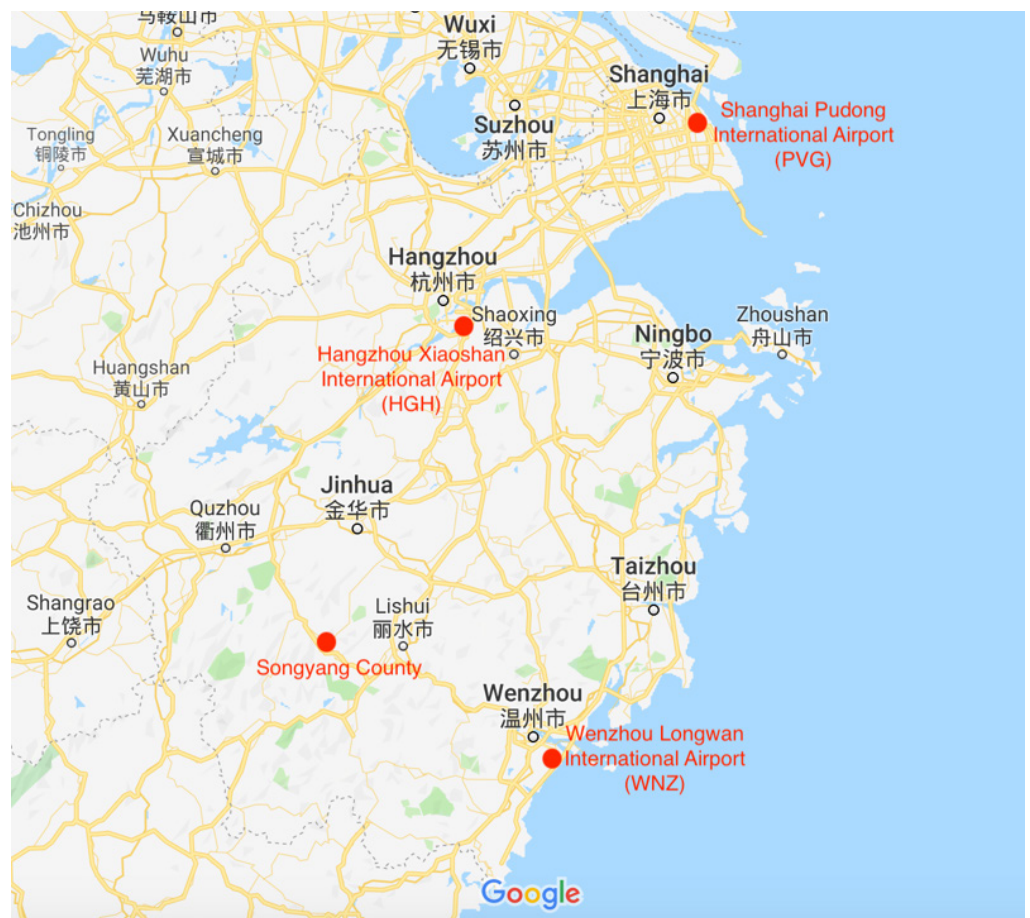
From the International Airport

From 29th October, 2023, Songyang will provide all participants with pick-up service (it is recommend that participants take the flights to Hangzhou and Wenzhou International Airport, which is about 3 hours' drive to Songyang).

We will prepare several buses for picking up everyone. There will be drivers waiting for you with your names at the airport of arrival.

If you have challenges, please contact **Ms. Chloe (email: 545087611@qq.com)**,

Tel: **+8613615841631**; Wechat ID: **Luck-chloe**.



The location of the airports.

Local Transportation

Songyang will provide local transportation for the forum and field trips.



Attire

The dress code for the forum is business casual. Please also bring warm and comfort clothes, sturdy shoes, particularly if you will be participating in the Field Trips.

Internet service

Wi-Fi will be available in the hotels as well as the forum venue **Mingdu Hall, Tianyuan Mingdu Hotel**.

Social media

It is recommended to use the chatting app **WeChat** for communication. Google, Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp. etc. may not work well in China.

Please install **WeChat** in advance for future communication.

Visa

International participants entering the People's Republic of China generally require a valid passport and a Chinese visa. For more information about your country and visa issues, please visit the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/wjtb_663304/zwjg_665342/2490_665344/) or consult the Chinese Embassy in your country.



Health Declaration Form

After you get visa, you still need a Health Declaration Form to enter China, in some cases, even to check-in your flights.

Customs declaration: You are required to declare your negative test result to China Customs by filling the Health Declaration Form on the WeChat mini-program of China Customs, or through <https://htdecl.chinaport.gov.cn> or the China Customs APP

Security & Health

The security situation in People's Republic of China is stable. Participants are asked to exercise normal precautions with their belongings. In case of emergency, the toll free number is 120 for ambulance services, 110 for police. The hotels and conference venue will provide medical care.

Timezone

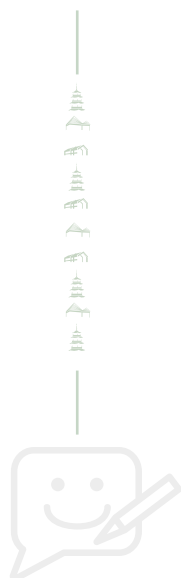
China is 8 hours ahead of **GMT (GMT+8)**.

Weather

The forum will be held during late-Autumn. The temperature might average between 10°C (50°F) and 20°C (68°F). Temperatures at night might be cooler. Please bring warm and comfort clothes, sturdy shoes, particularly if you will be participating in the Field Trips.

Language

The forum will be conducted in English and Chinese. The main venue (Mingdu Hall, Tianyuan Mingdu Hotel) will have simultaneous interpretation equipment for Chinese and English translation. There will be English-speaking volunteers providing language services throughout the whole process. **Please inform us in advance if you need special language services.**



Currency

The currency of use in People's Republic of China is Renminbi, which is abbreviated to RMB. The most widespread international usage is Yuan, which is abbreviated to CNY. The current exchange rate to the US dollar is approximately [1 USD≈7.3RMB]. Currency can be converted by the Bank of China in Songyang. To avoid problems, it is recommended to use CASH. But if you must use **E-Payment, see available options in China for international visitors: Alipay or Wechat (please install both)**

» How to set up Alipay?

<https://www.chinatours.com/use-alipay-tour-pass-on-china-tour/>

» How to set up Wechat wallet?

<https://www.cultureyard.net/blog/how-to-set-up-wechat-pay-wallet>

Tipping

Tipping is not compulsory in China.

Electricity



For China you need an international travel adapter. The voltage is 220V.

Contact info

» **UN-Habitat:** Ms. Grace Githiri (email: grace.githiri@un.org) Wechat ID: GraceGithiri2630.

» **SONGYANG:** Ms. Chloe (email: 545087611@qq.com) Tel: +8613615841631; Wechat ID: Luck-chloe,

(Attention, all participants need to open international roaming service for their phone before they come to China).

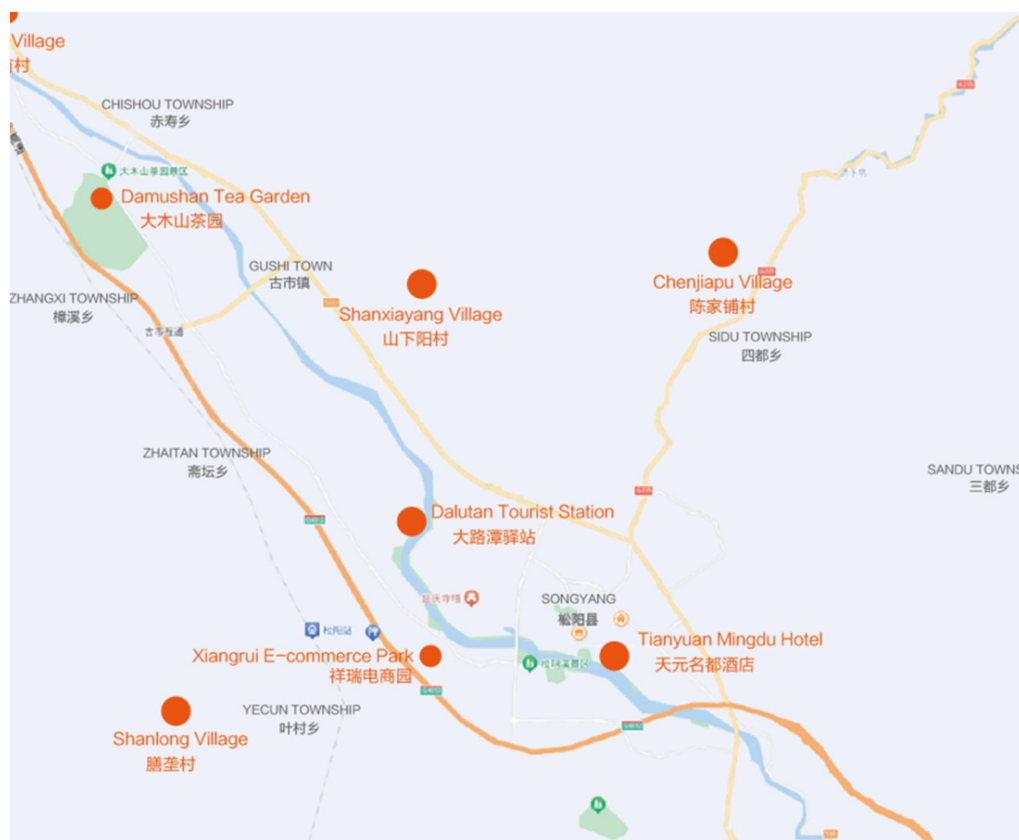
» **VPN**

» **SIM card**

There is a China Mobile stand at Shanghai Pudong airport arrivals where you can directly purchase a local sim card when you land.



✓ SPOTS OF FIELD TRIPS



Field trip locations



Route 1: Youth (Tianyuan Mingdu Hotel → Xiangrui E-Commerce Industrial Park
Songyin River Greenway → Dalutan Station)

Songyang Xiangrui E-commerce Industrial Park was established in February 2018 and is an e-commerce industry demonstration base in Zhejiang Province. With a total area of 33,000 square meters, the industrial park has an agricultural product exhibition area, a public service center, an e-commerce training classroom, a big data display center, a storage center, and an e-commerce apartment. At present, there are 245 e-commerce enterprises, mainly selling clothing, tea and other agricultural and sideline products, mainly active in Taobao, Douyin, PDD, Amazon, Alibaba and other well-known e-commerce platforms at home and abroad.

The Dalutan Station is situated in Zhaitan Township, within Songyang County. The station was completed in 2019 and encompasses a total floor space of roughly 690 square meters. The site is located along the Songyin Waterway, which is considered the main waterway of Songyang. The station is linked to the Dushan Station, Shimexu Covered Bridge, and other cultural buildings along the route, collectively forming the Songyin River Scenic Area, a national tourist site with a 4A-level rating.



Route 2: Resource Distribution (Tianyuan Mingdu Hotel → Shanxiayang Village)

Shanxiayang Village was established before the Ming Dynasty and was named Shanxiayang because the village is located at the southern foot of Dalingbei Mountain. It's a National Traditional Village, which has 675 households with 1,642 people. Shanxiayang Village is characterized by ancient villages and geomantic omen. There are more than 120 ancient buildings with complete forms, covering a total area of 39,000 square meters, which is one of the relatively complete and largest ancient villages in Zhejiang Province.



Route 3: Rural Development (Tianyuan Mingdu Hotel → Hengkeng Village, Shanlong Natural Village)

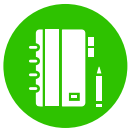
Hengkeng Village, Yecun Township, Songyang County, a national traditional village, was founded in the Ming Dynasty and has a history of more than 400 years, with a total of 740 villagers and a permanent population of more than 140. In recent years, Yecun Township in Songyang County has actively engaged in artistic rural construction and supported rural rehabilitation efforts, in line with the goal of protecting and developing old villages. It employs artistic means to encourage the restoration and utilization of the nation's traditional villages and establish an "art hall" within the national traditional village park. Yecun Township has established the National Traditional Village Park Art Cluster Area in five national traditional village areas, namely Daitou, Nandai, Doumi'ao, Shanlong, and Hengkeng. This initiative aims to integrate art and life, creating a unique "art hall" that demonstrates the distinctive features of these areas.



Route 4: Transportation (Tianyuan Mingdu Hotel → Beishan Village → Chenjiapu Village)

Songyang County Rural Logistics Co-Distribution Center was completed and put into use in July 2022, which is an important part of the "three points and one line" logistics system in the construction of the first batch of county commercial system projects in Zhejiang Province, and it is the core hub for the integration of passenger, freight and postal services.

Chenjiapu Village is located in the northeast of Songyang County with an elevation of more than 800m, it is 18km from downtown county and has a history of more than 640 years. Veiling in cloud and fogs for the best part of the year, the village is a paradise for photography and health care. It has been awarded the titles of Traditional Chinese Village, Zhejiang Provincial AAA Scenic Village and Key Provincial Historical and Cultural Village.



✓ AGENDA

	Sun (Oct. 29)	Mon (Oct. 30)	Tue (Oct. 31)	Wed (Nov. 1)
Morning	Register and check-in Place: TBD	08:15 - 09:00 Departure from Tianyuan Mingdu Hotel to visit the "Window of Songyang" 09:00 - 09:15 Trip to the opening ceremony at Tianyuan Mingdu Hotel 09:30 - 10:15 Opening ceremony and welcoming address at Mingdu Hall, Tianyuan Mingdu Hotel 10:30 - 12:00 Keynote speeches at Mingdu Hall, Tianyuan Mingdu Hotel	08:30 - 12:00 Field visit and on-site meeting 3 on the topic "Rural Development" Trip : Longshan Village Field visit and on-site meeting 4 on the topic "Transportation " Trip: Beishan Village → Chenjiapu Village	Guests departure
Lunch		12:30-13:30, Lunch (in Tianyuan Mingdu Hotel)	12:30 - 13:30 Lunch (in the Hotel)	12:00 - 13:00 Lunch (In the Hotel)
Afternoon		13:15 - 17:00 Field visit and on-site meeting 1 on the topic " Youth " Trip : Xiangrui E-commerce Park → Dalutan Post 13:15 - 17:00 Field visit and on-site meeting 2 on the topic " Resource Distribution " Trip : Shanxiayang Village (on-site communication)	14:15 - 15:45 Group activity at Ancient street of Ming and Qing dynasties 16:00 - 16:30 Closing ceremony at Mingdu Hall, Tianyuan Mingdu Hotel	
Dinner	17:30 - 18:00 Warming-up activity (Songyang Hing-pitched Tunes)	17:30 - 19:00 Welcome Dinner (In Tianyuan Mingdu Hotel)	18:00 - 19:00 Dinner (In the Hotel)	
Evening	18:00 - 20:00 Dinner party @ Songzhou Hall, Tianyuan Mingdu Hotel	19:15 - 21:15 Networking (In the hotel)	19:15 - 21:15 Networking (In the hotel)	