

"JIANGXI WILL ACTIVELY TAKE THE OPPORTUNITIES CREATED BY THE BELT AND ROAD INITIATIVE AND GLOBALIZATION TO OPEN ITS ECONOMY TO OTHER REGIONS IN CHINA AND THE OUTSIDE WORLD."

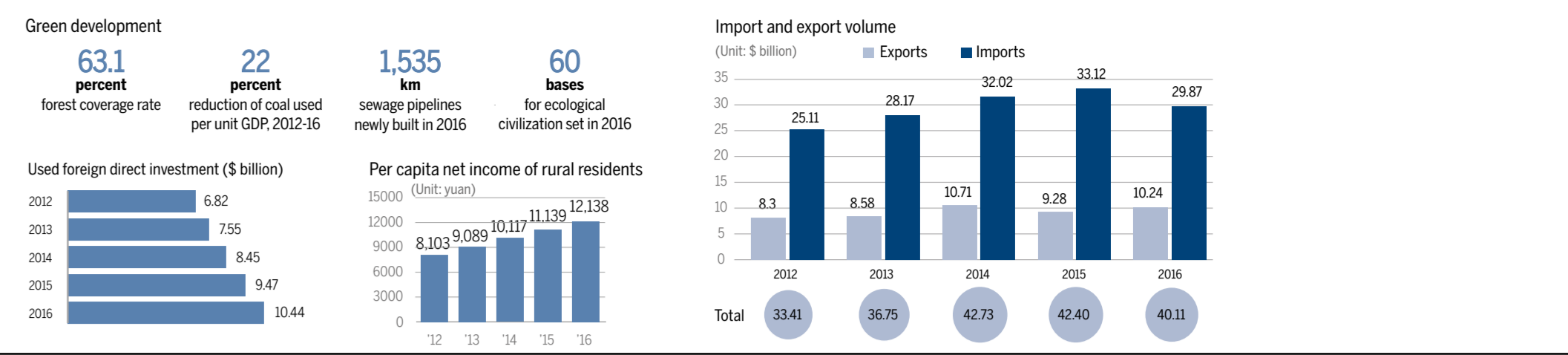
Lu Xinshe, Party chief of Jiangxi province

Charming Jiangxi



"LAST YEAR, JIANGXI MAINTAINED STEADY ECONOMIC GROWTH, OPTIMIZING ITS INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURE AND SHIFTING TO NEW ENGINES OF DEVELOPMENT."

Liu Qi, governor of Jiangxi province



PROVINCE OPTIMIZES OPENING-UP WITH ENVIRONMENT AT CENTER

Local furniture makers build big profits, with products filling homes worldwide

By XIANG WEISHAN
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Cupboards and cabinets of all shapes and sizes from Jiangxi province are furnishing homes across the world as the opening of a new inland port in East China spurs a surge in exports from the furniture capital of China.

Nankang, a small district of 800,000 people in Ganzhou, Jiangxi, is home to the largest base for producing furniture in China.

Until recently, the industry was focused almost exclusively on making furniture for the Chinese market. In 2014, only three companies in the district sold products abroad.

But that all changed in 2016 with the opening of Ganzhou Port, an inland logistics hub located just a few kilometers from Nankang.

The port has made it much easier and cheaper for companies in this landlocked part of China to export their goods, and businesses have been swift to take advantage of the new opportunities available.

More than 200 manufacturers in Nankang are now involved in foreign trade and the furniture is being sold in 100 different countries across the world.

The boom in exports helped the district's furniture industry grow 10 percent year-on-year in 2016, pushing the industry's annual revenue to 102 billion yuan (\$15.3 billion), according to local government statistics.

Huiming Group, one of the district's largest furniture makers, is one of the companies that have benefited most from the new port. The company makes sheets of chipboard from the chips and shavings salvaged from other production lines in the district, which it then uses to make flat-pack bookcases.

According to Zeng Ruijin, the company's general manager, the opening of Ganzhou Port has helped JiaYuanZhiNv grow from a small workshop that did not even have a foreign trade license in 2013 to one of Nankang's biggest exporters.

"We mainly import timber from Finland and export furniture to India and the Middle East," said Shen.

Nankang's furniture makers are likely to reap further benefits in the coming years as Ganzhou Port continues to improve its transport links.

New rail connections linking Ganzhou Port directly with Russia and Central Asian countries, including Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, opened earlier this year.

In August, the port inaugurated its most ambitious rail route yet, connecting Ganzhou with Warsaw in Poland.

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"These changes save us about 10 million yuan a year in logistics costs," Zeng said.

Huiming now sells its bookcases to about 70 countries, including the United States, France, Argentina and Chile.

For smaller companies such as JiaYuanZhiNv, which manufactures children's furniture, the port has opened up new possibilities that simply did not exist before.

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102 billion yuan revenue of the furniture industry in Ganzhou district in 2016

100 countries where the furniture produced in Ganzhou have been sold



Market-leading LED cluster established in Nanchang

By ZHANG ZHAO

Jiang Fengyi, vice-president of Nanchang University and research leader of the Gan/JSI LED project, became the only first prize winner of the National Technology Invention Awards in early 2016.

Born in 1969 from a peasant family in Yugan county, Jiangxi province, Jiang has a philosophy of "more light, less heat" — just like the aim he set for his research projects. He explained that he will do more practical work and never get dizzy with success, like an ideal LED bulb that gives as much light and releases as little heat as possible to energy-efficient.

"Before 2002, our LED research had been following the Japanese and the United States' technical paths, and achieved a moderate level of success," said Jiang's student Wang Li. He added that the previous research had laid a solid foundation for their own innovation.

Jiang's team started research and development on the Gan/JSI LED in 2004, the world's third commercial LED lighting technology, after the development of carbide-based LED in Japan and silicon carbide-based LED in the US.

"Although Jiangxi is a less developed province, I believe it can make some world-class achievements in science," Jiang said. "It is never smooth going undertaking scientific research. We have to find the right path and be brave enough to innovate."

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Although Jiangxi is a less developed province, I believe it can make some world-class achievements in science... The failure of foreigners does not mean the Chinese will fail, too."

860 million yuan revenue of LatticePower in 2016

100 billion yuan expected annual revenue of the LED industry in Nanchang by 2020

1,200 experiments before Jiang's team succeeded in developing the blue LED tech

3,000 experiments before Jiang's team succeeded in developing China's proprietary LED



Clean, high-tech industries nurtured to drive economy onto new heights, Zhang Zhao reports.

Despite its disadvantageous geographic location in an inland region, East China's Jiangxi province has found a way to build up an innovative, open and green economy. "Last year, Jiangxi maintained steady economic growth, optimizing its industrial structure and shifting to new engines of development," said Governor Liu Qi in his government work report at the provincial people's congress earlier this year.

Provincial GDP grew 9 percent to 1.8 trillion yuan (\$270.2 billion) last year, with industrial added value hitting 780 billion yuan, also increasing 9 percent from 2015. The high-tech sector accounted for more than 30 percent of the total industrial added value.

In one of Jiangxi's most recent overseas investment attraction campaigns, held in early June in Hong Kong, 300 projects were promoted, which were worth more than 700 billion yuan in total.

The provincial government said it believes the environment is the greatest advantage and wealth for Jiangxi. The province has 63.1 percent forest coverage and is home to 910,000 hectares of wetlands.

Energy consumption per 10,000 yuan of GDP produced reduced 22 percent last year from 2012.

"We want accelerated economic growth on one hand and a well-preserved environment on the other," said Lu. "We have designed a coordinated development map to let Jiangxi rise in a 'green' way, integrating economic and environmental benefits."

Governor Liu said the province is developing green industries, such as modern agriculture, healthcare and ecological tourism, and at the same time transforming traditional industries such as the iron and steel, nonferrous metals and building material businesses to make them more environmentally friendly.

In mid-June, the State Council decided to establish five national pilot zones for green finance, and one of them is the Ganjiang New District in Jiangxi.

The new district is a "golden brand" for the province's development and will promote its rich ecological resources to the market to attract capital, said Liu. The area will develop an environment-related new economy, focusing on emerging industries and its own service sector.

Lu Xinshe, Party chief of the province, said: "Jiangxi will actively take the opportunities created by the Belt and Road Initiative and globalization to open its economy to other regions in China and the Hong Kong is one of Jiangxi's major sources



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11k companies in Jiangxi were Hong Kong-funded at the end of 2016

60k applications for patents filed by Jiangxi companies or individuals in 2016



By ZHANG ZHAO and DAVID BLAIR
davidblair@chinadaily.com.cn

Decades ago, residents of Changshui village in northern Jiangxi province's Wuyuan made a living by cutting trees. Today, they earn more money by taking care of trees.

With a landscape featuring more hills than farmland, the village has conducted forestry industry reforms since about 10 years ago, shifting the focus from traditional farming and forestry to tourism.

Wuyuan's magnificent lakes and mountains are drawing tourists from around the world. Many European tourists come for an annual art festival. In the stunning mountain valley of Changshui, the government policies are drawing migrants to return from big cities to start businesses.

"What would attract the tourists if we cut all the trees?" said villager Lu Xiaochang.

Lu and his two brothers operate an inn and sell local specialties, such as honey and fruits, which are popular among the tourists.

Throughout Jiangxi, cities and counties are pushing green development by conserving and strengthening their lakes and streams, green hills and blue skies. But different from many other regions in China that focus on treating pollution, Jiangxi is seeking greater value from its already-existent natural environment.

Forests cover 63.1 percent of the province. Energy consumption per unit of GDP produced has reduced by 22 percent over the past five years.

The local governments in Jiangxi do not see economic benefit as the sole criterion when deciding to approve or introduce an industrial project. They also consider the environmental effects. In 2015, a company wanted to invest 18 billion yuan (\$2.7 billion) to build a thermal power plant in Zixi county. But before formal negotiations started, the local environmental protection authority launched an investigation and found the project would cause harm. So the county government rejected the project.

Similarly, the Ganzhou government rejected a building material factory last year, even though it wanted to invest 500 million yuan and promised high-revenue and tax payments.

Each governmental unit in Jiangxi has set up an ecology office to push green economic development and improve people's livelihoods through innovative policies.

Zhang Wei, director of the ecology office of Puzhou city, said the mayor and other leaders are focusing strongly on the environment. The city has set up a high-tech zone focusing on new materials, traditional Chinese medicine, pharmaceutical manufacturing, big data and logistics. Farmers are also required to use organic fertilizers and are not allowed to raise livestock along streams or lakes. Zhang said that farmers actually welcome these restrictions because they lower their capital costs and allow them to sell their products at higher prices.

As a national pilot smart city, central Jiangxi's Xingyi is attempting smart environment protection by establishing a real-time emission and consumption monitoring network for the city's polluting companies, as well as its high-energy consuming companies and public buildings. Data for air and drinking water quality is also automatically published via official websites and social media.

An environmental and resource crime investigation division was set up under the police authority of Qianshan county in February, the first of its kind in the province.

In Shangrao, major tourism sites, including the Sanqing Mountains and Wuyuan area, attracted 79.6 million visitors in the first half of this year, increasing 32.6 percent from the same period last year. Tourism revenue rose to 68.2 billion yuan, up 32.4 percent year-on-year.

In Shangrao's Dexing area, the government has introduced a household waste treatment service that is commonly seen in urban areas to the countryside. It invested more than 17 million yuan to hire professional companies to collect and remove waste in Dexing.

Wang Jian contributed to this story.



The World Capital of CHINA



Porcelain, white gold art forms see renaissance thanks to local cultural protection measures, David Blair reports.



In English, the word for fine porcelain is 'china'. Since the Han Dynasty (206 BC-AD 220), around 2,000 years ago, the city of Jingdezhen in Jiangxi province has been a center of the art and skills needed to make the vases and tableware coveted by European royalty and on display in museums around the world.

Partly, Jingdezhen's advantages came from natural resources: the pine trees that were originally used to fire the kilns and the white clay, known as kaolin, that is essential to make the highest quality porcelains. But, much more importantly, both now and in imperial times, was the cluster of highly skilled craftsmen, potters, artists and businesspeople who have always given a vibrant energy to the city.

The life of Nuo

I could not have anticipated the intensity of the traditional Nuo dancing, gathered in a small, ancient Taoist temple in the center of Shiyao. The ceremony began with the drumming of 78-year-old Luo Huiwu. No video can show what it's like to be immersed in a truly stunning collection of porcelain from the Song Dynasty (960-1279) in preserving the art. In 2006, the State Council, China's cabinet, approved Nuo-feng Nuo dancing as a national intangible cultural heritage.



Historians say that the Nuo ceremony first arose in the very ancient Shang Dynasty (16th-11th centuries BC) and rose to a prominent role in Chinese history.

REVOLUTIONARY PAST INSPIRES THE FUTURE

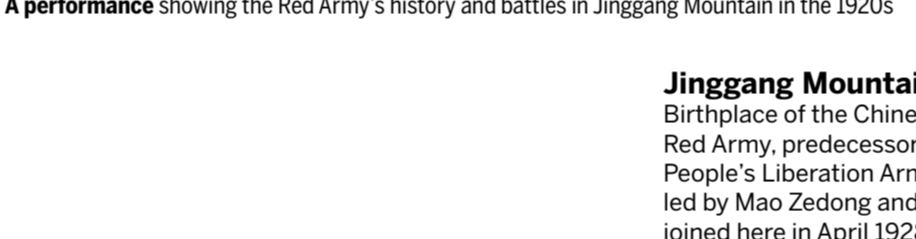
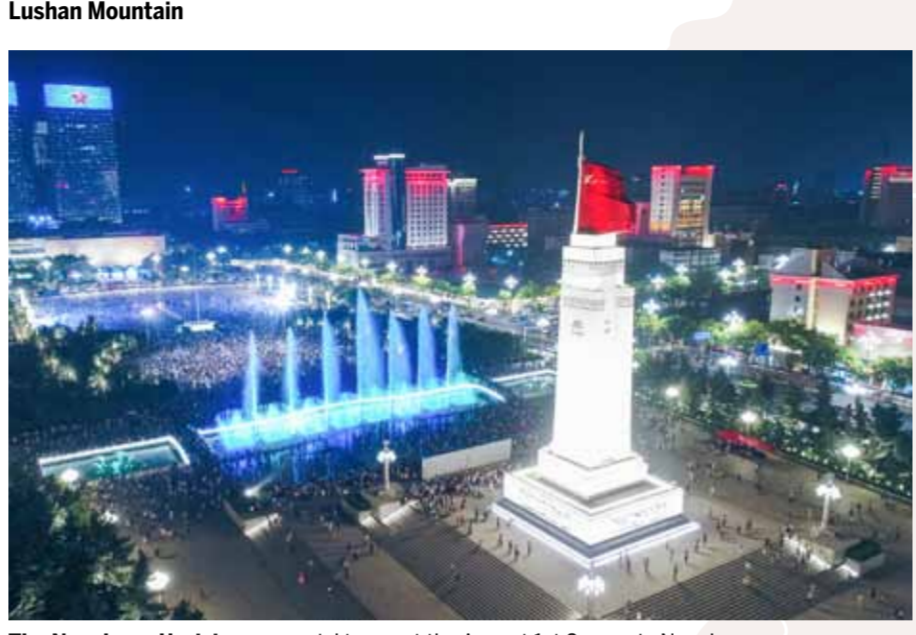
By XIANG WENJIAN xiangwenjian@chinadaily.com.cn In a modest apartment at Jiangxi Normal University, Fu Xiaoyan, former president of the school, celebrates the 90th anniversary of the Nanchang Uprising with his family. As a descendant of a Nanchang Uprising revolutionary hero, the celebrations carry an even more special meaning for Fu and his two siblings.

2 million number of visitors to the Nanchang Uprising Memorial Museum every year. We usually have to be stricter with our conduct. We might not be heroes with great accomplishments, but we want to be people of kindness, truthfulness and integrity like him." As a member of the CPC, Xu took part in the Nanchang Uprising and the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression (1931-45). After the founding of the People's Republic of China, Xu taught at Jiangxi Normal University and later passed away aged 101.

The Bard of Jiangxi celebrated

By DAVID BLAIR The city of Fuzhou, Jiangxi province, is preparing furiously for the upcoming Tang Xianzu International Arts Exchange, which will be held from Sept 24 through the end of October. About 20 British and American theater troupes from China and the United Kingdom will perform in Fuzhou, including TNT Theatre Britain, South Korea Open Theater and the National Peking Opera Company, staging pieces adapted from the works of Tang and William Shakespeare.

of both playwrights are being performed in both countries. The Leeds University Tang Shakespeare Project has even combined the two artists' work in a new play called A Midsummer Night's Dreaming Under the Southern Bough. The cultural heritage left by Tang is playing a big part in improving the lives of Fuzhou's people today, and the local government sees the investment in the protection of the heritage as a key part of its green development strategy.



Best travel routes in Jiangxi

Blue line: A tour of natural beauty and local cultures. Red line: A review of revolutionary history. Lushan Mountain: One of the best-known mountains in China and a UNESCO World Heritage site. Jingdezhen: A world center for the porcelain industry, best known for its local blue and white ceramics. Wuyuan: Known as one of the "most beautiful countryside areas in China" with well-preserved ancient Chinese architecture.

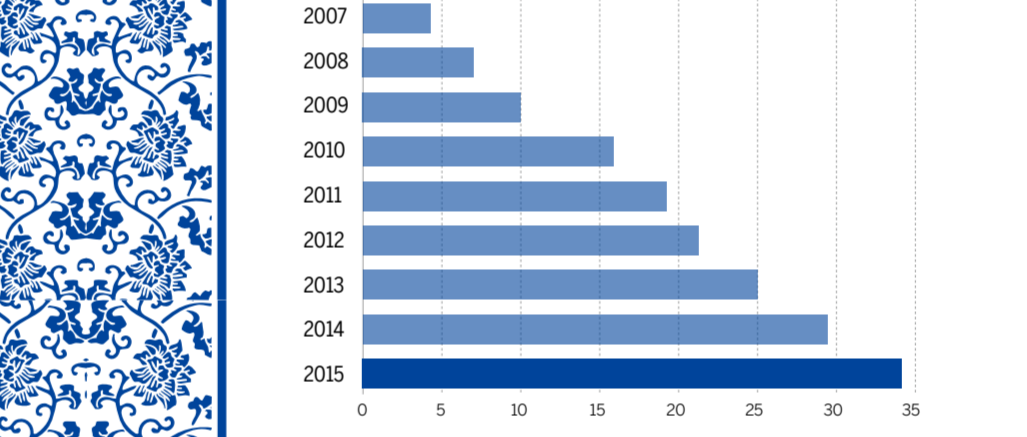
Mountain's new roads, farmland beat poverty

By XIANG WENJIAN The newly-built roads wind steadily up the mountainside through dense bamboo forest, at the end of which is Shenshan village, with a huddled cluster of white-walled houses in traditional style, nestled between the broad green shoulders of the mountains. The roads are just a fitting metaphor for the progress of Shenshan in Jianggangshan area - home to the Communist Party of China's first rural revolutionary base established in 1927 - to have lifted its residents above the poverty line.

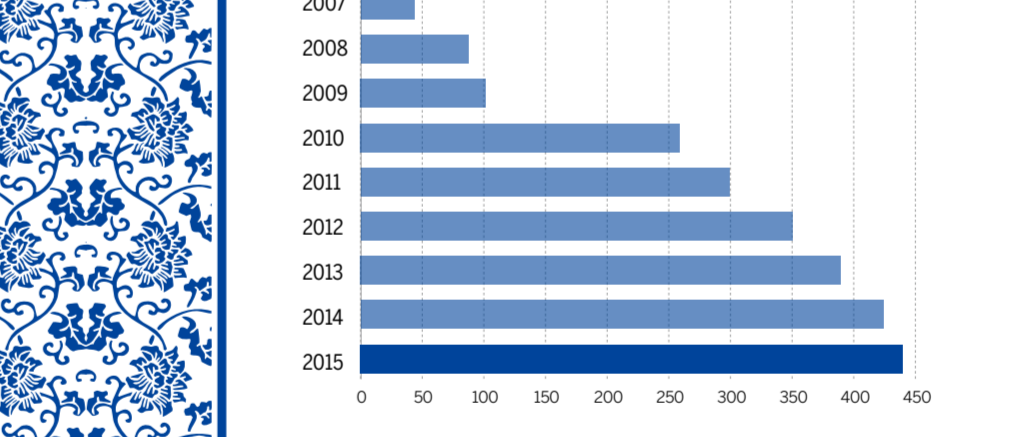
measures treated each family individually according to its specific needs, providing a more targeted system for people to get back on track. On top of financial subsidies, the local government invested in local infrastructure, especially roads, so that transport in and out of the village would become easier, so making the business of commerce and trade easier. Cooperatives were also introduced, and in 2016, Peng and 20 other poverty-affected households, joined forces with the help of the government to grow tea and yellow peaches on an allotted farmland.



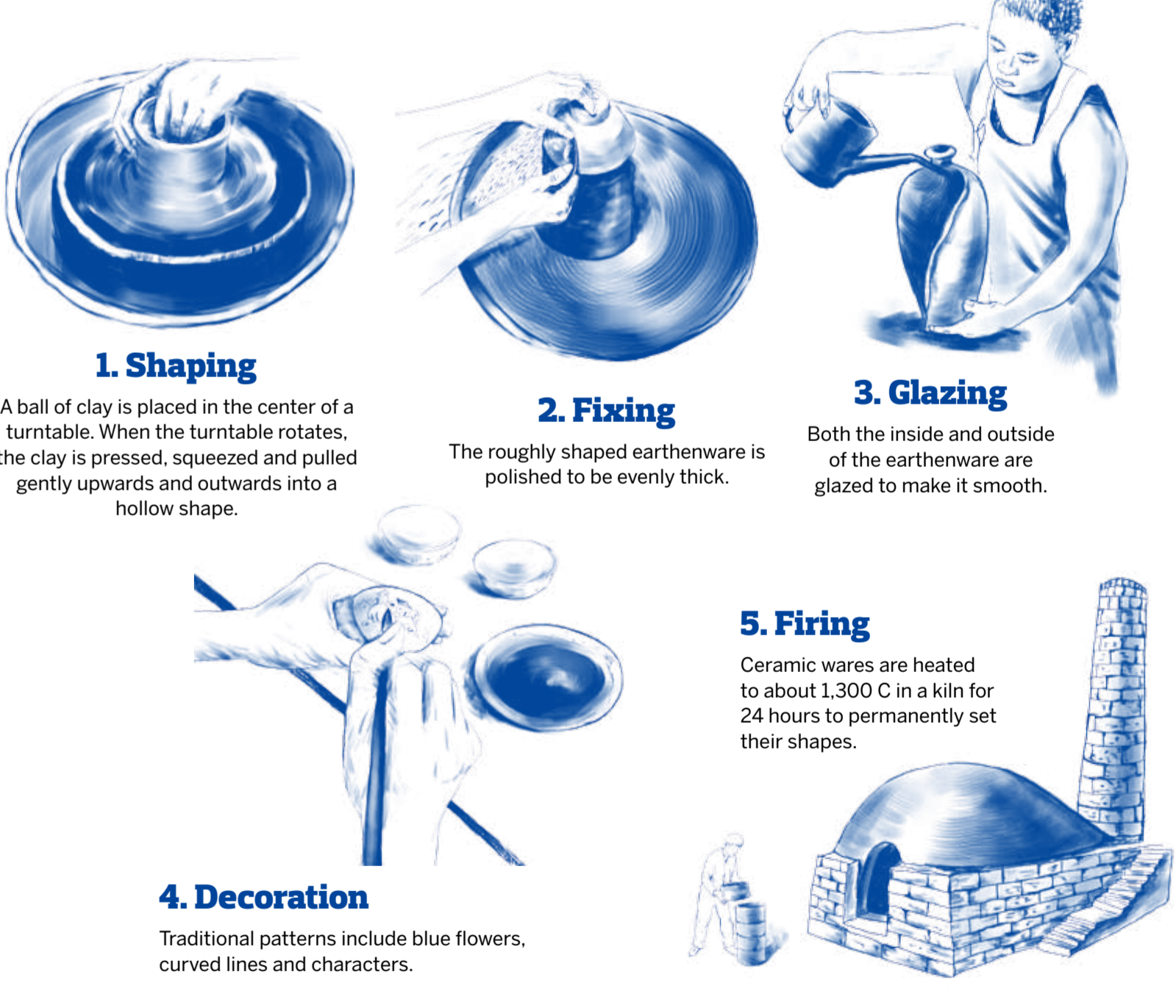
Revenue of porcelain industry in Jingdezhen, 2005-15



Tax from porcelain industry in Jingdezhen, 2005-15



Key procedures of Jingdezhen porcelain making



Coladon and white porcelain Song dynasty (960-1279)



Guiguzi Downhill Blue and white jar Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368)



Masterpieces of Jingdezhen porcelain Blue and white double dragon pattern vat from the Jialing period (1522-66) Ming Dynasty



Plum blossom vase from the Qianlong period (1736-96) Qing Dynasty



Doucal chicken cup from the Chenghua period (1465-87) Ming Dynasty

