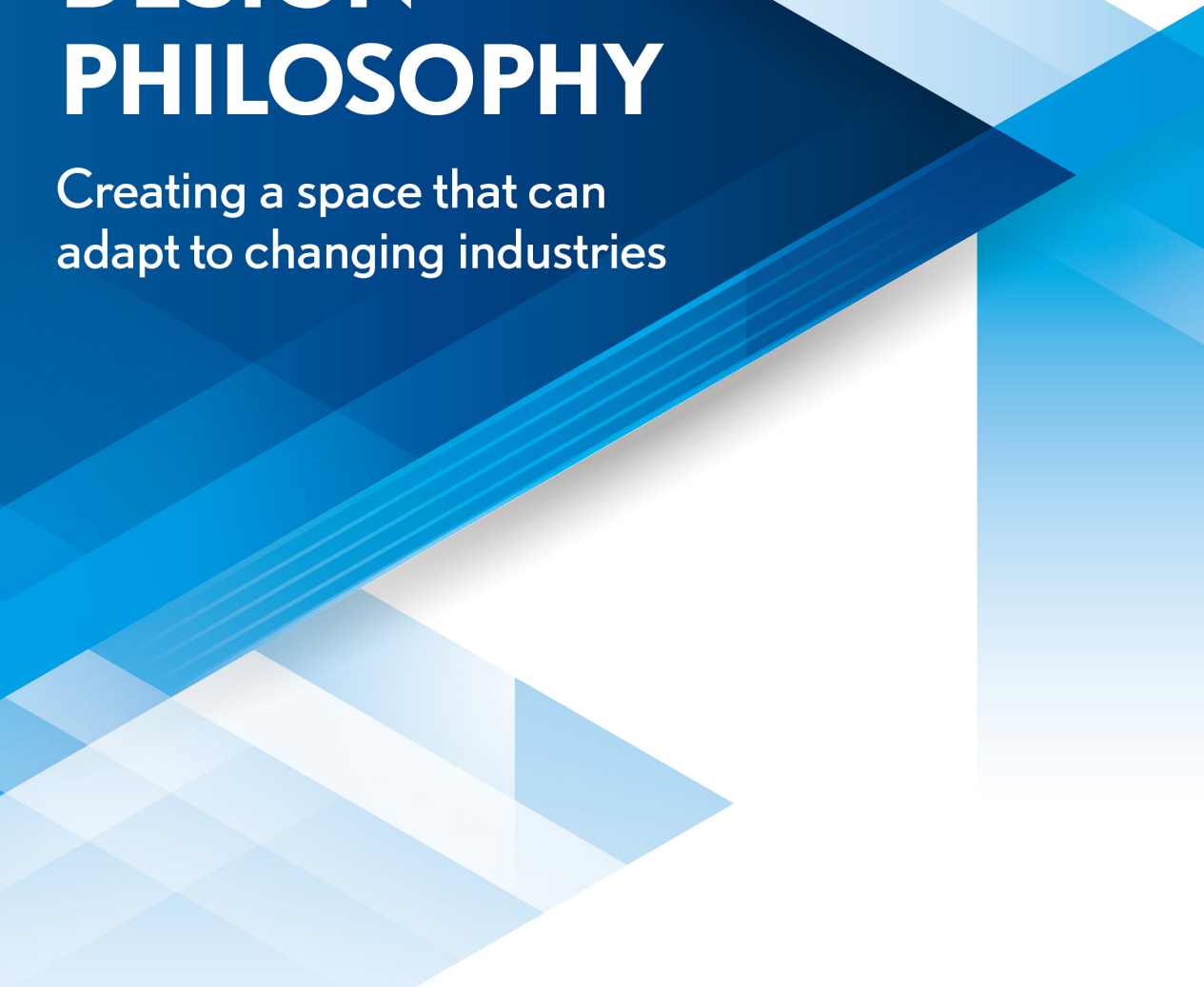
DETAILED DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE SHANGHAI EASTERN HUB INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COOPERATION ZONE

Building new institutional platforms for opening-up

Shanghai has approved the detailed plan for the Eastern Hub International Business Cooperation Zone, a new 0.88-square-kilometer area connecting Shanghai Pudong International Airport and the future Shanghai East Railway Station. The zone is the first of its kind in China, created to test easier ways for companies and people to do business across borders.

The plan aims to turn heavy airport and rail traffic into long-term business growth. It combines smart urban design with new policies to help companies move goods, people, and services more efficiently. The project comes at a time when global trade rules are changing and supply chains are shifting, giving China a chance to explore new ways to open its economy to the world.



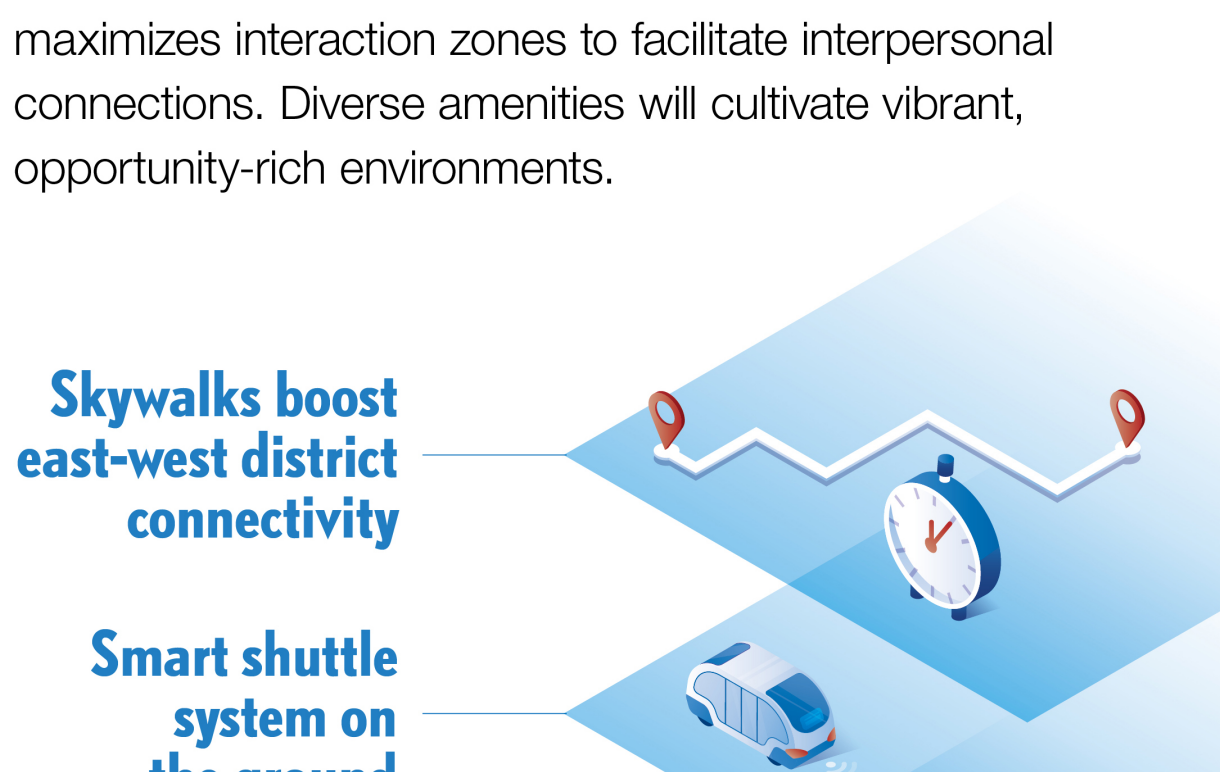
DESIGN PHILOSOPHY

Creating a space that can adapt to changing industries

Q1 As the nation's first special functional zone facilitating simultaneous movement of personnel, luggage, and goods, how does the International Business Cooperation Zone's spatial design serve policy innovation?

The plan breaks away from conventional CBD models by adopting a **"modular grid system."** Each spatial unit can be flexibly reconfigured. The area will be divided into flexible units that can be rearranged to support different types of enterprises. The overall layout follows a **"one-chain, seven-stars, three-rings"** spatial structure:

- **"One-chain"** aligns with the core movement network of passenger flows, accommodating both social inter action needs and specialized service requirements;
- **"Seven-stars"** refers to seven important buildings and activity spaces;
- **"Three-rings"** means three functional routes for smart ring, pedestrian ring, and freight ring, each serving a distinct purpose.



Q2 How does the Business Cooperation Zone balance openness and convenience with risk control?

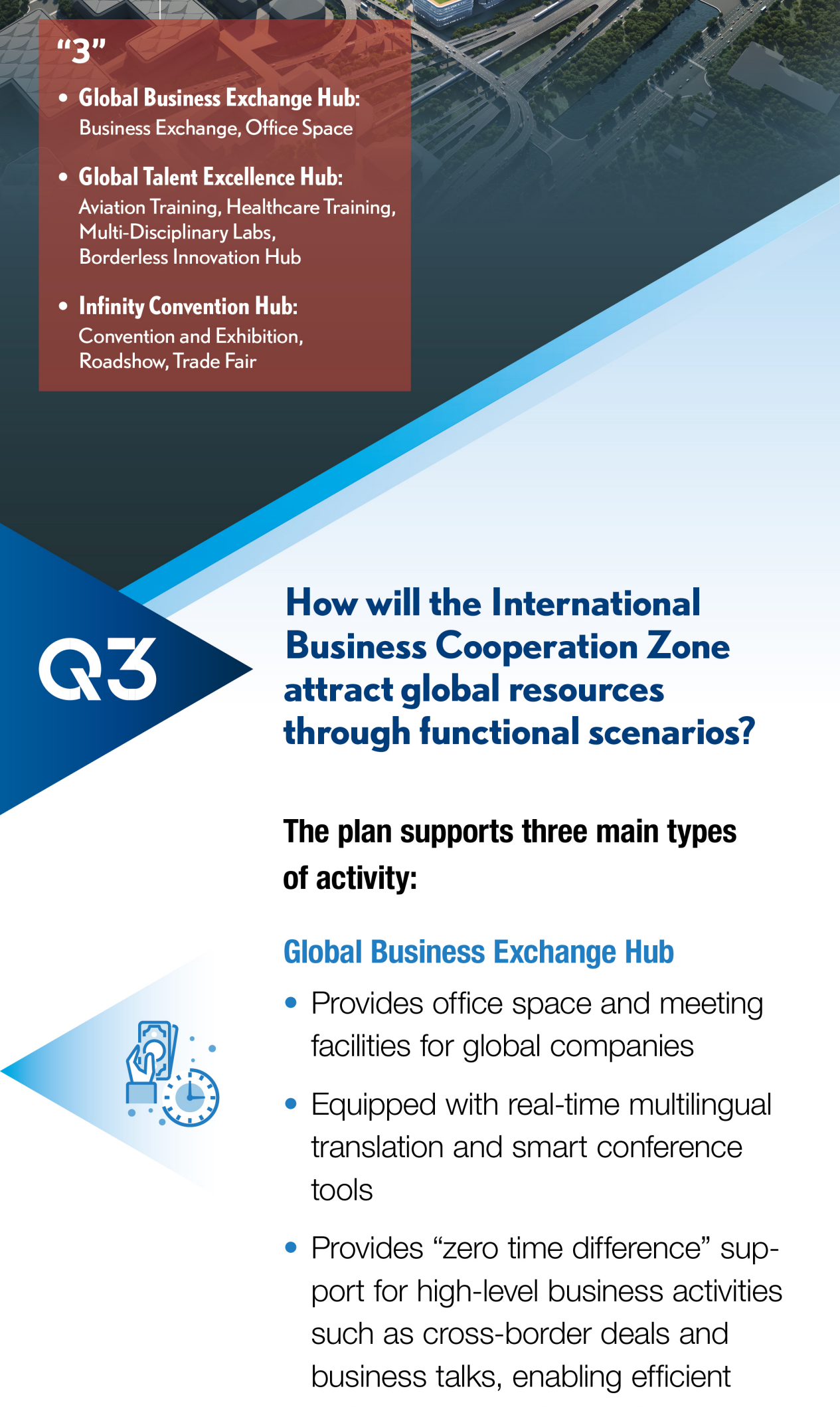
The plan adopts a human-centric approach to create a fully interconnected spatial system. To accommodate the short- or long-term business and lifestyle needs of both domestic and international visitors, the spatial design maximizes interaction zones to facilitate interpersonal connections. Diverse amenities will cultivate vibrant, opportunity-rich environments.

Skywalks boost east-west district connectivity
Smart shuttle system on the ground
Underground freight systems

Simultaneously, smart contactless risk management protocols will ensure security and operational efficiency while minimizing disruption to personnel and logistics flows.

FUNCTIONAL PLANNING

Driven by three scenarios
Empowered by
professional support


"3"
Business-Tourism-Culture Integrated Hub: Convention and Exhibition, Retail, Five-star MICE Hotels, All-suite Hotels, Multi-Function Hall
Professional Services Cluster: Global Market Entry Solutions, Advanced Producer Services, Supply Chain Services
Public Service Facilities: Joint Personnel Inspection, Cargo Clearance, Administration, Security, Medical Care, Transportation, Foreign Affairs Services, Postal Services
"1"
Strategically Allocated Space for Potential Policy Changes
"3"
Global Business Exchange Hub: Business Exchange, Office Space
Global Talent Excellence Hub: Aviation Training, Healthcare Training, Multi-Disciplinary Labs, Borderless Innovation Hub
Infinity Convention Hub: Convention and Exhibition, Roadshow, Trade Fair

Q3 How will the International Business Cooperation Zone attract global resources through functional scenarios?

The plan supports three main types of activity:

Global Business Exchange Hub

- Provides office space and meeting facilities for global companies
- Equipped with real-time multilingual translation and smart conference tools
- Provides "zero time difference" support for high-level business activities such as cross-border deals and business talks, enabling efficient global resource alignment

Global Talent Excellence Hub

- Builds cross-border training platforms in fields such as biomedicine, digital trade and artificial intelligence in partnership with universities and industry groups
- Offers training programs and practical training bases to help companies better understand international rules and practices

Infinity Convention Hub

- Creates immersive display areas integrated with key landscape spaces
- Supports global expos for industries such as consumer-electronics and biomedicine
- Provides smart systems and fast customs clearance for trade samples and equipment
- Becomes the premier global stage for product launches and technology showcases

Q4 How do the zone's support facilities ensure efficient operations?

The plan establishes a one-stop service system:

Business Service Facilities

- Integrates five-star hotels, shops, immersive cultural theaters, and themed restaurant districts to comprehensively meet business travelers' needs
- Features flexible performance spaces in open areas to foster cultural exchanges

Professional Services Cluster

- Brings together legal, financial, accounting and cunsulting institutions
- Offers compliance consulting, cross-border payment, and intellectual property support services
- Facilitate companies' global expansion

Public Service Facilities

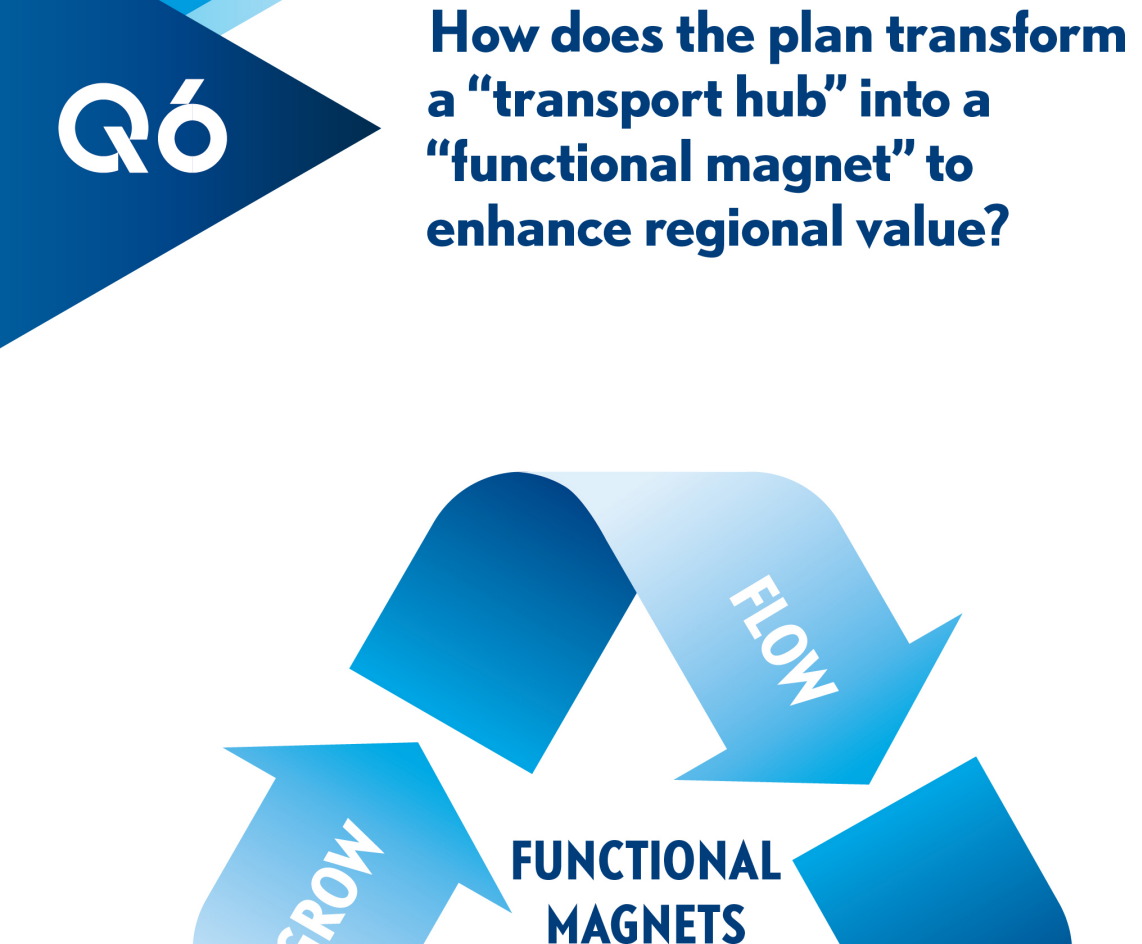
- Deploys public infrastructure of modern networks, transportation, and energy
- Establishes efficient multi-agency inspection centers for people and cargo
- Provide comprehensive conveniences for international business activities

GLOBAL CONNECTIVITY

Where the world connects from mobility to prosperity

Q5 How will the Business Cooperation Zone leverage its transportation advantages to achieve efficient resource connectivity?

Capitalizing on the transportation hub advantages of **Shanghai Pudong International Airport** and the future **Shanghai East Railway Station**, the zone will enhance integrated innovation in multimodal transport systems. Externally, it connects the Pudong airport with the Shanghai East Railway Station through facilities such as **airside corridors**, **Metro lines**, and **skybridges**. Internally, people and goods will move through separate systems to reduce congestion, thanks to a multi-level transport network (elevated, ground, underground). The **"Two Bridges, One Tunnel"** project will be launched to integrate the zone's eastern and western sectors, with smart shuttle buses deployed according to passenger flow patterns at different stages.


Shanghai-Chongqing-Chengdu High-speed Railway
Beijing-Shanghai High-Speed Railway
Beijing-Shanghai Railway
Shanghai-Nanjing Intercity Railway
Wusong Area
Phase II of Shanghai-Suzhou-Nantong Railway
Greater Hongqiao Area
Central Activity Zone
International Business Cooperation Zone
Shanghai East Railway Station
Pudong International Airport
Suburban Railway Airport Link Line
International Tourism Resort Area
Shanghai Eastern Hub Area
Shanghai-Suzhou-Huzhou High-speed Railway
East-West Link Line
Wujing Area
Lin-gang Special Area
Suburban Railway Nanhui Line
Shanghai-Kunming High-Speed Railway
Shanghai-Zhapu-Hangzhou High-speed Railway

Q6 How does the plan transform a "transport hub" into a "functional magnet" to enhance regional value?

The International Business Cooperation Zone's planning breaks away from the conventional single logic of transportation hubs as mere distribution and transfer points. Through functional empowerment, service enhancement, and scenario stickiness strategies, it elevates functional cohesion, service depth, and policy warmth, transforms traditional transit nodes from passageways into **"functional magnets"** and ultimately creates a virtuous cycle of **"flow → stay → grow."**

BEYOND BOUNDARIES

Setting the global benchmark for openness

The zone is an important step in China's effort to make doing international business simpler and more transparent. It is designed to be more than just a convenient business zone. It will become a place to try out new business rules and improve how trade and investment are handled.

With flexible buildings, smart technology, and full business services, the zone brings together innovation and practicality. As development continues, the small piece of land may become a model others can learn from, offering a clear example of how China is opening up in a changing world.