

## TRANSCRIPT

Once we see a river in the countryside, the first thing we want to do is go to the water and play with it. All the kids love it. Kids, you know, the children would like to play with it, because you have the opportunity to encounter insects, fish, and other wildlife, egrets, all these beautiful natural elements.

The Maozhou River Restoration was actually a demonstration project for a very ambitious initiative.

The reason why we have to restore it is because we have done something wrong in the past - turning a river into a channel. So if we want to revert that process and see how nature would change, we actually created a platform for nature to take its course, because the river was created by nature, not by any human intervention.

For the Maozhou River let the people think, ah, we can still do something on the very polluted river. There is a chance, there is opportunity, to get people to believe we can do something better.

So the Fanshan Wisdom Farm - we helped the client because they are a state owned enterprise specialising in food production and agriculture. They are also very keen to demonstrate the state of the art, modern day food production, agricultural technology.

We wanted to make that as a part of the community rather than a stand alone farmland. So you can see a big greenhouse to demonstrate the modern agricultural technology while you can participate in the outdoor environment, to enhance that kind of relationship by doing things together

We were very fortunate because we are achieved designers and planners but there is a lot of expertise in agriculture, so we needed to work with the local research institute on agriculture so there's a lot of different experts.

Whether it is a good model that you can build on and also develop further in any other cities, this is still something we are thinking...is there an ideal model to develop urban farms or not. I think it still has to fit into the local context.

For the Maozhou River or even the farmland, when we work through the process we always have to bear in mind that it has to be ecological or environmental sustainable. We as a designer...can also contribute to a wider interest of human beings.