

Call title: NMP – Coordinated call EU-China 2013

- **Call identifier:** FP7-NMP-2013-EU-China
- **Date of publication:** 10 July 2012
- **Deadline¹:** 23 October at 17.00.00 (Brussels local time)
- **Indicative budget:** EUR 5 million² by EU – NMP Theme. The budget for this call is indicative. The final budget of the call may vary by up to 10% of the total value of the indicated budget for the call. An equivalent budget for the call is expected from the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC).
- **Topic called:**

Activity/ Area	Topics called	Funding Schemes
Innovative materials for advanced applications	2.2-2 Biomaterials: Imaging and rapid precise prototyping technology for custom made scaffolds	Small or medium-sized collaborative projects

The coordinated call EU-China foresees coordinated projects to be financed by the European Union and by the Chinese funding agency respectively. Two calls are published – one by the European Commission according to FP7 rules and the other by the NSFC under its own rules.

- **Eligibility conditions:**

The coordinated call on the topic above is launched by the EU (this call) and the NSFC, each according to its respective rules.

The general eligibility criteria are set out in Annex 2 to this Work Programme, and in the guide for applicants. Please note that the completeness criterion also includes that part B of the proposal shall be readable, accessible and printable.

The minimum conditions to participate are: at least three independent legal entities, each of which is established in a Member State or Associated Country, and no two of which are established in the same Member State or Associated Country.

- **Additional eligibility criteria:**

Proposals which do not include coordination with a Chinese project will be considered ineligible.

The maximum requested EU contribution must not exceed EUR 1 800 000 per project.

¹ The Director-General responsible may delay this deadline by up to two months.

² Under the condition that the draft budget for 2013 is adopted without modifications by the budgetary authority

Only information provided in part A of the proposal will be used to determine whether the proposal is eligible with respect to budget thresholds and/or minimum number of eligible participants.

- **Evaluation procedure:**

The evaluation shall follow a single-stage procedure. The evaluation criteria and scoring scheme are set out in Annex 2 to this Work Programme.

Applicants must ensure that proposals conform to the page limits and layout given in the Guide for Applicants, and in the proposal part B template available through the electronic Submission Services of the Commission.

Experts will carry out the individual evaluation of proposals remotely. The proposals will be evaluated by a panel selected jointly by the European Commission and NSFC.

For each project, a proposal in English needs to be prepared jointly by the European and Chinese partners involved. All proposals need to be submitted electronically through the electronic Submission Services of the Commission. Only proposals received through the electronic Submission Services of the Commission will be used in the joint evaluation. These proposals need to:

- follow the part B template available through the electronic Submission Services of the Commission and instructions that will be published together with the call text in the Guide for Applicants;
- list the European participants and provide a detailed breakdown of costs and requested funding for the European participants in part A; and
- list all participants from both Europe and China, and describe the work and effort on both sides and how the coordinated projects outlined above are integrated, in part B of the proposal.

The Chinese partners will submit a proposal following the NSFC template and requirements, to the NSFC. This will include in annex the English version as submitted to the EC. The NSFC will treat the annexed proposals as confidential documents.

After the deadline for submission of proposals the EC and NSFC will exchange the lists of proposals received.

Proposals are evaluated on the basis of the following three criteria: **1. S/T quality; 2. Implementation; 3. Impact.** For each criterion marks from 0 to 5 will be given, with the possibility of half-point scores. Successful proposals must pass the minimum thresholds as follows:

	Minimum threshold
S/T quality	4/5
Implementation	3/5
Impact	4/5
Overall threshold required	12/15

In order to ensure a genuine EU-China cooperation, a balanced effort between the coordinated projects and a research plan properly involving coordinated research activities between Europe and China represent an added value to the activities and this will be reflected in the evaluation, under the criteria Impact and Implementation.

In terms of reciprocity, non-confidential abstracts of EU retained proposals will be made available to the NSFC.

See also Annex 2: Eligibility and evaluation criteria for proposals. Further information on elements to be taken into account in the evaluation is given under the respective topic descriptions.

- **Additional selection criterion:**

Proposals will only be selected on the condition that their coordinated Chinese project(s) will be selected by the NSFC.

- **Indicative timetable:**

Evaluation: November-December 2012. Evaluation results: estimated to be available by January 2013. A reserve list of projects may be established. Negotiations will be carried out in parallel by the EU and the NSFC.

- **Consortium agreements:**

Participants are required to conclude a consortium agreement. In addition, participants in the EU projects are required to conclude a coordination agreement with the participants in the coordinated project funded by the NSFC. A final draft of these agreements has to be provided with the proposal.

- **Special feature:**

The proposals should also take into account the exchange of researchers, so that any accommodation (board and lodging) of the Chinese researchers in Europe should be paid by the European host institution, whereas that of the European researchers in China should be paid by the Chinese host institution.

- **The forms of grant and maximum reimbursement rates** which will be offered are specified in Annex 3 to the Cooperation work programme.
- **Use of flat rates for subsistence costs:**

In accordance with Annex 3 of this work programme, this call provides for the possibility to use flat rates to cover subsistence costs incurred by beneficiaries during travel carried out within grants for indirect actions. For further information, see the relevant Guides for Applicants for this call. The applicable flat rates are available on the Participant Portal at: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/fp7_documents,

under 'Guidance documents for FP7/Financial issues/Flat rates for daily allowances'.