
Joint funding for China-Finland R&D collaboration projects with Business Finland and Zhejiang Science & Technology Commission

Business Finland is announcing a China-Finland call together with Zhejiang Science & Technology Commission for proposals for joint research, development & innovation projects.

The call is intended for Finnish companies together with companies from Zhejiang province in China. Applicants are expected to focus on larger scale cooperation projects. (In certain cases, also co-innovation or co-creation projects including research organizations can be considered. Please consult Business Finland in advance.)

I Areas of Cooperation

The aim of this call is to facilitate larger scale R&D&I cooperation, preferably in the following areas:

1. **Life Science**
 - Especially Structural Biology, Precision Medicine, Brain and Brain-Computer Fusion
2. **Digital Economy**
 - Especially IOT, Big Data, Cloud Computing and AI
3. **New Materials**
 - Especially Integrated Circuit, Flexible Electronics, Intelligent Compound, Mental and Polymer Additives Manufacturing, Graphene and High-Performance Magnetic Materials

II The procedure for the participants and eligibility

For Finnish companies:

- It is advised to consult Business Finland in advance and to participate possible information/match-making meetings. Please check Business Finland news and events regarding these.
- Finnish participants should submit their proposal through Business Finland's electronic submission system:
 - <https://www.businessfinland.fi/suomalaisille-asiakkaille/asiointipalvelu/>
 - <https://www.businessfinland.fi/en/for-finnish-customers/online-services/>
- Reference data requested in call for applications (“Hakuilmoituksessa pyydetty viitetieto”):
 - Zhejiang-haku

- The proposal should include a joint project plan for all partners, which clearly describes the roles of each partner.
- Eligible applicants will be R&D performing Finnish registered companies that operate in Finland.
- The results of the projects shall contribute to the Finnish economy. The participants must have evidence of profitable business and sufficient resources for conducting the project and commercializing the results.
- The applicants should not have unpaid taxes or disturbances in payments.
- The projects funded are typically company projects.
 - In certain cases, also co-innovation or co-creation projects including research organizations can be considered. Please consult Business Finland in advance.
- Funding will be normal Business Finland funding and proposals will be evaluated according to Business Finland's normal funding criteria. Business Finland funding is not fixed and depends on the number of qualified applications. Normal Business Finland funding principles are applied:
 - Maximum funding percentage of the project costs for SME's is generally 50 % grant or 70 % loan and for large companies 40 % grant or 50 % loan depending on the type of project. Project costs are not limited, but must be in line with the resources and targets of the company. Typically projects range from 100 k€ to 1 M€. For more information see:
 - <https://www.businessfinland.fi/en/for-finnish-customers/services/funding/in-brief/>
 - Maximum funding percentage of the project costs for research organizations is 60%. In co-creation projects, the maximum budget is limited to 100 k€.

For Chinese applicants:

- Chinese applicants should follow the guidelines issued by the Zhejiang Science & Technology Commission related to cooperation projects with partner company from Zhejiang province.

III Project content and requirements

The proposals should comply with the following criteria:

- By default, partners should include at least one company from Zhejiang province and one Finnish company participant. The project may involve more than one company from each side. Academic research entities and research organizations are eligible to join as sub-contractor.
 - In certain cases, co-innovation projects including also research organizations may be considered. Please consult Business Finland in advance.
 - In special cases, also short co-creation projects (research organizations) may be considered in areas where opportunities for future company collaboration should be surveyed. Please consult Business Finland in advance.
- Projects designing and conducting pilots and/or demonstrations are preferred.
- The joint industrial R&D&I project should aim at development of competitive products / processes, services or knowhow leading to commercialization in the global market and the proposal must clearly demonstrate this.

- The proposal should demonstrate the contribution of the participants from both countries and the project must be balanced between participants and be significant to all partners.
- The project partners should agree in advance on the IP rights and on the commercialization strategy of the product or process.
- Both Chinese and Finnish sides must submit their application. One side application is not valid.

IV Deadline for Proposals

Applications for projects with partner(s) in the Zhejiang province should be submitted by 30.9.2020. After the deadline a separate joint decision will be made and later on communicated to the applicants on both sides. Please note that the deadline on the Zhejiang side is 25.7.2020.

V Contacts

Contacts for Finnish companies:

Contact in Finland:

Kari HILTUNEN

Tel: +358 50 4726 597

E-mail: kari.hiltunen@businessfinland.fi

Contacts in China:

Mika KLEMETTINEN

Tel: +86 134 8274 6884

E-mail: mika.klemettinen@businessfinland.fi

Elisa YU

Tel: +86 138 0174 4271

E-mail: elisa.yu@businessfinland.fi

Contacts for Chinese companies:

Zhejiang Contacts:

HONG Chenming (Mandy)

Zhejiang S&T Department

Tel: +86 057 1870 55837

E-mail: hongcm@zjinfo.gov.cn

SHEN Xiaoli (Shelly)

Zhejiang S&T Department

Tel: +86 571 8799 58980, +86 130 6785 1317

E-mail: shen_xiaoli@hotmail.com