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## **Joint funding for China-Finland R&D collaboration projects with Business Finland and Jiangsu Science & Technology Department**

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

The call is intended for Finnish companies together with companies from Jiangsu 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**

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

**1. Clean Technology:**

- New energy, air, foil or water treatment, industrial energy conservation and consumption reduction, etc.

**2. Information Technology:**

- Big data, block chain, artificial intelligence, industrial automation, robot, etc.

**3. Medical and Health:**

- Medical equipment (digital diagnostic equipment, in vitro diagnostic medical devices, etc.), innovative medicine (therapeutic antibody, new generation vaccine, etc.), medical big data, etc.

**4. Other fields both sides agree to fund**

### **II The procedure for the participants and eligibility**

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**For Finnish applicants:**

- 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”):
  - Jiangsu-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 Jiangsu Science & Technology Department related to cooperation projects with a partner company from Jiangsu province.

### **III Project content and requirements**

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The proposals should comply with the following criteria:

- By default, partners should include at least one company from Jiangsu province and one Finnish company participant. The project may involve more than one company from each side. The lead applicant of each party must be a company. Universities or other research organizations can only join as the participants or subcontractors of the project.
  - On the Finnish side, co-innovation projects including also research organizations may be considered. In special cases, even 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.

- On the Chinese side, partners should consult for any special local conditions with the Jiangsu Science & Technology Department.
- The joint industrial R&D&I project must be highly innovative and industrialization-oriented; they 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. Projects designing and conducting pilots and/or demonstrations are preferred.
- 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. Furthermore, both sides should also fill in a **Bilateral Cooperation Form** including general details of the project.

## IV Deadline for Proposals

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**Applications together with the Bilateral Cooperation Form** for projects with partner(s) in the Jiangsu 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.

## V Contacts

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