

Joint funding for China-Finland R&D collaboration projects

Business Finland is announcing a China-Finland call together with Jiangsu and Zhejiang Science & Technology Commissions for proposals for joint research, development & innovation projects. The call is intended for Finnish companies together with companies from either Jiangsu or Zhejiang provinces in China. Applicants are expected to focus on larger scale cooperation projects.

I Areas of Cooperation

The aim of this call is to facilitate larger scale R&D&I cooperation, preferably but not exclusively in the following areas:

1. Bioeconomy and Cleantech
2. Digitalization
3. Health and Wellbeing

II The procedure for the participants and eligibility

For Finnish companies:

- Finnish participants should submit their proposal through Business Finland's electronic submission system <https://www.businessfinland.fi/suomalaisille-asiakkaille/asiointipalvelu/>.
- **Reference data requested in call for applications (Hakuilmoituksessa pyydetty viitetieto): Suomi-Kiina-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 which 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.
- 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/>

For Chinese applicants:

- Chinese applicants should follow the guidelines issued by the Jiangsu Science and Technology Commission related to cooperation projects with partner company from Jiangsu province and 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:

- Partners should include at least one company from Jiangsu or 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.
- Projects designing and conducting pilots and demonstrations are preferred.
- The joint industrial R&D&I project should aim at development of competitive products / processes, services or know-how 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 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 **Jiangsu** province should be submitted by either 31st March or 31st August. After each deadline a separate joint decision (twice a year) will be made and later on communicated to the applicants on both sides.

Applications for projects with partner(s) in the **Zhejiang** province should be submitted by 31st May. 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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