Call for Joint Proposals

Call Fiche
2nd call Cooperative R&D Projects
between
Austria, FFG and China, SHANGHAI University

The Austrian-Chinese Cooperative Research and Development (R&D) Projects are jointly supported with funding from the Austrian RTD Initiative Production of the Future, managed by the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) on behalf of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology and the Shanghai Collaborative Innovation Center For New Materials and Applications at SHANGHAI University, funded by the Education Commission of Shanghai Municipality.

Deadline for submission via FFG eCall and to SHANGHAI University:

SHANGHAI University:
17. January 2017, 18:00 o´clock at China Standard Time (C.S.T.)

FFG eCall:
17. January 2017, 11:00 o´clock at Central European Time (C.E.T.)

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1 Aim of the funding measure

The aim of this call for Austrian-Chinese Cooperative R&D Projects is to support the jointly identified research topics Graphen, Functional Nanomaterials, 3D-Printing and Processing with mutual interests and scientific excellence based on the existing cooperation agreement between the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) and the SHANGHAI University. It is purposed that this call will foster the connections between Austria and China and improve the visibility of the successful collaboration between the two parties. Furthermore it is expected that the second Austrian-Chinese call for Joint Proposals will lead to further bilateral or multilateral cooperations at various levels.

The Austrian-Chinese joint Cooperative R&D Projects funded in the framework of this second call are intended to intensify scientific and applied research cooperations between Austrian and Chinese research organisations and companies in order to set new impulses for excellent research between the two countries.

The special focus of the projects lies in the expected scientific and applied research achievements, know-how transfer, as well as in the promotion of excellent young scientists, post-docs and PhD students in the framework of the Cooperative R&D Projects. The participation of women scientists is particularly welcome.

2 Subject of funding

- This call shall bring together research capacities from **one or more SHANGHAI** University **research groups and one or more Austrian company** thus creating excellency with international standing and attractiveness to researchers in a key area of research. The **Austrian consortium can involve also research organisations** in addition to the obligatory Austrian company partner.

- **The thematic focus of the Cooperative R&D Project has to refer to at least one of the following topics:**

    1. Graphen
    2. Functional nanomaterials
    3. 3D-printing and processing

- In general, researchers of both countries should contribute equally to the competence of the partnership. In the partnership researchers of the participating institutions work on a defined research project which is divided into coordinated work packages designed to reach a common research goal. The joint proposal provides

sufficient level of skill, equipment and manpower capabilities necessary to work on the defined research project.

- The joint project shall be managed jointly by an Austrian and an SHANGHAI University Applicant (A-AT, A-SHA). These two leading scientists shall be announced as the spokespersons (individual national coordinator) responsible for the joint external representation of the project.

- Additional partners from China can participate in the consortium only by full acceptance of SHANGHAI University. This has to be clarified in the stage of proposal preparation between the parties. Otherwise this could lead to the rejection of the proposal.

- The results of the research shall be shared by the participating Austrian and Chinese researchers. All Austrian and Chinese partners involved in the project have to conclude a consortium agreement on issues such as intellectual property rights, liability and confidentiality. This consortium agreement has to be provided to FFG via eCall and to the headquarter of SHANGHAI University before the respective national funding contract is signed.

3 Scope of funding

- FFG is prepared to provide each selected Cooperative R&D Project with financial support for a maximum of 3 years.
  The total call budget for the Austrian project partners is 0,5 Million EUR (equivalent to around 3,0 Million CNY). Funding applied for an individual project has to lie between 100.000.- EUR and 500.000.- EUR (equivalent to around 3,0 Million CNY) for Austrian partners within the joint project.
  The budget provided by FFG can only be used to cover costs linked to the implementation of the project parts executed by the Austrian project partners. Rules for funding of the Austrian project partners are laid down in the respective call documents1.

- SHANGHAI University is prepared to provide each selected Cooperative R&D Project with an annual support, for a total of 3 years.
  Each selected project is supported by SHANGHAI University with up to 300.000.- CNY (equivalent to around 33.000.- EUR) per year for a total of 3 years. This part of SHANGHAI University budget is from the university international fund and also from the municipality city and cannot be spent for personnel costs but just for one or more of the following cost categories:
  1. to cover travel cost for Chinese project partners.
  2. to purchase consumables necessary for the performance of the CRDP.
  3. to cover the other spending in accordance with the SHANGHAI University.

[1] The call documents include the call fiche, national call announcements, Austrian-Chinese joint proposal template and further national submission documents.

- A minimum of 10% and a maximum of 80% of the eligible total project costs have to be carried by research organisations (no matter if Austrian and/or Chinese research organisations). Companies share is a minimum of 20% and a maximum of 90%.

- Individual enterprises account for a maximum of 70% of the eligible project costs with shares of affiliated companies counting as one enterprise.

- The Austrian and Chinese research organisations must have the right to publish the results of their work that has been conducted in the course of the project.

4 Conditions for funding

- For each CRDP a joint proposal in English language has to be submitted to FFG and the SHANGHAI University. The proposal must indicate all Austrian and all Chinese project partners and clearly lay down the division of work between the partners as laid down in the call documents. The submitted versions of the Joint Proposal have to be identical. Non identical versions are not eligible.

- The Austrian project partners have to submit an Austrian Annex and a cost plan in addition to the Joint Proposal via FFG eCall in due time.

- The Chinese project partners should also prepare and submit in parallel an additional SHANGHAI University application form in Chinese language to the SHANGHAI University (see also below, “Submission of applications”).

- The joint proposals must meet the following goals and criteria:

The goals of this call are to:

1. Strengthen the innovation potential of national real assets manufacturing by improving the industry´s access to research competences at universities and research organisations.

2. Built up research competences in at least one of the relevant topics in the thematic area of nanotechnology stated in section 2 of this document.

3. Increase European and international collaborations and networks and foster cooperations to solve interdisciplinary challenges in research.

The Criteria of this call are:

Quality oft he project	threshold	Points
	18	30
1.1. How well are the state of the art (level of knowledge/technology) and/or the commercially available products and services described and how plausible is the assessment?		6
1.2. What is the level of innovation beyond the state of the art and/or existing products and services and how high is the associated risk?		13,5
1.3. What is the quality of planning based on the following criteria? ○ Transparent structure of work packages ○ Transparent presentation of costs ○ Transparent description of work packages according to the scope of work ○ Adequate relationship between costs and work plan ○ Adequate scope of project management ○ Provisions for risk management ○ Realistic implementation of plan (duration, deadlines, milestones, results) ○ Clarity and coherence of cooperative relationships ○ Efficient distribution of tasks among the consortium partners		6
1.4. If the project relates to people[2]: To what extent have gender-specific topics been taken into account in project planning? ○ Quality of the analysis of gender-specific topics ○ Integration in the methodical approach of the project		4,5
Suitability of the applicant / project partners	**12**	**20**
2.1. Does the consortium have the scientific, technical, economic and management skills required to achieve the project goals?		8,5
2.2. To what extent do the consortium partners have the required qualifications and resources to ensure successful implementation of the cooperative project?		8
2.3. Does the composition of the project team reflect the aim to improve the gender balance in the sector?		3,5
Benefit and exploitation	**18**	**30**
3.1. What is the benefit for those applying the project results and the exploitation potential? Different dimensions are relevant depending on the research category:		11

[2] If (groups of) persons are the research object or persons will be affected by the research results, this must be reflected in the research design. Projects whose content and focus have no gender relevance according to this analysis will score full points in this subcategory.

○ For all research categories: ▪ communication of benefits to the relevant target group has been documented in a transparent manner ▪ Benefits, advantages or USPs have been described quantitatively and qualitatively and are plausible ○ For projects of industrial research (IR) ▪ Knowledge increase in the relevant scientific-technical target group ○ For projects of experimental development (ED) ▪ Users, markets and market segments have been specified and substantiated by turnover figures ▪ Turnover potential of the innovation or added value of market growth in relation to the planned project costs ▪ Resources required to bring the results to the market	
3.2. What is the impact or strategic significance of the project results for the organisations involved? For example by: ○ increasing R&D capacities on a long-term basis ○ securing or extending their R&D position ○ expanding existing R&D activities to include new fields of application ○ development of R&D platforms ○ opening up new business fields etc.	**9**
3.3. How complete and transparent is the exploitation strategy based on the following criteria? ○ Quality of exploitation and dissemination strategy for the scientific results ○ Quality of exploitation strategy for the economically relevant results ○ If people are affected by the exploitation of the project results: Consideration of gender-specific issues in exploiting the economic potential ○ Adequate protection strategy or strategy for ensuring a competitive edge ○ Exploitation skills – either in house or via existing contacts and collaborations in relation to ▪ dissemination and exploitation of project results (IR) ▪ marketing to the planned users (ED)	**10**
Relevance to the Call	**12** / **20**
4.1. To what extent does the project address the call topics?	**8**
4.2. To what extent does the project contribute to achieving the goals of the call?	**8**

4.3. To what extent does the funding influence the project positively in one or more of the following dimensions? ○ Implementation: the funding enables the project to be implemented in the first place ○ Acceleration: the funding accelerates implementation ○ Scope: the funding increases the scope of the project ○ Range: the funding makes the project more ambitious through: ▪ a more radical innovation approach ▪ higher risk ▪ new or extended collaborations ▪ long-term strategic orientation	4

- A consortium agreement between all involved Austrian and Chinese partners has to be provided to FFG via eCall and to the SHANGHAI University before the respective national funding contract is signed.

- Funding contracts will be concluded between the FFG and Austrian project partners for the Austrian side and by SHANGHAI University and the Chinese Institutions for the Chinese side.

5 Submission of Joint Proposal applications

- **Application in Austria at FFG:**
  Joint Proposal Template - Austrian-Chinese Cooperative R&D Projects must be submitted electronically via FFG eCall (https://eCall.ffg.at)

  Deadline: 17. January 2017 11:00 o´clock at Central European Time (C.E.T.)

- **Application in China at SHANGHAI University:**
  Joint Proposal Template - Austrian-Chinese Cooperative R&D Project must be submitted **electronically as email attachement to:**

  Mrs. Wu Hongmin,
  Email: whm_hermione@shu.edu.cn

  In addition it must be submitted as hard copy (4 versions) to SHANGHAI University:
  No.111 Mailbox, NanoScience and Technology Research Center, Shanghai University, No.99 Shangda Road, Shanghai, 200444, China

  Deadline: 17. January 2017, 18:00 o´clock at China Standard Time (C.S.T.)

The Joint Proposal must be **written in English language**.

- In addition applications must **fullfil all the respective national and /or general formal conditions** for funding in order to be admitted to the evaluation procedure (amendments are not possible).

- The final decision of the selected proposals will be announced not later than May 2017.

6 Contact Information

For further Information please contact FFG or SHANGHAI University.

Austria – FFG:

FFG website related to the call:
https://www.ffg.at/22-ausschreibung-produktion-der-zukunft

eCall submission of application: https://ecall.ffg.at

FFG contact persons:
Dr. Fabienne Eder, Programmmanager
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China – SHANGHAI University:

SHANGHAI University website related to the call: www.nano.shu.edu.cn

Submission of application at SHANGHAI University:
No.111 Mailbox, NanoScience and Technology Research Center, Shanghai University, No.99 Shangda Road, Shanghai, 200444, China.

SHANGHAI University contact person:
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