

NSFC Calls for Applications to Cooperative Projects of NSFC and RGB of Hong Kong

According to the agreement on setting up the joint research fund between NSFC and RGB of Hong Kong signed on November 23, 1998, the National Natural Science Foundation of China announced on November 30 that it starts to call for applications to cooperative projects of NSFC and RGB of Hong Kong for 2010.

This joint research fund supports researchers in mainland China and Hong Kong SAR submit jointly research proposals in natural sciences. Key funding areas are information sciences, bio science, new materials science, marine and environmental science, TCM and herbs and management sciences. Each application may only apply to one science disciplines specified by the National Natural Science Foundation of China; therefore applicant must mark the discipline to which the application is made.

The budget for this joint fund in 2010 is 7.5 million yuan and 15 million HKD, namely, NSFC provide 7.5 million yuan and RGB provides 15 million HKD.

According to agreement, this fund mainly supports sustainable projects. The limit on the amount of funding that mainland applicant may apply is 400,000 yuan, and that for applicant in Hong Kong is 800,000 HKD. We plan to fund about 22-23 projects in 2010. The research period is not more than 3 years, so applicants should ask for 2 years or 3 years in the proposal.

According to agreement, as a general principal, the funding from each side may only be spent locally. The funding from NSFC covers the following items: research expenses (including purchasing test agents and materials, computation fee and research business cost), board and lodging for Hong Kong researchers working in mainland, travel fee for mainland researchers to and from Hong Kong, and other expenses approved by NSFC. The funding from RGB of Hong Kong covers the following items: hiring of researcher and support staff, purchasing equipment, general expenses including office supplies, travel fee for Hong Kong researchers to and from mainland, board and lodging for mainland cooperators working in Hong Kong and some allowances, and subsidies for Hong Kong researchers attending international conferences.

Both parties confirm that mainland researchers applying the joint fund should meet the same requirements as applying for projects of NSFC. Applicants in mainland should have stable working position in mainland research unit, and have associate professor title or up. Hong Kong researchers applying the joint fund should meet the same requirements as applying for projects of RGB of Hong Kong. This fund allows joint application by researchers in Mainland and Hong Kong across units and disciplines. Researchers in places other than Mainland and Hong Kong may participate in applications as a member of the research group. Collaborators of Hong Kong must be full time researchers in public universities.

According to NSFC's policy, applications to this joint fund will be included in the limit on number of NSFC's cooperative projects. This means that applicants in mainland that have ongoing or are applying for various types of NSFC's cooperative projects may not apply for this joint fund.

Please see the guide to programs of cooperative projects of NSFC and RGB of Hong Kong for 2010 for details.

NSFC Announced the List of Approved Projects of Joint Research with Austria and UK

In 2009, the National Natural Science Foundation of China and Austria Science Foundation (FWF) decided to support joint research projects in physics, mathematics, biology and medical sciences. After call for application in public, international review and consultations between the two parties, they decided to support the following two projects. Each project will last for 3 years. NSFC will give 400,000 yuan for each project.

Disciplinary code	Project title	Chinese PI	Home unit	Austrian PI	Home unit
10910257	Quantum transport equation: dynamics, theory of relativity and dissipation phenomena	Zhang Pinwen	Peking University	Anton Arnold	Vienna University of Technology, Austria
30910321	Studies on glucose groups of conditional pathogenic fungi aspergillum	Jin Cheng	Institute of Microbiology, CAS	Iain Wilson	Department fur Chemie, University fur Bodenkultur Wien

In 2009, the National Natural Science Foundation of China and Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE) called for applications for joint projects in life sciences for 2010. After reviews by each party and consultations between the two parties, they decided to support the following 6 projects.

Serial number	Application code	Project title	Pi' s and home unit in China and UK
1	C030401	Studies on reproductive biology and evolutionary adaptive ability of solanum rostratum, an alien species	Lou Anru / Beijing Normal University Mario Vallejo-Marin / University of Stirling
2	C0303	Productive ability of Mongolian gerbil in changing environment	Wang Dehua / Institute of Zoology, CAS Speakman John / University of Aberdeen
3	C1009	Muscle and bone dynamics and stability analysis in pacer assisted walk	Ming Dong / Tianjin University Weijie Wang / University of Dundee, UK
4	C050202	Mechanism of drug resistance of ribosome and discovery of new target	Alastair Murchie / Fudan University David Lilley / University of Dundee
5	C1606	Function of PSCA enhancer and AR in special oncolytic adenovirus in bladder cancer	Wang Zhiping / Lanzhou University Fouad K Habib / University of Edinburgh
6	C110405	Identification and structural analysis of tobacco vein mosaic virus HC-Pro and VPg functional complex	Li Xiangdong / Shandong Agricultural University Huanting Liu / University of St Andrews

Please refer to the following publications for detailed information

List of approved joint projects supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China and Austria Science Foundation for 2010

List of approved joint projects supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China and the Royal Society of Edinburgh for 2010

NSFC announced the Guide to Asia 3 Foresight Program for 2010

Asia 3 Foresight Program is a cooperative research program set up jointly by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC), Japan Society for Promotion of Science (JSPS) and Korean Science and Engineering Foundation (KOSEF, now Korean National Research Foundation, NRF).

Asia 3 Foresight Program support scientists in China, Japan and Korea to conduct first class cooperative research in selected strategic areas and, through implementation of the program, foster outstanding S&T talent and solve jointly regional problems, and make Asia an influential science research center in the world.

After consultations among the three parties, the cooperative area for 2010 of the Asia 3 Foresight Program is “renewable energy”. The specific research directions are:

1. Photovoltaic energy conversion (organic and efficient)
2. Thermal energy conversion (thermal electric transfer, geothermal and solar energy)
3. Biomass energy conversion (bio-ethanol, bio-fuel cells)
4. Fuel cell and lithium ion battery
5. Artificial photosynthesis

The program is for 3 years. The projects awarded in 2010 will commence on August 1, 2010.

There will not be more than 2 cooperative projects for 2010, and NSFC provides 2 million yuan for each project. The funding covers research and travel costs.

According to the “Regulations of Management for International (Regional) Cooperative Projects of NSFC” applicant should meet the following conditions:

1. The applicant should have senior professional position (title);
2. The applicant should be the PI of NSFC project, or have ongoing NSFC project of more than 3 years;
3. The applicant with senior professional position (title) should may not apply for or participate in more than one project at the same year;
4. those who are the PI’s of ongoing cooperative projects or those who are participating in ongoing cooperative project with senior professional position (title) may not apply or participating applications.
5. Scientists in China, Japan and Korea should have some basis of cooperation, and the applications should be complementing to each others’ strength.

For details, please see the Guide to Asia 3 Foresight Program for 2010

NSFC-JSPS Approved 12 Jointly Funded Projects for 2010

According to the cooperative agreement between the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) and Japan Society for Promotion of Science (JSPS), the two parties will support 10 joint research projects (from April 2010 to December 2012), and 4 bilateral seminars in 2010. After consultations, the two parties agreed to approve the following 12 projects.

	Department	Chinese PI	Japanese PI	Project title	Type
1	Chemistry	Sun Wenhua Institute of Chemistry, CAS	Kotohiro Nomura Nara Institute of Science and Technology	Design of multi functional group vanadium coordination compound and high precision controlled olefin synthesis	Joint research
2	Chemistry	Lu Ran Jinlin University	Makoto TAKAFUJI Kumamoto University	Construction of photoelectric soft functional materials based on super molecular fiber	Joint research
3	Life sciences	He Xinqiang Peking University	Fukuda Hiroo The University of Tokyo	Studies on the regulation mechanism of cell differentiation on vascular cambium and secondary xylem of trees	Joint research
4	Earth sciences	Kang Shichang Institute of Tibetan Plateau Research, CAS	Xu Jianqing Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology	Studies on hydrothermal cycling process in Namucuo Valley using remote sensing and in situ survey data	Joint research
5	Engineering and material	Yao Xin Shanghai Jiao Tong University	Hiroshi Ikuta Nagoya University	Over heating phenomena on high temperature superconducting films and application in high quality super conducting block material growth	Joint research
6	Engineering and material	Feng Wei Tianjin University	Ozaki, Masanori Osaka University	Studies on photovoltaic properties of light sensitive chromophore functional semiconductor state carbon nano tubes	Joint research
7	Information	Tao Jianhua Institute of Automation, CAS	Keikichi Hirose the University of Tokyo	Self adaptive phonetic synthesis based on cross phonetic rhythm model	Joint research
8	Information	Fu Yuxi Shanghai Jiao Tong University	Mizuhito Ogawa Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology	Programming analysis of multiline program language	Joint research
9	Management	Xu Jiuping Sichuan University	Hirasawa Kotaro Waseda University	Studies on dual uncertainty multi target decision making model and algorithm and its application in traffic network optimization	Joint research

10	Medicine	Gao Jianqing Zhejiang University	Yasuhiko Tabata Kyoto University	Studies on construction of new types of genetic carrier and transfection system and its impact on dendritic cell genetic recombination and antigen presentation	Joint research
11	Life sciences	Li Zhenqing Institute of Botany, CAS	Yasuhiro Takeuchi Shizuoka University	The third Sino-Japanese symposium on mathematical biology	Bilateral conferences (in China)
12	Earth sciences	Xu Ling Dalian University of Technology	Harashina Sachihiko Tokyo Institute of Technology	Sino-Japanese Workshop on strategic environmental evaluation	Bilateral conferences (in China)

Please see the circular of project approval for NSFC-JSPS Joint projects in 2010 for details.

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NSFC Announced the List of Approved Projects of Joint Research with Danish National Research Foundation

On January 14, the National Natural Science Foundation of China announced the list of approved joint research project with Danish National Research Foundation for 2009.

In 2009, the National Natural Science Foundation of China and Danish National Research Foundation (DNRF) decided to support joint research projects in renewable energy. After call for application in public, international review and consultations between the two parties, they decided to support the following two projects. Each project will last for 3 years. NSFC will give 1 million yuan for each project.

Serial number	Departmental Code for application	Project title	Collaborating scientists and home unit
1	20910124	Key material and technology for mid temperature fuel cell and electrolytic cell operating at 200 to 400°C based on renewable energy	Xing Wei / Changchun Institute of Applied Chemistry, CAS Niels J. Bjerrum / Technical University of Denmark
2	50910231	Shape and form controllable organic solar cells	Chen Hongzheng / Zhejiang University Frederik Christian Krebs Technical University of Denmark

Please refer to the following publication for detailed information

List of approved joint projects supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China and Danish National Research Foundation for 2009

NSFC Announced the Guide to NSFC-RFBR Bilateral Workshop Programs for 2011

In order to promote cooperative relations between Chinese and Russian scientists and explore mutually interested scientific problems and establish long term academic relationship, according to the agreement of the two parties, the National Natural Science Foundation of China and Russian Foundation for Basic Research support jointly bilateral workshops.

I. Notes on programs

1. Workshops should be held between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2011.
2. Topics of the bilateral workshop should focus on priority areas of S&T development of the two countries and aim at laying foundations for substantial cooperation.
3. Bilateral workshops should be held in China or Russia.
4. As a general principle, the sending party may send not greater than 8 people to participate in workshops, and the host party may send not greater than 12 people to participate in workshops.
5. As a general principle, the host party pays the workshop cost and living expenses of the participants, and the sending party pays the international travel expenses.
6. Approved projects will be announced at the official website of NSFC in November 2010, and the notification of approval will be sent to the applicant through research management office of the host unit of the applicant.

II. Application requirement

1. Chinese applicant must be the principal investigator of or main participants to NSFC's ongoing project ending after December 31, 2010.
2. Workshops encourage participation of more researchers from research institutions. Participants from China should come from at least more than two different academic units. We shall not support workshops participated by only one Chinese unit. We need the letter of confirmation to attend the workshop from the unit of the participants who are not the unit of the applicant.
3. The deadline of project application is April 30, 2010 (validated by post mark of printed copy of application)

For details, please see the Guide to NSFC-RFBR bilateral workshop programs for 2011

NSFC Announced the Guide to NSFC-RFBR Joint Research Programs

According to agreement, the National Natural Science Foundation of China and Russian Foundation for Basic Research will continue to support joint projects. The following gives notes and requirement for applications for projects in 2011 to 2012.

I. Notes on programs

1. Time for project implementation: January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2012.
2. Amount of funding: NSFC will give maximum of 90,000 yuan per project for mutually approved projects by both parties, including 40,000 yuan for exchange expenses and 50,000 yuan for research cost. The funding will be paid in two years.
3. According agreement, research group consist of 5 people from each side. Each party can arrange 20 person-days on exchange per year, and up to two people travel to the other party. As a general principle, the sending party pays the international travel expenses, and the host party pays the local living expenses of the visitors.
4. Approved projects will be announced at the official website of NSFC in November 2010, and the PI of the approved project should submit relevant materials, please see the official notification of the approval results for detailed requirements.
5. Areas of funding:
 - 1) Mathematics, mechanics and informatics;
 - 2) Physics and astronomy;
 - 3) Chemistry, materials sciences;
 - 4) Biology and medical Sciences;
 - 5) Earth Sciences;
 - 6) Telecommunications and computer science;
 - 7) Fundamentals of engineering sciences;
 - 8) Management Sciences.

II. Application requirement

1. Chinese applicant must be the principal investigator of or main participants to NSFC's ongoing project ending after December 31, 2010, and the cooperation should be based on the ongoing project.
2. The Chinese applicant must be a member of the research group of the ongoing project of NSFC.
3. Applicant already awarded the joint project of NSFC-RFBR in 2009-2010 may not apply again.
4. The deadline of project application is April 30, 2010 (validated by post mark of printed copy of application)

For details, please see the Guide to NSFC-RFBR joint research programs for 2011-2012 for details.

NSFC Announced the Guide to Joint Research Programs with France and Denmark for 2010

The National Natural Science Foundation of China announced the “Guide to joint research programs with Agence Nationale de Recherche for 2010” and the “Guide to joint research programs with Danish National Research Foundation for 2010” on January 14.

Joint research programs of National Natural Science Foundation of China and Agence Nationale de Recherche for 2010

Number of projects funded: maximum 16 projects.

Time of project implementation: January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2013 and 2014. Applicant should submit progress report at the end of year, and submit summary report at the end of the implementation.

Level of funding: NSFC provide not more than 600,000 yuan for one project, including research cost and international cooperation and exchange expenses.

Research areas: Material science & engineering science, information & communication science and technology (including nano science and technology)

Application requirement:

1. Chinese applicant should have senior professional position (title), and have ongoing or have been PI of NSFC project of more than 3 years.
2. The applicant with senior professional position (title) may not apply for or participate in more than one international project at the same year;
3. those who are the PI's of ongoing cooperative projects or those who are participating in ongoing cooperative project with senior professional position (title) may not apply or participating in applications.
4. Qualify the limitations on applying for NSFC's projects.
5. The two parties should have some basis of cooperation.
6. Applicants in France should follow instructions of ANR to submit applications to ANR.

Joint research programs of National Natural Science Foundation of China and Danish National Research Foundation for 2010

Number of projects funded: maximum 3 projects.

Time of project implementation: January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2013. Applicant should submit progress report at the end of year, and submit summary report at the end of the implementation.

Level of funding: NSFC provide not more than 1.5 million yuan for one project, including research cost and international cooperation and exchange expenses.

Research areas: information and communication technology

Criteria of evaluation: joint research project will be reviewed internationally. Review criteria include scientific level of joint project, creativity and feasibility of research plan, complementing nature and necessity of the cooperation, etc.

Application requirement:

1. Chinese applicant should have senior professional position (title), and have ongoing or have been PI of NSFC project of more than 3 years.
2. The applicant with senior professional position (title) may not apply for or participate in more than one international project at the same year;
3. those who are the PI's of ongoing cooperative projects or those who are participating in ongoing cooperative project with senior professional position (title) may not apply or participating in applications.

4. Qualify the limitations on applying for NSFC's projects.
5. The two parties should have some basis of cooperation.
6. Applicants in Denmark should follow instructions of DNRF to submit applications to DNRF.

For details, please see:

The Guide to Joint research programs of National Natural Science Foundation of China and Agence Nationale de Recherche for 2010

The Guide to Joint research programs of National Natural Science Foundation of China and Danish National Research Foundation for 2010

NSFC-CIHR Joint Health Research Programs Starts Call for Applications

To promote and support Chinese scientists to conduct joint research with Canadian scientists in health related areas using NSFC's fund, promote cooperative relations between universities, hospitals, research institutes and affiliated agencies in China and Canada, the National Natural Science Foundation of China and Canadian Institute of Health Research signed memorandum of understanding on joint health research in December 2005. Total of 71 projects have been supported from 2006 to 2009.

In 2010, the two parties will continue to support this joint health research. Maximum of 19 projects will be supported, starting in January 2011 for up to 3 years. Applicant should submit progress report at the end of year, and submit summary report at the end of the implementation. Maximum funding from NSFC will be 150,000 yuan per year, 450,000 yuan for three years. Maximum funding from CIHR will be 50,000 Canadian dollars per year and 150,000 Canadian dollars for 3 years.

Chinese applicant should have senior professional position (title), and have ongoing or have been PI of NSFC project of more than 3 years (Ph. D. student or Post-Doc may participate in research, but may not be the applicant). The applicant with senior professional position (title) may not undertake, apply for or participate in more than one international project at the same year. Cooperative research should focus on specific scientific problem aiming at improving health and standard of living. The applicant should be able to implement successfully the joint research, and make full play of the strengths of both parties in cooperation, increase cooperation among different disciplines, and encourage participation of young scholars.

For detailed information, please see the guide to programs of NSFC-CIHR joint health research programs for 2010.