

Cooperation with China for research, development and innovation in life science, traffic safety and applied ICT

**A call for proposals in the programme for
global collaboration**

This call for proposals is in cooperation with the Ministry of
Science and Technology (MoST) in China

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1 Offering in brief

Vinnova is now opening a call for proposals in the Global collaboration programme to support needs-driven projects in life science, traffic safety and applied ICT between actors in Sweden and China. This call for proposals is in cooperation with the Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST) in China

The objective of the call for proposals is to strengthen the cooperation between Swedish and Chinese actors through research and innovation in the areas of life science, traffic safety and applied ICT.

The project's length shall be between two to three years. The budget of the call for proposals amounts to SEK 26 million. Vinnova's funding pertains solely to the Swedish project parties in the constellation and the Swedish part of the project. The Chinese project parties will seek funding through MoST, which has a corresponding budget, RMB 20 million, for the Chinese component.

The areas for the call for proposals are:

Life science	Traffic safety	Applied ICT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infection prevention and antimicrobial resistance • Individualised health and precision medicine • Traditional Chinese medicine • Prevention and treatment of cancer and cardiovascular diseases • Digitalisation in healthcare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data collection and for in-depth analysis of road traffic accidents and road users • Advanced technology and equipment for rescue services and traffic accident response • Safety for battery systems for vehicles with new energy sources, with a focus on handling heat development • Safety for intelligent and connected vehicles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vehicle electronics • Mobile health and intelligent medical technology, (IoT) • Real-time operating system (RTOS) • Internet of vehicles

1.1 The following dates apply to the call for proposals:

Note that the dates are preliminary. For current information, see www.vinnova.se.

Opening date	13 March 2019
Final application date	12 June 2019 at 2:00 p.m. CET
Final decision date	30 January 2020
Project start, earliest	1 April 2020
Project start, latest	1 June 2020

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Technical questions about your application in Vinnova's eServices Portal

Tel: +46 (0)8-473 32 99

E-mail: helpdesk@vinnova.se

Current information on the call for proposals and a link to Vinnova's eServices Portal are available at www.vinnova.se.

2 What do we want to achieve with the funding?

Vinnova has the mission of contributing to sustainable growth by improving conditions for innovation. Our activities are also focused on strengthening international collaboration.

The basis for this call for proposals is the Memorandum of Understanding¹ that Vinnova and MoST signed in Stockholm on 31 August 2017. The predecessor to this was a cooperation agreement for research and technical cooperation that Sweden and China signed on 10 December 2004.

With this call for proposals, we want to create possibilities for bilateral cooperation between actors in China and Sweden in life science, road traffic safety and applied ICT. The objective of the call is to strengthen research, development and innovation through cooperation projects, which in the long term will lead to sustainable growth, greater safety and better health.

Collaboration, resource mobilisation and improved conditions for innovation will be crucial in order to achieve the goals for sustainable development in Agenda 2030². With this call, we are seeking to have more stakeholders collaborate and develop their innovative ability and create new solutions that contribute to the goals, in the scope of the call's priorities.

Gender equality is a prerequisite for sustainable growth and is included in Agenda 2030 as a goal in itself, but also as a perspective that shall permeate the work on all goals. The call for proposals shall therefore contribute to a gender equal social development linked to two main perspectives.

One aspect is about both men and women equally partaking of the grant, participating in and having influence over the project. Another important aspect is about analysing and deciding whether there are gender equality aspects (sex and/or gender) that are relevant within the solution's problem area and utilisation.³

¹ Memorandum of Understanding for Science, Technology and Innovation Cooperation between the Department of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China and the Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems of the Kingdom of Sweden.

² Read more about our work to contribute to the goals in Agenda 2030:
<https://www.vinnova.se/en/m/the-2030-agenda--a-key-driver-of-innovation/>

³ Read more about what our work for gender equal innovation means to you as an applicant for a grant from us: <https://www.vinnova.se/m/jamstalld-innovation/>

3 Who is the call for proposals directed at?

This call for proposals supports collaboration between Swedish and Chinese constellations. The Swedish constellation shall consist of at least two parties, one party from industry and one party from the academic community or public sector. Small, medium-sized and large companies are welcome. In the Chinese constellation, there is a requirement of at least two parties, one from industry and one from the academic community.

We welcome all kinds of legal entities, such as companies, universities, NGOs, municipalities and county councils that in collaboration with each other want to cooperate with their counterparts in China.

Foreign parties can be awarded grants if they have a branch office or place of business in Sweden and the costs in the project are attributable to the activities of the branch office or place of business.

4 What are we funding?

4.1 Activities for which funding can be sought

Areas for the call for proposals are:

Life science

- Infection prevention and antimicrobial resistance
- Individualised health and precision medicine
- Traditional Chinese medicine
- Prevention and treatment of cancer and cardiovascular diseases
- Digitalisation in healthcare

Traffic safety

- Data collection and technology for in-depth analysis of road traffic accidents and road users
- Advanced technology and equipment for rescue services and traffic accident response
- Safety for battery systems for vehicles with new energy sources, with a focus on handling heat development
- Safety for intelligent and connected vehicles

Applied ICT

- Vehicle electronics
- Mobile health and intelligent medical technology, (IoT)
- Real-time operating system (RTOS)
- Internet of vehicles

Examples of activities that could be included in a project, given that it clearly contributes to the objective of the call for proposals:

- Planned research or critical analysis
- Acquiring new knowledge and new skills to develop new products, processes or services, or to significantly improve existing products, process or services
- Using existing knowledge and skills with the aim of developing new or improved products, processes or services
- Creating prototypes in a lab environment for technical validation, or designing prototypes in environments that correspond to realistic operating conditions
- Activities aimed at conceptual definition, planning and documentation of new products, processes or services

Examples of activities that are not included in the call for proposals:

- The call for proposals does not pertain to basic research
- The call for proposals does not pertain to routine or recurring changes in existing products, production methods, production processes, services or other on-going activities even if these changes can entail improvements
- The call for proposals does not pertain to costs for intellectual property and regulatory conditions, such as freedom to operate

After the project is concluded, we expect that you have, for example:

- Increased knowledge and strengthened research in the project's area
- Created long-term contacts between Swedish and Chinese stakeholders
- Identified a new solution with a high growth potential where success is dependent on collaboration with identified foreign partners
- Developed awareness of current markets and end users so that the project has good chances of succeeding
- Identified what will be required for the solution to be able to be implemented in current markets

4.2 Costs eligible for support

Our funding takes place through grants. Grants to organisations that conduct economic activities are covered by rules on government support. Among other things, the rules govern what kinds of costs and how large a proportion of them may be covered by grants.

Vinnova assesses that the projects will be granted support based on support of industrial research and experimental development (also refer to Chapter 1 and Article 25 of the Commission Regulation (EU) 651/2014). The costs that are eligible for support are presented by Section 6.1 of [Vinnova's general terms and conditions](#) and the [Guide to Vinnova's conditions on eligible costs](#), section 2.

5 How much do we provide in grants?

The budget of the call for proposals amounts to SEK 26 million. Within this budget, four to six projects can be granted funding. The projects' length shall be between two to three years.

Vinnova's funding pertains only to the Swedish project parties in the constellation. The Chinese project parties will seek funding through MoST, which has a corresponding budget, RMB 20 million, for the Chinese parties.

The level of support of grants depends among other things on project parties and activities that are to be carried out. The support level is Vinnova's grant as a percentage of the respective project party's costs eligible for support. More information about these formats is available [here](#).

6 Prerequisites for us to assess the application

We will only assess applications that meet the following formal requirements:

- The application must be structured in accordance with that stated under section 9 below
 - The application must be sent in to Vinnova electronically via Vinnova's eServices Portal no later than 2:00 p.m. CET on June 12, 2019
 - The project may not have begun before the application is submitted
-

- The Swedish constellation shall consist of at least two parties, one party from industry and one party from the academic community and/or public sector
- All project parties are legal entities
- There is a Chinese constellation consisting of industry and academia with which the Swedish constellation shall carry out the bilateral project.
- The Chinese constellation shall have sent in its application to MoST in accordance with their application process

7 Assessment of received applications

7.1 What do we assess?

The assessment is based on the information in the application. It is therefore crucial to clearly describe what is asked for in this call for proposals text and particularly the assessment criteria below. The project will be assessed based on potential, actors and implementability.

Potential

- How well the project addresses any of the areas for the call for proposals stated under section 4
- The proposed solution's newsworthiness and originality
- The project's potential to increase research and innovative expertise in Sweden
- The possibility to contribute to financial value and benefit to society and individuals
- Expected market potential and international competitiveness of the solution that the project plans to develop
- The project results' potential to contribute to greater gender equality
- The project's potential to contribute to the goals for sustainable development in Agenda 2030

Actors

- The composition of the project's actors (national and international) in relation to the solution that is to be developed
- The breadth of the collaboration with regard to various kinds of actors and the balance between involved actors, small and medium-sized enterprises, institutions and universities
- Included actors' experience of international projects, and their capacity and ability to conduct research and innovation work.
- The project manager's competence, ability and commitment to carry out the project

- How well the team (key people) is composed with regard to gender distribution, and distribution of power and influence between men and women

Implementability

- The project plan's realism in relation to objectives, budget, timetable, etc.
- How do plans and activities ensure that the end users' / customers' interests are safeguarded in the project?
- Is participation by Swedish and Chinese actors and implementation of planned activities distributed between the actors in a way that is relevant and balanced?
- How well gender equality aspects have been integrated in the project plan

7.2 How do we do the assessment?

With regard to the equal treatment principle, only applications that meet the formal requirements under section 6 are assessed.

Applications received that meet the requirements under section 6 are assessed according to the above assessment criteria in competition with one another. The applications are assessed by Vinnova and by experts appointed by the agency. Applicants may be called to interviews.

The Chinese part of the bilateral project will be assessed by Chinese experts according to MoST's instructions. Thereafter, a ranking of the project applications will be done in consultation between Vinnova and MoST, which jointly decide which bilateral projects are intended to be funded. In order for a project to be funded, the bilateral project must be granted funding by both MoST and Vinnova.

Vinnova then makes the formal decision on funding of the Swedish part of the bilateral project and announces this by e-mail. MoST does the equivalent for the Chinese part of the bilateral project.

8 Decision and conditions

8.1 About our decisions

How much each party in the project is granted in funding is presented by the decision. Grants will be awarded with support of industrial research and experimental development. The basis for support is presented by the decision and also govern what costs are eligible for support.

Our decision to award or deny an application cannot be appealed.

8.2 Conditions for grant approval

For granted funding, our general terms and conditions for grants apply. The conditions contain among other things rules on project agreements, prerequisites for disbursement, follow-up, reporting and utilisation of results.

For everyone awarded grants in this call for proposals, the following special conditions also apply:

The Swedish and the Chinese parties shall enter a **project agreement** for the entire bilateral project (the Swedish and Chinese actors together constitute one bilateral project) wherein the parties among other things regulate their mutual undertakings, conditions on the right to project results and background information and other matters of significance to the cooperation. The contents in the project agreement shall be compatible with Vinnova's conditions.

The condition on Project Agreements in Section 1.4 in the general terms and conditions is considered to be met when the project agreement has been signed by all parties in the international cooperation. The Swedish Coordinator shall confirm for Vinnova that the agreement has been signed by all parties.

Note that this agreement shall not be sent in to Vinnova.

Note that MoST requires the project agreement to be appended to the project application to MoST. Contact your Chinese project parties for more information regarding this.

Additional conditions may be decided on for individual projects.

If you do not comply with our terms and conditions, you may be obliged to repay the funding. This also applies if you have been awarded grants incorrectly or with an amount that is too high.

9 How to apply

To apply for a grant, complete a web-based form on Vinnova's eServices Portal, which is reached by www.vinnova.se. Also upload the following appendices PDF format there too⁶:

⁵ Current terms and conditions can be found on our website, together with help in understanding and meeting the conditions: <https://www.vinnova.se/en/apply-for-funding/rules-for-our-funding/terms-and-conditions-for-our-funding/>

⁶ Templates for the appendices are available on our website: <https://www.vinnova.se/en/e/bilateral-call-for-proposals-with-china/-research-development-and-innovation-in-the-fields-of-life-science-traffic-safety-and-applied-ICT-china-collaboration/>

- Project description of the Swedish part of the project. Use the template on the call for proposals page, maximum of 12 pages
- CV appendix. Use the template on the call for proposals page, maximum of 5 pages
- Joint project plan for the entire bilateral project. Use the template available on the call for proposals page, *Coordinated Project Plan*, maximum 4 pages

More appendices are **NOT** permitted

When the application period has expired, amendments of the application can only take place upon our request.

10 Who can read the application?

Applications submitted to us become official records. We do not provide information about an individual party's business or operating conditions, inventions and research results if it can be assumed that an individual party would suffer harm if the information is disclosed.