

*Sustainable Urbanisation in the Context of
Economic Transformation and Climate Change*

Sustainable and Liveable Cities and Urban Areas

Europe-China Joint Call for Proposals



URBANEUROPE

Introduction

In answer to the global urbanisation challenge, NSFC and JPI Urban Europe have agreed to work towards a long-term cooperation programme in the area of sustainable urbanisation. For the first call in this programme, the strategic theme of ‘Sustainable Urbanisation in the Context of Economic Transformation & Climate Change’ and four topics have been selected.

This pilot call is a joint initiative of ten European funding agencies participating in JPI Urban Europe and NSFC as the Chinese funding agency, with the aim to launch and implement a joint call for proposals as a pilot for long-term cooperation. This initiative has been launched following a series of joint European-Chinese workshops. Proposals are invited for joint projects addressing key issues where true added value can be gained from collaboration.

The cooperation is based upon the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) of JPI Urban Europe and the 13th Five-Year Plan of NSFC. As the main theme for this pilot call the issue of ‘Sustainable Urbanisation in the Context of Economic Transformation & Climate Change’ has been selected.

JPI Urban Europe is a transnational research and innovation programme set-up by European member states with the ambition to tackle the urbanisation challenge, establish as a European hub for urban transition and sustainability and coordinate and align related activities

and actors of the participating member states. International cooperation is one of the priorities to contribute to urban transition on a global stage. China is seen as one of the key countries for cooperation due to the high urbanisation dynamics and the relevance sustainable urban development has gained.

NSFC on the other hand has already established long-standing experiences with bi- and multilateral cooperation with several European countries. Cooperation with JPI Urban Europe extends these partnerships and streamlines the process of multi-lateral cooperation. China is seen as one of the key countries for cooperation due to the high urbanisation dynamics and the relevance sustainable urban development has gained.

In this information flyer you will get an overview on how to apply in the call and the call topics. Details are in the call text and your national contact point is ready to answer questions.

Why apply?

This joint call also offers access to JPI Urban Europe and its network of researchers, practitioners, stakeholders and experts in urban development. Projects funded via this call will become part of the programme of the JPI Urban Europe. Programme activities include knowledge sharing, networking, programme seminars, dissemination of results and a central programme website.

There is no limit to the total number of partners who may be involved in each project. Consortia need to be balanced between Europe and China, both in terms of number of partners and distribution of budget. Projects funded under the call will be Sino-European collaborative actions with a minimum consortium size of two (and maximum three) Chinese partners (from different institutions) on the level of professors (coordinated by one principal investigator (PI) who is the partner in the project) and a minimum of two European partners (from different European countries).

Application

For this call a one-stage procedure will be adopted.

Electronic pre-registration via the FFG electronic submission system *eCall* is obligatory. *Only pre-registered proposals will be allowed to submit a full proposal.*

Submission through eCall

All proposals must be submitted online via the electronic FFG proposal submission system *eCall* before the call deadline. Chinese participants will also have to submit a Chinese version of the proposal to NSFC. An online help document for submission is provided via

https://ecall.ffg.at/upload/medialib_cifs/eCall_Help_final.pdf

As it is not possible for Chinese partners to register in eCall, we have made updates in the call text (see page 18 and page 20) and the related documents.

Who can participate?

- > Universities
- > Research institutes
- > Research and technology organisations*
- > Cities and city planning departments
- > European companies

* including municipal research institutes

Funding

The total funding available in this programme amounts up to 9.35 M€ on the European side, across the participating European funding agencies. NSFC will fund a minimum number of five projects.

Evaluation

After the deadline of the call, the proposals are screened to ensure that they comply with the formal requirements. If a proposal is ‘eligible’, it will be admitted to the evaluation procedure. The submitted proposal will be subjected to a joint peer review and a single panel process.

Updated information on this joint call and all relevant documents (official and legal documents) including national contact persons will be published on www.jpi-urbaneurope.eu

Call topics : What kind of projects are we looking for?

Topic 1

Climate change and new urban economies

This topic focuses on the need to vastly increase urban climate change adaptive capacity and to improve urban resilience, with special attention to urban equity and urban circular economy development.



Topic 2

Transformation of energy systems and strengthen urban circular economies

In order to transform energy systems and strengthen circular economies, an integrated approach is required for innovation and transition strategies – with a particular focus on digitalisation as an enabler for urban transitions.



Topic 3

Urban public administration and services innovation

While sectoral and infrastructure trans-sectoral issues are addressed in topic (1) and (2), urban policy implementation is crucial areas in shaping urban transformations and sustainable pathways.



Topic 4

Urban data management

This is an additional cross-cutting topic focusing on generating knowledge and approaches for integrated data, information, and indicators tailor-made to support other projects in the call and to tackle the ICT and digitalisation issues.



Key dates: From call opening to start of projects

Wednesday 31 January 2018	Launch of joint call
Thursday 12 April 2018, 2:00 CET / 14:00 CET (Europe) Thursday 12 April 2018, 16:00 CST (PR China)	Registration deadline
Wednesday 20 June 2018, 2:00 CET / 14:00 CET (Europe) Wednesday 20 June 2018, 16:00 CST (PR China)	Submission deadline full proposals Submission deadline full proposals
July 2018	Eligibility check
August–October 2018	Assessment full proposals
November 2018	Funding recommendations National funding decisions
December 2018	Grant negotiations completed Successful proposals announced
January–April 2019 1 March 2019	Start of projects on European side Start of projects on Chinese side

Call secretariat

If you have questions on the general call process and proposal submission, please contact the call secretariat:

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Funding agencies

China	National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC)
Austria	Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG)
Belgium	Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique (F.R.S.-FNRS)
France	The French National Research Agency (ANR)
Latvia	Ministry of Education and Science (IZM)
The Netherlands	Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO)
Norway	The Research Council of Norway (RCN)
Poland	National Science Centre (NCN)
Sweden	Swedish Energy Agency (SWEA)
United Kingdom	Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)

For national contact information please visit <https://jpi-urbaneurope.eu/calls/sustainable-urbanisation-china-europe/>