

# Conditions of submission and selection of French-Chinese joint research projects for 2011

A collaboration agreement was signed between the ANR and the Natural Sciences Foundation of China (NSFC) in order to facilitate the setting-up and implementation of scientific projects of quality jointly proposed by French and Chinese research teams, in the framework of the ANR's Blanc Programme and the NSFC's International Joint Research Projects.

The conditions specific to this agreement are specified below. The aim is to finance innovative and collaborative research projects of high quality between the best French and Chinese teams. The partners shall ensure that the scientific contributions of French and Chinese partners are equitably balanced. The total number of funded projects will depend on the relative quality of the submitted projects. The French part of the call for proposals is managed and evaluated in the framework of the ANR's Blanc International II Programme. It is therefore crucial to read the Blanc International II call text. The acceptability, eligibility and evaluation criteria of the Blanc International II Programme are applicable to the projects proposed in the framework of the ANR/NSFC collaboration, unless otherwise specified in this appendix.

Priority will be given to projects falling within the scope of the following areas:

- Information and Communication Science and Technologies
- Nanosciences and Nanotechnologies
- Engineering Sciences including Materials Sciences

In the framework of this call for proposals, applicants are invited to present projects justifying ANR funding of 100 k to 200 k in average, including for fundamental research projects. This does not exclude that some projects with higher amounts of funding might be selected. The place of origin principle will be applied to the funding, that is to say that each organisation-the ANR and the NSFC-will finance the expenses relative to its own partner(s).

The costs of participation in one symposium abroad at mid-project or end of project are to be budgeted for each partner. The candidate French and Chinese partners will prepare a joint scientific file that they will submit to the ANR and the NSFC in parallel at the same time. The application file must be submitted in each country in compliance with the submission format, the rules of eligibility, and the call for proposals closing date specific to the country concerned. Proposals submitted in one country only are not eligible. The mid-term and final reports must be written in English jointly by the French and Chinese partners into the format required by ANR. It has to be sent to ANR by the French project leader and to NSFC by the Chinese project leader.

## **Planned schedule:**

Closing of the ANR call for proposals: April 14th, 2011

Joint ANR/NSFC decision and publication of the results: November 2011

Possible start of projects: December 2011—January 2012

## **FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING CONDITIONS FOR CHINESE PARTNERS**

The information concerning the conditions of submission to NSFC is available at the following Internet address:

[http://www.nsf.gov.cn/Portal0/InfoModule\\_396/31577.htm](http://www.nsf.gov.cn/Portal0/InfoModule_396/31577.htm)

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(Continued from Page 10)

According to the NSFC-NIH MoU, the two agencies will jointly support personnel exchanges, bilateral workshops and collaborative research projects in the field of basic and translational biomedical research.

An Implementation Agreement was further signed by Dr. Collins and Prof. Chen in December 2010 to develop a new China-US Program for biomedical research cooperation. A Joint Working Group (JWG), made up of a specified number of members from both NSFC and NIH, will develop strategic plans for collaboration and facilitate the review and clearance of proposed bilateral projects. Both NSFC and NIH have allocated funds to support joint activities pursued under this program.

For 2011, a pilot joint program was released on Jan. 31 which will support research and exchanges in cancer, allergy, immunology and infectious diseases including HIV/AIDS. NSFC may award up to 300 000 RMB to each project and the estimated number of project to be supported is 33.