
Yangtze River Delta (Shanghai)-Finland Joint Innovation Funding Call – Joint funding for China-Finland R&D collaboration projects with Business Finland and Shanghai Science and Technology Commission

I. AGREEMENT

Memorandum of Understanding for the cooperation between Innovation Funding Agency Business Finland and Science and Technology Commission of Shanghai Municipality.

II. PRIORITIES

Areas:

- 1) **Climate Change**
- 2) **Circular Economy**
- 3) **Sustainable Development**
- 4) **Health (especially Digital Health and Agetech)**
- 5) **Other fields both sides agree to fund**

III. NUMBER OF PROJECTS TO BE FUNDED

- Max 5 projects

IV. FUNDING AVAILABLE

Funding for Finnish companies:

- Business Finland funding is intended for **individual Finnish companies registered in Finland**.
- Business Finland **funding is not fixed** and depends on the number of qualified applications.
- **Normal Business Finland funding principles are applied**. For more information, see
 - <https://www.businessfinland.fi/en/for-finnish-customers/services/funding/>.
- Applicants are strongly advised to **consult Business Finland in advance**.

Funding for Chinese companies:

- Shanghai Science and Technology Commission funding is intended for **individual companies registered in Shanghai**.
- The available **funding is max 1M RMB per project**.
 - The **matching funding ratio** requirement for companies is **no less than 1:2**. For example, for applying 1M RMB funding, company should prepare at least 2M RMB by themselves.
- Chinese applicants should follow further **guidelines issued by the Shanghai Science and Technology Commission** regarding the eligibility criteria. For more information, see
 - <https://czkj.sheic.org.cn/czkjtr/> (after the call is published on China side)
- In case of questions, applicants are advised to **consult the Shanghai Science and Technology Commission in advance**.

V. ELIGIBILITY, SUBMISSIONS AND DEADLINES**Eligibility:**

- Project consortia must include **one Finnish company** and **one Shanghainese company**. On the Finnish side, universities or other research organizations can join as subcontractors of the project.
- The joint industrial R&D&I projects must be **highly innovative** and **business oriented**.
- The proposals should **demonstrate applicant's resources for international collaboration**, in case of the Finnish applicants especially for **entering the Chinese markets**.
- The proposal should demonstrate the contribution of the participants from both countries and the project must be **balanced** between participants and be **significant** to all partners.
- The project partners should agree in advance on the **IP rights** and on the **commercialization strategy** of the product or process.

Submissions and deadlines:

- Both Finnish and Chinese sides must submit their **own applications** to their **own countries** and funding organizations. **One side application only is not valid**. Furthermore, both sides should also fill in a **Bilateral Cooperation Form** including general details of the project.
 - **Finnish applicants** should submit their proposals through **Business Finland's submission system** (in Finnish <https://www.businessfinland.fi/suomalaisille-asiakkaille/asiointipalvelu/> or in English <https://www.businessfinland.fi/en/for-finnish-customers/online-services/>).
 - At the **“Programmes and other connections”** section in the digital application, select the **“Suomi - Kiina haku”** (in English **“Finland-China call”**) option and write to the **“Other campaign or reference information”** field the name of the call, i.e., **“Shanghai call”**.

- **Bilateral Cooperation Form** must be attached to the application (“BF-Shanghai Bilateral Cooperation Form 2024” template must be used).
- **Chinese applicants** should submit their proposals through **Shanghai Science and Technology Commission’s submission system** (see the information at <https://czkj.sheic.org.cn/czkjtr/>) following the guidelines indicated in “IV. FUNDING AVAILABLE”.
- **Deadline for the Finnish companies** is **31 May 2024** (23:59 local Finnish time).
- For the **Shanghainese companies**, the online application process will by default **start at the beginning of May** and **close at the end of May**. The applicants are advised to consult the exact dates provided at <https://czkj.sheic.org.cn/czkjtr/> after the call is published on China side.
- The bilateral **funding decisions** are expected to be made **by the end of September 2024**.

VI. CONTACTS

Contacts for Finnish companies:

General information:

<https://www.businessfinland.fi/en/locations/asia-india-and-oceania/china/china-innovation>

Contacts in China:

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Contacts for Chinese companies:

General information:

<https://czkj.sheic.org.cn/czkjtr/> (after the call is published on China side)

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