

Dragon-STAR Plus: "Dragon - Sustaining Technology and Research Plus
(EU-China Collaboration)"

www.dragon-star.eu

Travel Grant Scheme: Participation in the 2017 EU-China Think
Tank Workshop on Science, Technology & Innovation - "The
Future of Manufacturing" (Shanghai) and the 2017 China
High-Tech Fair & Forum (Shenzhen), China
14th - 19th, November 2017

1st Call for Applications
13th September to 16th October 2017

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1 About Dragon-STAR Plus

DRAGON-STAR Plus (www.dragon-star.eu) follows its predecessor (DRAGONSTAR), in its important mandate to provide support services to European and Chinese researchers and policy makers and to offer a flexible platform to facilitate policy discussions between European and Chinese stakeholders. Dragon-STAR Plus aims at significantly contributing to the ongoing bilateral collaboration activities and policy dialogues. The project will have a positive effect on policy drafting and implementation, on-going research collaboration, reciprocity, member & associated states cooperation (funding agencies), addressing societal challenges, innovation, social-economy and technology.

Within the context of the Dragon-STAR Plus project a Travel Grant Scheme will be implemented. The Travel Grant Scheme provides the opportunity for European organisations to investigate the Chinese market and identify suitable partners to conclude technological and/or research collaboration. It also provides financial support to eligible European organisations to travel to China.

The project has received funding under European Commission's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme (Grant Agreement No.645775).

2 Objective of the call

The aim of the Travel Grant Scheme is to support technological and research collaboration between Chinese and European organisations in order to explore the opportunities, not only for joint participation in the European Commission's HORIZON 2020 programme, but also the possibilities of concluding technological agreements.

The Travel Grant Scheme is designed to provide support for accommodation up to 7 nights (including breakfast) of hotels in Shanghai and Shenzhen, for each European organisation seeking co-operation with Chinese organisations.

This Call for Applications of the Dragon-STAR Plus Travel Grant Scheme will support European organisations interested to participate in the **2017 EU-China Think Tank Workshop on Science, Technology & Innovation - "The Future of Manufacturing" (Shanghai)** and the **2017 China High-Tech Fair & Forum (Shenzhen), China from 14th to 19th, November 2017**. This Scheme will focus on the Intelligent Manufacturing technologies related research institutes, technology transfer organisations and SMEs.

A preliminary agenda can be found below:

Date	Activities
Nov. 13 th , Monday	Arrive in Shanghai, China
Nov. 14 th , Tuesday	- Participation the 2017 EU-China Think Tank Workshop on Science, Technology & Innovation - "The Future of Manufacturing"

	(Shanghai)
Nov. 15 th , Wednesday	- Business visits in Shanghai - Flight to Shenzhen
Nov. 16 th , Thursday	- Opening ceremony of China Hi-Tech Fair / China Hi-Tech Forum - Parallel sessions
Nov. 17 th , Friday	- A guided tour to China Hi-Tech Fair - B2B meetings with Chinese companies - Reception dinner
Nov. 18 th , Saturday	- Business visits to leading Chinese companies / SMEs - Individual meetings pre-arranged
Nov. 19 th , Sunday	- Business visits to leading Chinese companies / SMEs - Individual meetings pre-arranged

3 The Call

The Call is open from **13th September to 16th October 2017**. It supports representatives from European organisations from the EU Member States to participate in the **2017 EU-China Think Tank Workshop on Science, Technology & Innovation - “The Future of Manufacturing” (Shanghai)** and the **2017 China High-Tech Fair & Forum (Shenzhen), China from 14th to 19th, November 2017**, to discuss potential technological and/or research collaborations with Chinese companies.

3.1 Funding

The Dragon-STAR Plus funding will provide support for accommodation up to 7 nights (including breakfast) at hotels in Shanghai and Shenzhen, for each European organisation seeking co-operation with Chinese organisations. It is expected that a minimum of 10 organisations will benefit from this scheme. If more applications are positively evaluated it is up to the Project Evaluation Committee to fund more organisations, or provide an option that the applicant could participate in this programme without the support for accommodation from the Scheme (up to 15 EU organisations in total).

In the case that not all the budget is allocated, additional calls will follow until the budget has been used up.

3.2 Timetable for the 1st Call

September 13 th to October 16 th 2017	Call for Applications open
October 16 th 2017	Final deadline for application
September 25 th - October 19 th , 2017	Evaluation and selection
October 20 th , 2017	Applicants informed of selection results
November 14 th - 19 st , 2017	Business tour to Shanghai and Shenzhen, China

Please note that the time refers to the time of Beijing (GMT+8).

3.3 Guidelines

3.3.1 Eligibility criteria

The following criterion has to be met in order for the applicant to be considered eligible for participation:

- 1) Be a legal entity or a member of a legal entity (Small and Medium Enterprise - SME, large industry, research organisation and/or of a higher education organisation, Incubator, etc.) located in an EU Member State and working on development of new and innovative products and services or new markets or research on Intelligent Manufacturing.
- 2) Submit a completely filled-in Application Form within the timeframe indicated above:
- 3) Have a concrete idea, which is fully described in your application, of the purpose of your visit to China. In particular, one of the following types of collaboration should be described:
 - **Research Collaboration:** A specific research project you are preparing should be described in your application. In this case the aim of your travel would be to identify and meet a suitable Chinese partnering organisation to submit a proposal under one of the thematic priorities of the upcoming HORIZON 2020 calls.
 - **Technological Offer:** A specific innovative technological product or solution that the applicant has developed should be on offer. In this case the aim of the travel is to meet with a suitable Chinese organisation in order to discuss the possibility of concluding a technological agreement.
 - **Technology Request:** a specific request for a new product or technology should be described in the application form by the applicant.
- 4) Have sufficient knowledge of English to be able to participate in an international research project / technological collaboration.

3.3.2 Submission

The filled-in Application Form must be sent by e-mail to mission@dragon-star.eu with the subject "DragonStar Plus – Application – Organisation Name".

All enquiries may be addressed to Mr. Vasco Barros at mission@dragon-star.eu

4 Evaluation criteria

The following evaluation criteria will be used by the evaluators to assess the applications:

- Capacity of the European applicant (manpower, experience, infrastructure, language, scientific and innovation knowledge and skills etc.) to participate in an international collaboration project and either carry out research in the proposed field or conclude a technological collaboration agreement (Score: 0-4).
- International experience: active involvement of the applicant in international research / technological projects and other types of cross-border collaborations such as research or technological / business networks, clusters, joint ventures and so on (Score: 0-4).
- Impact on your organisation: benefits in terms of job creation, commercialization of innovative products and services, increased turnover, as well as (in the case of research collaborations) impact for the researcher and his/her research activity, and/or any other impact (Score: 0-4).
- Multiplier effect: benefits for your region / country (Score: 0-4).
- Previous cooperation with China (Score: 0-4).

Additional evaluation criteria

- Balanced country distribution
- Balanced thematic distribution
- Balanced allocation of grants among female and male applicants.

5 Selection Procedure

The selection process is made up of two steps: Formality and eligibility check and Evaluation by the Project Evaluation Committee (PEC).

5.1 Formality and eligibility check

Sociedade Portuguesa de Inovação (SPI) will be responsible for the formality and eligibility check (yes / no evaluation for minimum eligibility requirements).

The applicant must comply with the following formality criteria:

- Complete and send Application Form

- The Application Form must be received within the deadlines
- Eligibility of applicants (compliance with the minimum eligibility criteria)

5.2 Evaluation by the Project Evaluation Committee (PEC)

The evaluation will be conducted by four partners of the Dragon-STAR Plus consortium: Sociedade Portuguesa de Inovação (SPI), Beijing Software Enterprise Advisory Center (BSEAC), Steinbeis-Europa-Zentrum (SEZ), University of Nottingham Ningbo China (UNNC), which make up the Project Evaluation Committee (PEC). Reviewers from the PEC will be provided with guidelines and will use an evaluation model based on given criteria and a specified scoring matrix (see below). Each reviewer will give a score for each evaluation criterion and a total score for each application. For each criterion, which are evaluated by points, the reviewer can award marks from 0 to 4, depending on the criterion weighting (0,5 of a point is also allowed). For details, please see the Scoring Matrix Table below:

Scoring Matrix

Evaluation Criterion	Judgement based upon / Explanation of the criteria	Scoring
Minimum Eligibility Requirements (SPI) – All minimum criteria need to be fulfilled		
Submit a completely filled-in application form within the timeframe indicated.	Application form	Minimum criterion; complied: yes, no
Be an organisation of one of the EU Member States.	Application form	Minimum criterion; complied: yes, no
Be an employee of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a research organisation and/or - a higher education organisation and/or - an SME working on technological development of products or research or an SME interested to acquire know-how or new technology. 	Application form	Minimum criterion; complied: yes, no
Have a concrete idea for a research project and/or have a particular technological product you are either	Application form	Minimum criterion; complied: yes, no

offering or looking for.		
Have sufficient knowledge of English to be able to participate in an international research project or technological co-operation.	Application form	Minimum criterion; complied: yes, no
Scoring by Project Evaluation Committee (PEC)		
Capacity of the European applicant to participate in an international collaboration project and either carry out research in the proposed field or conclude a technological collaboration agreement.	Application form Partner Search Form and/or Technology Offer Form and/or Technology Request	0-4
International experience: active involvement of the applicant in international research / technological projects and other types of cross-border collaborations such as research or technological / business networks, clusters, joint ventures etc.	Application form Partner Search Form and/or Technology Offer Form and/or Technology Request	0-4
Impact on your organisation: benefits in terms of job creation, commercialization of innovative products and services, increased turnover, as well as (in the case of research collaborations) impact for the researcher and his/her research activity, and/or any other impact.	Application form	0-4
Multiplier effect: benefits for your region / country.	Application form	0-4
Previous cooperation with China	Application form and other relevant documents, if there are	0-4

SPI will compile the evaluation results and provide a ranked list of the applications, based on the total score achieved by each applicant in the evaluation. The ranked list will be provided to the

Project Evaluation Committee (PEC).

5.3 Selection by the Project Evaluation Committee (PEC)

The PEC will aim to create a balanced portfolio of applicants, taking into account the objectives of the Call, the quality of the applicants, the advice from the evaluators and balanced regional, thematic and gender distribution. The PEC will formally approve the decisions and advise SPI on initiating the Grant contracting process.

After all stages of the selection process have been completed the applicants will be informed about the outcome.

6 Funding and Payment

The Dragon-STAR Plus funding will provide support for accommodation up to 7 nights (including breakfast) at hotels in Shanghai and Shenzhen, for each European organisation. The Dragon-STAR Plus funding will cover hotel room rate (including breakfast). Hotel room miscellaneous expense and other additional consumption will be paid by the successful applicants themselves when check-out. The hotels in Shanghai and Shenzhen will be pre-booked by SPI. The participants need to cover other expenses (international and domestic flights, etc.) by themselves.

Selected participants who signed Letter of Commitment but cancel the trip within one week before November 13th, 2017) will be charged at least one-night hotel room rate fee.

SPI will issue the invitation letters to participants for visa application.