

# ERA-NET COFUND URBAN ACCESSIBILITY AND CONNECTIVITY SINO-EUROPEAN CALL



## Call for Proposals

### IMPORTANT DEADLINES

**Submission deadline pre-proposals:**

**12 April 2022 at 14:00:00 CEST**

**Submission deadline full proposals:**

**13 September 2022 at 14:00:00 CEST (Europe)**

**14 September 2022 at 16:00:00 CST (People's Republic of China)**

## Europe-China Joint Call for Proposals

		
<b>WHAT CAN YOU APPLY FOR?</b>	<b>WHO CAN APPLY?</b>	<b>HOW MUCH CAN YOU APPLY FOR?</b>
Transdisciplinary research projects that enable capacity building.	Researchers from universities, research institutes and industry, practitioners from urban public authorities, representatives from companies, commercial organisations, consumer organisations or civil society, from at least two European countries participating in the call and from China.	See the maximum for each partner in the national requirements.

### Revisions of the call text

If the call text has been updated, the changes are tracked in the table below.

Date	Update in call text



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### Preamble

There is a long history of research collaboration between Europe and China. Funding agencies in Europe and China aim to stimulate long-term research collaboration by funding joint research, to strengthen the international position and global impact of their research. Funding is provided for interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary consortia of European and Chinese research groups and stakeholder partners, for high quality research that has the potential for high scientific and societal impact.

In answer to the global urbanisation challenge, the Joint Programming Initiative Urban Europe (JPI Urban Europe) and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) have agreed to work towards a long-term cooperation programme, to strengthen the research cooperation between Europe and China in the area of sustainable urbanisation, with different topics addressed in time. Funded research should be in alignment with national and international research and innovation agendas as well as international initiatives such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and build bridges between different actors in the knowledge chain, fundamental and applied research, and scientific disciplines. JPI Urban Europe and NSFC have agreed to a Joint Call Roadmap and Principles for Implementing Joint Calls, laying out basic rules and framework conditions for joint calls. In 2018, JPI Urban Europe and NSFC launched the first, pilot call, and eleven Sino-European joint research projects were funded.

For the second call in this cooperation programme, the ERA-Net Cofund Urban Accessibility and Connectivity Sino-European call, the key themes '**Sustainable Urban Logistics**' and '**Climate-neutral Mobility**' have been selected. On the European side, this new call is an additional activity of the ERA-Net Cofund Urban Accessibility and Connectivity (EN-UAC).



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### Joint Programming Initiative Urban Europe

The Joint Programming Initiative (JPI) Urban Europe is an intergovernmental research and innovation programme addressing the challenges of sustainable urban development. Through coordinated research and innovation, JPI Urban Europe aims to create, discuss and make available knowledge and robust evidence for sustainable urban solutions and pathways. For this reason, JPI Urban Europe connects urban researchers, public authorities, civil society, innovators, business and industry to provide a new environment for urban research and innovation.

JPI Urban Europe was created in 2010 to address the global urban challenges of today with the ambition to develop a European research and innovation hub on urban matters and create European solutions by means of coordinated research. 20 European countries engage in JPI Urban Europe and targeted efforts are being made to reach out to new countries in Europe as well as internationally. JPI Urban Europe has funded over 110 research and innovation projects, bringing together more than 600 organisations.

A Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) was developed to identify and agree on research priorities and define joint implementation measures. The SRIA thus aims to consider the diversity of urban and regional research and innovation needs across Europe and also opens the door for small and less RTDI intensive countries to work together in JPI Urban Europe's activities. To ensure the highest commitment and relevance for all JPI Urban Europe partners, a co-creative process was applied, involving representatives from all stakeholder groups and regions – researchers, funding agencies, cities, business, industry and civil society. Following a challenge-driven approach to address complex urban challenges, dilemmas, in four transition areas, have been identified and laid out in the updated SRIA 2.0.

International cooperation is one of the priorities to contribute to urban transition on a global stage. JPI Urban Europe has taken efforts to establish a regular dialogue with international or global programmes and agencies working on urban transitions to assess opportunities for joint actions, co-organisation of events on international scale and to promote results of JPI Urban Europe projects. 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.

JPI Urban Europe has launched a series of joint calls on the topic of 'Urban Accessibility and Connectivity' which aim to develop innovative approaches and solutions to transform urban mobility systems and urban spaces. The funded projects and activities related to urban accessibility and connectivity are closely connected to '15-minute cities', one of three thematic priorities of JPI Urban Europe's upcoming programme called 'Driving Urban Transitions to a Sustainable Future' (DUT) which will be launched in 2022.

For more information, please see the JPI Urban Europe website: [www.jpi-urbaneurope.eu](http://www.jpi-urbaneurope.eu)

More information about 'Driving Urban Transitions to a Sustainable Future' can be found at: <https://jpi-urbaneurope.eu/driving-urban-transitions-to-a-sustainable-future-dut/>

### National Natural Science Foundation of China

As the main funding source for basic research in China, the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) has contributed to the improvement of China's innovation capability by focusing on fundamental research, frontiers of science and talent fostering, while equally emphasizing talented teams and



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interdisciplinary research. Thanks to the productive partnerships with funders and international organisations, NSFC has launched bilateral and multilateral cooperation, and exchange programmes on a wide range of topics. In particular, NSFC has established long-standing experiences in bilateral and multilateral cooperation with most European countries.



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### 1. Introduction to the call for proposals

This Call for proposals describes the objectives, scope and priority themes of the ERA-Net Cofund Urban Accessibility and Connectivity Sino-European call, rules for participation, and procedures for proposal development and project implementation. Further information on the call can be found on the websites of JPI Urban Europe ([www.jpi-urbaneurope.eu](http://www.jpi-urbaneurope.eu)) and NSFC (<https://bic.nsfc.gov.cn/Show.aspx?CI=22>).

The following eight European funding agencies are participating in the call:

- Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique (F.R.S.-FNRS), Belgium
- Innovation Fund Denmark (IFD), Denmark
- Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR), France
- Dutch Research Council (NWO), The Netherlands
- National Science Centre (NCN), Poland
- Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI), Romania
- Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS), Slovenia
- Swedish Energy Agency (SWEA), Sweden

The Chinese funding agency in this call is:

- National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC), China

Only applicants eligible to the funding of the above-mentioned European and Chinese funding agencies, from the following countries, are eligible to apply as Main Applicant or Co-applicant: Belgium, China, Denmark, France, The Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovenia and Sweden. Non-eligible applicants (e.g., from other countries or non-eligible to receive funding from a participating country) may participate as a Cooperation Partner.

#### Available budget

The total funding available in this call on the European side is EUR 5,300,000, across the eight participating European funding agencies. NSFC will fund the Chinese part of all projects to be funded under this call; the total funding on the Chinese side is RMB 20,000,000.

Each national funding agency<sup>1</sup> will provide funds directly to their eligible applicants in accordance to the agencies' rules and regulations. Table 2 (page 19) shows the contribution that is available for this call from each funding agency.

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<sup>1</sup> ANR, ARRS, IFD, NCN, NSFC, NWO, SWEA and UEFISCDI are national funding agencies. F.R.S.-FNRS operates on the community level, for Wallonia-Brussels Federation (French speaking Belgium).



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## 2. Scope and topics of the call for proposals

### 2.1 Scope and organisation of the call

Proposals are invited for joint research projects under the two identified key themes ‘Sustainable Urban Logistics’ and ‘Climate-neutral Mobility’, addressing key issues where true added value can be gained from Sino-European collaboration.

This call is a joint initiative of eight European funding agencies participating in JPI Urban Europe and NSFC as the Chinese funding agency.

The Call Secretariat of this call consists of representatives of NWO, ANR and UEFISCDI for JPI Urban Europe on the European side, and NSFC on the Chinese side.

### 2.2 Objectives

- Relevance to the European and Chinese research and innovation agenda's.
- Relevance to the global challenges, UN Sustainable Development Goals, including climate issues.
- Enhance the planning and operational decisions at the urban scale, reflective of multi-dimensional needs such as efficiency, sustainability, transition, social security and adaptability to data and innovation.
- Create knowledge and evidence for feasible urban transition pathways, integrated urban development, new urban practices under various cultural, climate and economic conditions.
- Fund research and innovation projects that contribute to the agendas of JPI Urban Europe and NSFC by increasing the connections between both communities, addressing common issues of both regions and/or testing concepts against the different requirements of European and Chinese cities.

### 2.3 Call themes

The collaborative research financed by funding organisations within JPI Urban Europe and NSFC in this call is intended to work towards scientific knowledge and sustainable, innovative solutions for high scientific and societal impact. At the same time, JPI Urban Europe and NSFC aim to stimulate strong, sustainable research collaboration between Europe and China.

The call focuses on two key themes – ‘Sustainable Urban Logistics’ and ‘Climate-neutral Mobility’ – that are central to the European and Chinese research and innovation agendas. Projects should address either one of the key themes or a combination of both themes.

The call requests proposals from a wide variety of academic disciplines, addressing the current challenges around transportation and logistics, mobility and urban sustainability, both from a perspective of understanding current developments, and from the perspective of developing new and innovative solutions to address the challenges. Disciplines may include, but are not limited to management, economics, business administration, public administration, civil and industrial engineering, operations research, psychology, computer science, sociology, (social) geography, area studies and urban planning.



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The key challenges and research questions concern sustainability and resilience, scalability, urban liveability and social responsibility, addressing environmental themes, attractiveness of the urban environment, long-term economic sustainability and the transition towards a circular chain / economy.

In both key themes identified, new innovative movement patterns need to be exploited in comparative work between European and Chinese cities. In the proposals, consortia should compare approaches between Europe and China, and learn from both ways. Comparative studies can serve as a rich framework to understand the nature of the urban problems as well as the efficacy of solutions in multiple contexts. In addition, research projects which include comparative work require a high degree of collaboration and exchange of knowledge and techniques which strengthen research partnerships and are beneficial to the fast development of science and impact.

There should be good comparative work on the impact of sustainable urban logistics and sustainable mobility on different cities in Europe and China, e.g., choosing a small number of cities. It will be interesting to see how certain research findings in an urban context differ between relatively small and medium-sized cities in Europe, and large metropolises in China.

### **Theme 1: Sustainable Urban Logistics in the Age of Digitisation**

Urban transport and logistics operations are part of complex supply chains that serve billions of urban dwellers with their daily needs. With the world population migrating more and more into cities, cities growing in population and in space, and agricultural, construction, and manufactured goods being sourced further away, the urban transport and logistics systems have become part of supply systems that are increasingly energy intensive, and longer and slower to respond.

At the same time, transportation and logistics systems within cities are becoming more fragmented and responsive. Consumers expect to have their meals delivered within the hour, and online retailers have made large assortments available to consumers within short lead times. Operators of these complex logistics systems, on the one hand, are seeking economies of scale to control costs and limit emissions, while on the other hand consumer demand drives fragmentation in the last mile; consumer demand and new supply models interact with and influence each other. In addition to traditional players like online and offline retailers, logistics service providers and carriers, many new players with novel business models have entered the urban transportation and logistics markets. For instance, novel platforms with crowdsourced riders such as Meituan or Deliveroo are dominating meal delivery, and freight matchers like Manbang Group, sender or UTURN help supply meet demand for transportation. Digitisation of transportation services hence significantly impacts the organisation and operations of freight deliveries in cities. On top of all of this, city governments have come up with a myriad of regulatory frameworks, such as low-emission zones, and other access restrictions. The effect of such restrictions on the overall delivery system is sometimes ambiguous and often unclear.

Questions however arise around the sustainability, scalability, urban liveability, and social responsibility of these recent and new developments. Some also argue that, due to the extensive venture capital invested in new start-ups driving some of these developments, efficiency in transport and logistics may actually be reduced rather than increased. Especially the market strategy plays a role here: getting a significant market share by undercutting the prices of competitors and offering low (or no) transport tariffs to consumers – even if this means taking losses and allowing less-efficient operations when conquering the market. In what way do these developments actually change the overall impact of freight transport on liveability and sustainability? Is there a need for regulating the transport, supply, and (online) retail sector, and what could



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be effective regulatory measures? To what extent is the growth in online commerce and micro-delivery platforms changing the logistics footprint of a city, for instance by dark kitchens and depots replacing traditional restaurant and store outlets?

While the call is open to any proposal that addresses the theme ‘Sustainable Urban Logistics in the Age of Digitisation’ discussed above, the topics 1., 2., 3., 5. and 8. (in bold and italics) have been identified as priority topics. However, proposals on all topics listed below are welcome and no preference is given during the evaluation procedure to the priority topics.

1. ***Impact of micro-delivery platforms, such as meal delivery and personal shoppers, on the overall efficiency, sustainability, security of transportation and logistics in urban environments***; the increasing need for optimisation of transport and the other goals that require public space.
2. ***Effects of platforms on the well-being of crowdsourced riders***; psychological fatigue of crowdsourced riders; who are they and what drives them to do this work?
3. ***Design of urban multi-modal logistics systems***; urban transport and logistics are always a challenge, facing these challenges and how to devolve from larger carriers down to the receiver in the cities will be crucial.
4. Optimisation, analysis and systems design of last mile deliveries.
5. ***Freight vehicle parking planning and allocation in dense urban environments***; nobody wants large numbers of freight vehicles in their neighbourhood, but they are a vital lifeline in the flow of goods, how can we incorporate this in an urban environment?
6. Models including consumer behavioral responses to delivery innovations such as parcel lockers, drones and autonomous vehicles.
7. Design and operation of multi-tier urban distribution networks.
8. ***Integration of transport and logistics operations***, such as micro-hubs, parcel lockers and retail outlets; including retail footprints such as those in the ‘15-minute city’.
9. Regulatory frameworks for transport, suppliers and (online) retailers.
10. The coupling between urban mobility and energy (compare energy use, energy production, energy savings, energy costs, prices); how do we fuel the needs for the transport of the future?; how do we accommodate charging or refueling in an urban setting?
11. Urban logistics and road safety; traffic crashes associated with delivery vehicles have increased.
12. Urban space (especially public space) used for logistic operations; e.g., how much space is needed for different logistic operation modes?
13. Increasing digitalisation and new modes of transport, how can we ensure that new transport technologies and services do not lead to increasing social exclusion in cities?

### **Theme 2: Strengthening Climate-neutral Mobility**

Long-time urban issues linked to transportation include traffic congestion, carbon footprint, air and soil pollution, road safety and land consumption. In a context of growing and expanding urban entities, most of these problems remain, but several key parameters of urban development are currently challenged, shaken by uncertain societal trends, working habits and new technologies, calling for a renewed research effort.



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To address the current environmental and societal issues we face, we must find an alternative model to the urban sprawl and car-oriented model that performs negatively regarding most sustainable urban development indicators.

Since so many transformations are currently occurring in the urban and mobility realms, there is room to further investigate the dominant urban doctrines.

While the call is open to any proposal that addresses the theme ‘Strengthening Climate-neutral Mobility’, the following topics are identified as priority topics:

### 1. ***The new connection to home***

The telework trend caused by the economic and societal adaptation to the COVID-19 pandemic entails less frequent commute, with the hypothesis of the possibility of longer commutes. What is the impact of this trend on the shape of urban entities? Questions arise around new models and climate-neutral aspects of these changes. A rebalance in cities’ size (move from metropole to small and medium-sized cities) and the impact of telework on firm location can be addressed.

Peri-urbanisation is changing traditional travel patterns. How does this phenomenon impact human mobility, job – housing, functional construction, etc.? The pandemic has shown that working from home is a real possibility for a significantly large part of the population (in such a way as to positively affect the environmental pollution).

What positive meaning of mobility / being underway is potentially lost if these trends continue (i.e., travelling as important space to engage with social and spatial diversity)?

Finally, flattening the peak travel period and reducing the overall stress of transport networks during peak hour, in regard to telework.

### 2. ***Old and new urban transport modes***

As for transportation and mobility, very visible transformations are also happening. In the era of mobile internet, new transport modes emerge, with scooters or bikes, shared or not. The emergence and implementation of Mobility as a Service (MaaS) also raises the question whether societal values associated with mobility are changing. Public transport remains an indispensable solution, but under which conditions, adaptations can it endure the sanitary issue? To what extent do electrification and automation of (urban) road transport change the parameters of the equation of the cars and the city? All these trends should be better understood as they entail major impacts on urban development. How to realise integrated MaaS solutions that are tailor-made to different people? The impact of MaaS on travel patterns, especially in suburban areas.

The focus should not only be on cars vs transit; compare the role of cycling: in China and Europe, cycling has played, is playing and potentially will play an important role in solving mobility challenges.

Active mobility is key for the ‘15-minute city’, the resilient city, etc.

The abovementioned innovations should also be seen as possibilities which require research on what they mean for cities and societies and if/how they are desirable in light of larger goals and challenges.

### 3. ***Urban development revisited***



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Tactical urbanism initiatives, mostly in favour of cycling and similar types of mobility, have quickly modified the urban landscape, for instance in dramatically reducing the urban space devoted to cars and opening it up for other use. Participation, and the emergence of intermediate actors in the urban decision making, that are considered as a major shift in contemporary urbanism practice is challenged by these fast, typically top-down initiatives. There is a need to investigate current dynamics, to better understand how cities of the future take shape, from a multidimensional and multidisciplinary perspective encompassing issues of participation, citizenship, the role of volunteer geographical information in a smart city perspective, processes of tactical experimentation and their assessment. This set of questions is not exclusively associated to urban mobility issues, they are more generic regarding urban development, but mobility is a very relevant entry point to grasp the dynamics at play.

#### 4. **Multi-mode transport**

The rapid development of urbanisation and technologies brings people a variety of travel modes in a city (cluster). Unfortunately, most of the current efforts on the improvement of the transport system are made only within a single mode. Obviously, no transport mode could provide satisfactory travel services in isolation since more people have to transfer among different transport modes when travelling in a modern city. Therefore, the integrated operation of a multi-mode transport system is critical to serving well travel activities. Meanwhile, the proper development of multi-mode transport, which comprehensively coordinates all transport modes, is significant for the reduction of carbon emissions and increasing urban resilience. Compare, e.g., the growing attention for the train-bike synergies: the increasing interest in the specific mechanisms between rail (as fast inter-urban transport) and cycling (as door-to-door accessibility).

Although new transport modes emerge, the rail transit still plays a central role in the urban traffic system, especially in metropolises. A resilient urban multi-mode traffic (UMMT) network ensures a high efficiency of individual mobility. A high proportion of rail transit trips on the UMMT network will increase the traffic network resilience. The following questions arise: How to evaluate individual mobility efficiency and network resilience in an UMMT network with arterial rail transit? How to extend the key function of rail transit in the UMMT network for providing a quick, comfortable and convenient mobility? How to extend the key function of rail transit in the UMMT network for providing a quick, comfortable and convenient mobility? How to evaluate individual mobility efficiency and network resilience in an UMMT network with arterial rail transit?

The backbone role of rail transit on the resilient UMMT network has not been well understood. All these issues on measuring and increasing UMMT network resilience should be further studied.

### 2.4 Impact Plan Approach

The research in this call addresses societal challenges, and should have potential for societal impact. Societal impact is never solely a result of knowledge and insight from research. Furthermore, societal impact is often only realised in the years after a research project has been concluded. However, in order for impact to be made more likely, it needs to be planned. This is why, in addition to having at least one urban public authority partner in the consortium, consortia should consider how relevant stakeholders can be involved in, or benefit from, the design and realisation of the proposed research project from the very beginning.



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The application should state how approaches for achieving impact are integrated in the research design and conducted by the consortium in engagement with end users, such as practitioners, policymakers, and industry. To this end, applicants are asked to include an Impact Plan that sets out the potential for impact of the proposed research. This impact plan should be integrated into the research design and serves as an aid to increase the impact potential of the proposed research.

The impact plan should include a **Theory of Change**. A Theory of Change describes how the research process can contribute to societal impact, taking into account the context and actors involved, and describing the sequence of logically-linked consequential relations.

There are two parts:

- The **Problem Analysis** where a joint effort with research partners as well as stakeholders allows for making explicit which (and whose) problem is being tackled and how the desired change is perceived to happen through research efforts. You start by clearly defining the societal problem and the desired impact. Next the causes are discussed and the knowledge gaps identified. This part should form a logical chain to the project, hypotheses, methodology and work plan.
- The **Impact Pathway** is the visualisation of the change process as described in the Theory of Change following from research execution. It makes explicit how the research activities will lead to results or insights (**output**), and how exchange of knowledge and the uptake of research output will contribute to desired changes in behaviour, relationships, actions and activities of partners and stakeholders (**outcome**) that are considered essential to achieving the desired impact.

Any projections on expected change will be based on a myriad of assumptions; documenting these assumptions allows for reflection on whether and how expected pathways to impact remain adequate or need adjustment, and where potential risks are. This is why a Theory of Change is not fixed, but rather reflected on continuously throughout the research process. For this reason, it is also used as part of the monitoring, evaluation and learning trajectory.

Moving from output to outcome does not happen automatically. Important are the **productive interactions**: exchanges between researchers and stakeholders in which knowledge is produced and valued that is both scientifically robust and socially relevant. Interactions can be direct / personal, indirect or financial. The quantity as well as quality of the productive interactions forms an indicator for the potential for societal impact. Examples of productive interactions are:

- Co-design: formulation of research questions and approaches jointly with potential end-users.
- Co-creation: joint execution of research projects and interactive dialogue on research results.

A Strategic Activity Planning spells out how the proposed productive interactions contribute to achieving outcomes. Strategies are needed to plan and monitor how the consortium's efforts will enhance the potential for outcomes. This planning should include specific activities for:

- Stakeholder engagement: who are the relevant stakeholders to engage with according to context analysis, how are the productive interactions organised and when?
- Communication strategy: how are engagement dialogues organised and results exchanged and translated, and whose responsibility is it?
- Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning: how are results of activities monitored and evaluated, such that assumptions can be tested and activities adjusted accordingly, and whose responsibility is it?



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- Capacity strengthening: how are required capacities (of consortium partners and stakeholders) strengthened in order to achieve the outcomes, how is this organised and whose responsibility is it?

In the pre-proposal, you are asked for the problem analysis mentioned above. In the full proposal, you will need to include a complete impact plan, including an impact pathway, productive interactions, and strategic activity planning. The budget should take into account activities necessary for your impact plan.



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### 3. Eligibility criteria and guidelines for applicants

Some requirements are common for all applicants and all funding agencies.

In addition to these **general requirements**, there are **specific funding agency rules** which apply to applicants that request funds from a **specific funding agency**. (see Annex A) Applicants must pay careful attention to the relevant national funding rules and contact the relevant national contact person with any queries to avoid any issues related to national eligibility.

The term “proposal” is used both for the pre-proposal in the first stage of the selection procedure and the full proposal in the second stage.

#### 3.1 Consortium: who can participate and apply

The call addresses researchers from European and Chinese universities, research institutes, research and technology organisations (including municipal research institutes), cities and city planning departments, as well as European companies. Their eligibility for national funding will be subject to the national funding rules of the participating funding agencies and are published as an annex to the call text.

Each project proposal must be submitted by a Sino-European project consortium consisting of

- **at least two eligible European applicants applying for funds in the call from at least two different European countries whose funders participate in the call, and**
- **at least two (and maximum three) eligible Chinese institutions** (coordinated by one Main Applicant who is partner in the proposal).

**At least one consortium partner must be an urban public authority.** Additionally, the inclusion of at least one representative from companies and commercial organisations, consumer organisations or civil society is preferable. These may participate as either applicant (if permitted by national funding regulations) or cooperation partner.

The added value resulting from transnational cooperation must be addressed in the proposal. There is no limit to the total number of partners who may be involved in each project. However, proposals for medium-sized projects submitted by consortia comprising applicants from approximately three to four funding agencies are expected. Consortia need to be balanced between Europe and China, both in terms of number of partners and distribution of budget.

#### Applicants

The applicants have to define one European researcher and one Chinese researcher as Main Applicants. The two Main Applicants are defined as the persons who are the lead investigators of the proposal, and furthermore act as responsible coordinators on behalf of the whole project consortium. In addition, a proposal must have at least two Co-applicants, one on the European side and one on the Chinese side. If there is more than one Co-applicant from the same organisation, one of them may need to be identified as the lead Co-applicant, depending on the national requirements. (please check Annex A)



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Only applicants eligible for funding from participating organisations<sup>2</sup> from the following countries are eligible to apply as a **Main Applicant** or **Co-applicant**: Belgium, China, Denmark, France, The Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovenia and Sweden.

For Chinese researchers, NSFC requires the Main Applicant:

- to have a senior academic rank (title);

AND

- be the principal investigator of an on-going or completed NSFC grant with a duration of three years or longer. For more information on NSFC's requirements, please refer to the NSFC call text on the website of NSFC (<https://www.nsf.gov.cn/publish/portal0/tab434/module1146/more.htm>).

Each Main Applicant is only allowed to participate in a maximum of two proposals, and only once as the Main Applicant.

The proposal may include Cooperation Partners. A specific funding agency may not fund every type of organisation. If a partner is ineligible for funding, the partner can still participate as a Cooperation Partner. Please see Annex A for specific national requirements. A written commitment (Letter of Commitment) from Cooperation Partners, participating with their own funding or with an in-kind contribution should be submitted with the full proposal. Cooperation Partners do not count toward the minimum of two eligible European applicants from at least two different European countries whose funders participate in the call, and the minimum of two eligible Chinese institutions.

Further descriptions of Main Applicant, Co-applicant, Cooperation Partner and Project Consortium are outlined in Table 1 below.

**Depending on the national requirements** applicants can be organisations such as:

- Research organisations (such as universities, university colleges, research institutes or other authorities with research undertakings).
- Urban public authorities (such as regional and local government institutions, municipalities and municipal organisations, city authorities, urban governments, urban public administrations, and infrastructure and service providers).
- Companies and commercial organisations (from industry, cooperatives, small, medium and large enterprises), especially public utility companies (e.g., in the field of energy supply, other communal supply and disposal systems); infrastructure and service providers; real estate developers; investors; facility management providers; actors from the fields of energy, spatial and transport planning; transport authorities; entrepreneurs and innovators.
- Consumer organisations.
- Civil society (e.g., local and community organisations, non-governmental organisations, not-for-profit organisations, and inhabitants).

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<sup>2</sup> See Annex A.



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Consortia must consist primarily of **eligible and fundable applicants** active in different parts of the research and innovation system (i.e., strategic research, applied research, innovation, implementation) and across disciplines (such as social sciences, natural sciences, technical sciences and applied fields).

Stakeholders may be associated to the project as Main Applicants or Co-applicants, or as Cooperation Partners that do not directly receive funding but still contribute to the project. See **Annex A** for individual funders' rules.

As the focus of this call is on facilitating the implementation of research and innovation into applicable and sustainable solutions, **consortia must include at least one urban public authority partner, and preferably at least one representative from companies and commercial organisations, consumer organisations or civil society**, either as a Main Applicant, Co-applicant or Cooperation Partner, depending on the national eligibility criteria. Please see the definitions and descriptions of roles in Table 1.

This call includes both a set of **general requirements common for all applicants** (i.e., transnational eligibility criteria) as well as **national requirements** for applicants participating in a consortium (i.e., national eligibility criteria).

All funded partners in this call will be funded by their national funding agencies in accordance with their respective national funding rules. The **national eligibility criteria for specific funding agencies can be found in Annex A. This also contains links to their respective websites**. Applicants are encouraged to contact the relevant national contact person at the national funding agency about questions concerning the national eligibility.

### Example Consortium X:

- *European Main Applicant from Poland: The general eligibility criteria as well as the eligibility criteria of NCN apply to the Main Applicant. The Main Applicant from Poland submits the proposal with information from the Main Applicant's organisation, the Chinese Main Applicant's organisation, as well as from the Co-applicants' organisations (in Europe and China) and possible Cooperation Partner(s).*
- *European Co-applicant from France: The common transnational eligibility criteria as well as eligibility criteria of ANR apply to the Co-applicant.*
- *European Co-applicant from The Netherlands: The common transnational eligibility criteria as well as the eligibility criteria of NWO apply to the Co-applicant.*
- *Chinese Main Applicant: The common transnational eligibility criteria as well as eligibility criteria of NSFC apply to the Main Applicant. The Chinese Main Applicant submits the proposal with information from the Main Applicant's organisation, the European Main Applicant's organisation, as well as from the Co-applicants' organisations (in China and Europe) and possible Cooperation Partner(s).*
- *Chinese Co-applicant: The common transnational eligibility criteria as well as eligibility criteria of NSFC apply to the Co-applicant.*
- *Cooperation Partner: An urban public authority partner from The Netherlands.*

**Table 1:** Definitions of roles in project consortium

Roles in project consortium	Definition and description of role
Main Applicant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The two Main Applicants in Europe and China coordinate the Sino-European project.</li></ul>



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Europe</li> <li>✓ China</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Main Applicants are applicants eligible for funding and located in one of the European countries participating in the call and in China.</li> <li>• The Main Applicants in Europe and China submit the project proposal on behalf of the consortium.</li> <li>• The Main Applicants are responsible for running and managing the project.</li> <li>• The Main Applicants will be the contact point on behalf of the whole consortium throughout the duration of the application procedure and project.</li> <li>• The Main Applicants are responsible for the administrative management of the complete project.</li> <li>• The Main Applicants are responsible for overseeing the project activities.</li> </ul>
<b>Co-applicant</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Europe</li> <li>✓ China</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-applicants are applicants other than the Main Applicant, eligible for funding and located in one of the countries participating in the call.</li> <li>• There may be more than one Co-applicant from any one country, if eligible in the national requirements.</li> <li>• If there is more than one Co-applicant from the same organisation, one of them may need to be identified as the lead Co-applicant, depending on the national requirements. <b>Please check with your national contact outlined in Annex A.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Cooperation Partner</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Europe</li> <li>✓ China</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consortium Partners that are ineligible for funding from the participating agencies, may be included in a project proposal as Cooperation Partners.</li> <li>• A clear description / indication of the role and form of engagement of these Cooperation Partners should be included in the proposal.</li> <li>• A written commitment (Letter of Commitment) from Cooperation Partners, participating with their own funding or with an in-kind contribution should be submitted with the full proposal.</li> <li>• Cooperation Partners do not count toward the minimum of two eligible European applicants from at least two different European countries whose funders participate in the call, and the minimum of two eligible Chinese applicants.</li> </ul>
<b>Sino-European project consortium</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consortia need to be balanced between countries both in terms of number of partners and distribution of budget.</li> <li>• There is no limit to the total number of partners who may be involved in each project on the European side. However, proposals for projects submitted by consortia comprising applicants from approximately two to four participating European countries are expected. On the Chinese side, at least two (and maximum three) Chinese institutions is allowed.</li> </ul>

### 3.2 Available budget and funding scheme

Each national funding agency will provide funds directly to their eligible beneficiaries in accordance to the agencies' rules and regulations.

Annex A outlines the contribution that is available for this call from each European funding agency and NSFC, and funding rules and guidelines for each funding agency.

### 3.3 What you can apply for



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### Project duration

The maximum project duration is three years, i.e., the project duration applied for may not exceed 36 months. Some funding agencies also impose a minimum project duration. The exact starting date may depend on the budget allocation (rules) of the specific funding agencies. The end date of a project should be harmonised for all applicants in the same consortium. The project duration imposed by NSFC on Chinese applicants is 36 months with unified starting date and end date (May 2023 to April 2026) as required in the NSFC call text. Please check the national eligibility guidelines (in Annex A) for further requirements.

On the European side, projects should start between January and May 2023. The exact starting date may depend on the budget allocation (rules) of the specific funding agencies.

### Funding

The total available budget for this call on the European side is EUR 5,3000,000, across the participating European funding agencies, and on the Chinese side RMB 20,000,000. NSFC will fund the Chinese part of all projects to be funded under this call. Based on this budget, the European funding agencies and NSFC expect to fund approximately ten projects in the call.

There are no fixed maximum limits for a project size.

There are national funding limits for the respective applicants in the consortium. **Annex A** indicates the interval of funds available from each of the participating European funding agencies in this call and NSFC, and more information on the specific funding agencies' rules. No applicant may represent more than 50% of the total budget of the project. Some funding agencies may also impose lower participation levels or maximum budgets for their funding, national eligibility guidelines can be found in Annex A).

In the full proposal stage, **a justification of the requested budget is required**. The estimated budget must be given in EUR for the European side, and RMB for the Chinese side. The proposal template for the budget must be used. In case of doubt, applicants should consult the contact person of their respective funding agencies. Please note: Some funding agencies require the submission of a national budget form as an attachment to the proposal at this stage. (see **Annex A**)

The participating funding agencies have made the following funds available for this initiative:

**Table 2**

Country (funding agency)	Call budgets	Budget / project, number of projects
People's Republic of China (NSFC)	¥ 20,000,000	Maximum ¥ 2,000,000 (direct costs) / project; up to 10 projects.
Belgium (F.R.S.-FNRS)	€ 200,000	1 project
Denmark (IFD)	€ 1,000,000	Maximum € 300,000 (including overhead) per partner; maximum € 500,000 (including overhead) per project.



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France (ANR)	€ 500,000	ANR expects that no French partner will ask for funding above € 300,000 and that the mean funding demand per partner will be around € 200,000 to € 250,000; 2 projects.
The Netherlands (NWO)	€ 1,400,000	Maximum € 350,000 per project; 4 projects.
Poland (NCN)	€ 500,000	The maximum budget of the Polish research team is not pre-determined; indicative number of funded projects: 2-3.
Romania (UEFISCDI)	€ 500,000	€ 250,000 if Romanian Main Applicant / PI, € 200,000 otherwise; indicative number of funded projects: 2-3.
Slovenia (ARRS)	€ 300,000	No limits in terms of max. budget / project and maximum number of projects.
Sweden (SWEA)	€ 900,000	No limits in terms of max. budget / project; indicative number of funded projects: 3-4.

### Funding agencies' rules and eligibility criteria

In addition to the general rules and procedures laid out in this call text, there may be specific funding agencies' rules (e.g., funding agencies' eligibility criteria for certain organisations, co-funding requirements and national evaluation rules).

**Please note:** There are also limitations regarding the types of activities that different funding agencies can support.

It is strongly recommended that these are checked with the contact person at the respective funding agency before submitting a proposal. See Annex A for more information and the contact information.

### **3.4 When can proposals be submitted**

The deadline **for pre-proposals** is on **12 April 2022 at 14:00:00 CEST**.

In **July 2022**, applicants of the most promising proposals will be invited to enter the second stage of the procedure.

The **deadline for full proposals** is

- **on 13 September 2022 at 14:00:00 CEST (Europe) AND**
- **on 14 September 2022 at 16:00:00 CST (People's Republic of China).**

**Pre-proposals** must be submitted to UEFISCDI (through the electronic submission system UDiManager, [www.uefiscdi-direct.ro](http://www.uefiscdi-direct.ro)), by the European Main Applicant. Pre-proposals do not need to be submitted to NSFC. Pre-proposals submitted to UEFISCDI after the deadline will not be taken into consideration.



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**Full proposals** must be submitted to **both** UEFISCDI (electronic submission system UDiManager, [www.uefiscdi-direct.ro](http://www.uefiscdi-direct.ro)) and NSFC (ISISN system, <http://isisn.nsfc.gov.cn/egrantweb/>), by the European and Chinese Main Applicant, respectively. Full proposals submitted after the deadline to either UEFISCDI or NSFC will not be taken into consideration.

### 3.5 Preparing and submitting a proposal

An online help document with guidelines for submission will be provided, detailing the procedures and duties of the Main Applicants, the Co-applicants and the Cooperation Partners. Proposals must be prepared in English using the designated application form. The application form should be completely filled in; incomplete application forms will be ineligible.

It is not permitted to include other documents than those requested in the application form. Applicants will be asked to remove any additional documents.

The European Main Applicant will need to enter additional information into UDiManager when submitting the proposal. Because of this, it is advisable to start completing the online information at least one day before the deadline.

For the full proposal, the Chinese Main Applicant has to prepare an additional Chinese version of the proposal to be submitted to NSFC on time, with the English version of the proposal attached. The Chinese Main Applicant may need to submit additional documents to NSFC in order to comply with national eligibility requirements. Please pay special attention to the eligibility requirements specified in the Chinese call for proposals on the NSFC website, such as selecting the correct reference code including G0102, G0109, G0116 and G0117 for Theme 1, and G0102 and G0116 for Theme 2. Please see the Chinese version of the call for proposals for more information: <https://bic.nsfc.gov.cn/Show.aspx?CI=22>.

It is not possible to resubmit or revise the pre-proposal / full proposal after the submission deadline, unless it pertains corrections to technical-administrative details and per request of the funding agencies.

**Please note:** On the Chinese side, full proposals cannot be corrected, and, if they do not meet NSFC's eligibility criteria, will be declared inadmissible. If a full proposal is declared inadmissible by NSFC, it will also be declared inadmissible by the Call Secretariat and will not be admitted to the evaluation procedure. The Chinese Main Applicant should check the call for proposals on the website of NSFC carefully to ensure all eligibility criteria are met and all necessary documents are submitted to NSFC.

By submitting a pre-proposal / full proposal, applicants and collaboration partners agree that it will be forwarded to the responsible funding agencies as well as to all other participating funding agencies participating in this call.

If technical questions about the use of the UDiManager system remain, please contact UEFISCDI. Prior to the deadlines for submission of a pre-proposal / full proposal, the Call Secretariat will organise several webinars about different aspects of the call. The registration and times will be published on the JPI Urban Europe and NSFC websites.



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### 3.6 Summary of the transnational eligibility criteria

- Each consortium submitting a proposal must involve **at least two eligible European applicants applying for funds in the call from at least two different European countries whose funders participate in the call, and at least two (and maximum three) Chinese institutions**. All legal entities must be independent from each other.
- Each consortium must include **at least one urban public authority partner, and preferably at least one representative from companies and commercial organisations, consumer organisations or civil society**, either as a Main Applicant, Co-applicant or Cooperation Partner, depending on the national eligibility criteria.
- Main Applicants and Co-applicants must be eligible to be funded by their national participating funding organisations.
- The maximum project duration **must not exceed three years (i.e., 36 months)**. Some countries also impose a minimum project duration, please check the national eligibility guidelines (in Annex A) for further requirements.
- Proposals must be written in English using the required application form. Proposals written in other languages will be inadmissible. The whole application form must be filled in. Incomplete application forms will be inadmissible. The submitted proposal must not exceed the maximum amount of pages as indicated in the application form. The detailed budget and the funding demand must also be uploaded on the submission platform.
- Pre-proposals must be submitted through the UEFISCDI electronic submission system UDiManager only. On the European side, full proposals must be submitted through UDiManager. On the Chinese side, full proposals must be submitted through the NSFC ISISN system.
- Proposals must be submitted before the corresponding deadlines indicated in section 3.4 of this call for proposals.
- Each Main Applicant can only participate in a maximum of two proposals, and only once as a Main Applicant.
- Each Main Applicant and Co-applicant must include their CV in English with information about participation in previous projects.
- The Main Applicants must be the same between the pre-proposal and full proposal. In general, no fundamental changes between the pre-proposal and full proposal concerning the objectives of the project or requested budget will be accepted. On the European side, the consortium may be adjusted, for example if advised by the Expert Panel.
- Ineligible applicants (e.g., from other countries or ineligible to receive funding from a participating country) can be included in the consortium as a Cooperation Partner if:
  - a: they finance their activity from other sources,
  - and b: the consortium in general fulfils the requirements on the number of applicants from participating countries.
- A written commitment (Letter of Commitment) from the Cooperation Partner(s), participating with their own finance or with an in-kind contribution should be submitted with the full proposal.



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It is strongly recommended that these are checked with the contact person at the respective funding agency before submitting a proposal.

### 3.7 Eligibility check

The Call Secretariat will verify the eligibility of the pre-proposals and full proposals according to the general eligibility criteria described in the previous section.

On the European side, the participating funding agencies will check whether the applicants fulfil national eligibility rules for research proposals as set by the relevant funding agencies and by JPI Urban Europe. NWO will coordinate the eligibility check on the European side. On the Chinese side, NSFC will check the eligibility of the proposals.

Both the general and funding agencies' eligibility criteria must be met. In the case that errors occur, applicants may receive the opportunity to correct these.

If either the Main Applicant(s) or the proposal does not meet the eligibility requirements, the proposal will be removed from the evaluation procedure.

In case (a) Co-applicant(s) is (are) ineligible, the proposal may still be eligible if and when the eligibility criteria are met by the proposal without this (these) partner(s).

In both cases, this will be communicated to the European and Chinese Main Applicants.

If a proposal is "eligible", this does not mean that it will be awarded funding, but only that the proposal will be admitted to the evaluation procedure.

**Please note:** Full proposals submitted to NSFC cannot be corrected, and, if they do not meet NSFC's eligibility criteria, will be declared inadmissible. If a full proposal is declared inadmissible by NSFC, it will also be declared inadmissible by the Call Secretariat and will not be admitted to the evaluation procedure.



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### 4. Evaluation procedure

Within the framework of the call, a two-stage procedure will be adopted:

#### 4.1 Pre-proposal stage

In the first stage, consortia are invited to submit **pre-proposals** (description of consortium members, concise project description, and budget indications with limited details fulfilling national requirements).

The pre-proposals will be assessed by an Expert Panel composed of international experts. The participating European funding agencies and NSFC will each nominate and appoint an equal number of experts. The total number of experts on the Expert Panel will be decided based on the number of proposals received. Depending on the number of received proposals, the Expert Panel may also be divided into subpanels. The Expert Panel will consist of recognised experts in relevant fields, academics as well as practitioners, who can assess the scientific as well as the innovative and practical value of the submitted pre-proposals. No other external reviewers will be part of the evaluation in the pre-proposal stage. Applicants will have no possibility to rebut the Expert Panel's evaluation.

The Expert Panel will assess the pre-proposals on the basis of the evaluation criteria described in section 4.5. Each proposal will first be assessed prior to the Expert Panel meeting by at least four Expert Panel members. The Expert Panel will then meet to discuss and score all pre-proposals, to produce an evaluation report for each pre-proposal, and a ranking list to advise the funding agencies on the selection of pre-proposals.

Based on the Expert Panel's ranking and the available budgets of the funders, consortia receive a positive or negative advice to elaborate their ideas into full proposals. The funding agencies aim to invite no more than three times the number of consortia that can be funded based on their committed budgets.

The positive or negative advice to submit a full proposal will be communicated to the Main Applicants in July 2022. In both cases, the Main Applicants will be provided with the Expert Panel's evaluation report on the quality of their pre-proposals. Since it is an advice and not a formal decision, consortia who receive a negative advice to elaborate their ideas into full proposals can still submit a full proposal, despite the negative advice.

#### 4.2 Full proposal stage

The full proposals will be assessed by an Expert Panel composed of international experts, nominated and appointed by the participating European funding agencies and NSFC. The Expert Panel will consist of recognised experts in relevant fields, academics as well as practitioners, who can assess the scientific as well as the innovative and practical value of the submitted full proposals. No other external reviewers will be part of the evaluation in the full proposal stage. Applicants will have no possibility to rebut the Expert Panel's evaluation.

The Expert Panel will assess the proposals using the evaluation criteria described in section 4.5. Each full proposal will be evaluated prior to the Expert Panel meeting by at least four Expert Panel members. The Expert Panel will meet to discuss and score all proposals, to produce an evaluation report for each full proposal and a ranking list of proposals recommended to be considered for funding to the funding agencies. Based on the ranking by the Expert Panel and considering the available (national) budgets, the participating funding agencies will jointly adopt a list of proposals recommended for funding and subsequently take funding decisions separately.



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### 4.3 Funding decision

Based on the Expert Panel's scores, the Steering Committee will award a qualification to all proposals, and will make this known to the European and Chinese Main Applicants with the decision about whether or not the proposal has been awarded funding.

The list of proposals recommended for funding is final and recommendation status cannot be appealed at the transnational level. A written statement on the evaluation of each full proposal will be sent to the European and Chinese Main Applicants by the Call Secretariat. The Call Secretariat will inform the Main Applicants of proposals that have been recommended for funding, and on the subsequent granting procedure. All consortia will be provided with an overall evaluation of the quality of their pre-proposals in the first stage, and for the pre-proposals elaborated into full proposals in the second stage.

**Please note:** For research partnerships to be effective, they have to be fair and equitable. All awarded projects are required to have a signed consortium agreement (CA) between all their consortium partners, including applicants and cooperation partners, within six months following the start of the project, at least addressing the following topics:

- internal organisation and management of the consortium;
- intellectual property arrangements;
- settlement of internal disputes.

The CA is needed prior to the start of the project for all projects. See: [https://eurlex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52014XC0627\(01\)&from=EN](https://eurlex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52014XC0627(01)&from=EN), par. 27.

Please note: National funding agencies regulations concerning the requirement for a CA, including the date of the signature, may also apply.

### 4.4 Time schedule

February – March 2022	Webinars and matchmaking <i>For the webinar dates and to register, see:</i> <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/webinar-series-era-net-cofund-urban-accessibility-and-connectivity-sino-european-call-jpi">https://www.nwo.nl/en/news/webinar-series-era-net-cofund-urban-accessibility-and-connectivity-sino-european-call-jpi</a>
12 April 2022, 14:00:00 CEST	Deadline submission of pre-proposals – submission to UEFISCDI only
April 2022	National and transnational eligibility checks
June 2022	Meeting of Expert Panel to assess pre-proposals
July 2022	Consortia receive a positive or negative advice to elaborate their ideas into full proposals, including the Expert Panel's evaluation report
13 September 2022 at 14:00:00 CEST (Europe) AND 14 September 2022 at 16:00:00 CST (People's Republic of China)	Deadline submission of full proposals – full proposals must be submitted through the UEFISCDI electronic submission system <b>and</b> through the NSFC ISIN system
September – October 2022	National and transnational eligibility checks
November 2022	Meeting of Expert Panel to assess full proposals



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November 2022	Funding recommendation by Call Steering Committee
December 2022	National funding decisions and announcement of results to Main Applicants
December 2022 – May 2023	Granting and start of the projects
2023	Kick-off meeting
2025	Mid-term projects event
2026	Final projects event

*While the funding agencies within JPI Urban Europe and NSFC strive to meet the above time schedule, the Call Secretariat reserves the right to deviate from the indicated time schedule.*

### 4.5 Evaluation criteria

Pre-proposals and full proposals will be assessed according to specific evaluation criteria by using a common evaluation form. A scoring system from 0 to 5 will be used to evaluate the proposal's performance with respect to the different evaluation criteria.

*\*) Criteria used for evaluating both the pre-proposals and the full proposals. Criteria without asterisk are used only for the evaluation of the full proposals.*

<b>Scientific Quality</b>	5 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Clarity and pertinence of the objectives *</li> <li>▪ Appropriateness of the conceptual approach *</li> <li>▪ Innovativeness compared to existing solutions or state of the art *</li> <li>▪ Value for money *</li> <li>▪ Feasibility of aims and objectives</li> <li>▪ Feasibility and suitability of design and methods</li> <li>▪ Handling of development risks, and regulatory and ethics issues properly addressed</li> <li>▪ Feasibility of time scale</li> <li>▪ Adequateness of structure and work package plan</li> </ul>	
<b>Impact and User Engagement (societal and broader impacts of project results)</b>	5 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fit to societal challenges identified in the call text *</li> <li>▪ Potential for impact, and quality of identification of societal challenge, underlying knowledge-related causes, and realistic identification of assumptions *</li> <li>▪ Engagement of stakeholders and response to stakeholder demand</li> <li>▪ Quality of the impact plan, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Logical and cohesive theory of change</li> <li>○ Logical Impact pathway linked to the theory of change</li> <li>○ Feasible and appropriate strategic activity planning</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Quality of Consortium and Sino-European Collaboration</b>	5 points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Suitability of expertise, balance of substantial contributions from members of the project consortium *</li> <li>▪ Composition of consortium compared to the topic's needs, transnational relevance and complementarity *</li> </ul>	



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- Added value of Sino-European cooperation \*
- Integration of gender and diversity perspectives in the project plan and goals when applicable
- Quality of the transdisciplinary, cross-sectorial collaboration and co-creation
- Appropriateness of governance / management arrangements for project
- Other key expertise

Evaluation scores will be awarded for each of the three main criteria and not for the individual sub-criteria.

For pre-proposals and full proposals, each main criterion will be scored by the Expert Panel, using the following scale:

- **0: Failure.** The proposal fails to address the criterion in question or cannot be judged because of missing or incomplete information.
- **1: Poor.** The proposal shows serious weaknesses in relation to the criterion in question.
- **2: Fair.** The proposal generally addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses that need corrections.
- **3: Good.** The proposal addresses the criterion in question well, but certain improvements are necessary.
- **4: Very good.** The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but small improvements are possible.
- **5: Excellent.** The proposal successfully addresses all aspects of the criterion in question.

The Expert Panel will use half marks in their evaluation. All proposals are ranked by the Expert Panel. The Call Steering Committee will recommend the highest ranked proposals for funding to their funding agencies based on the available funding and provided that the proposals are above the threshold for the evaluation criteria. The threshold for individual criteria is 3. The overall threshold, applying to the sum of the three individual scores, is 10. The funding agencies make the final decision about which proposals will be funded.

### 4.6 Conflicts of interest

All necessary steps will be taken by the Call Secretariat to ensure no conflict of interest by Expert Panel members, the Call Secretariat or other staff involved in the call. The Expert Panel members will be provided with a Code of Conduct regarding conflicts of interest, required to formally declare that no conflict of interest exists at any time of their evaluation duty, and will sign a confidentiality agreement concerning all documents and the entire process. In case of breaching the rule of no conflict of interest, means of reconciliation will be sought with the support of the Call Secretariat. In cases of conflict of interest, the Expert Panel member will be discharged from participation in the evaluation process for the specific proposal, which is the subject of the conflict of interest. In cases of a major conflict of interest that cannot be dealt with, or a disproportionately large number of conflicts of interest, the Expert Panel member will be asked to withdraw from the Expert Panel. Projects that were assigned to the respective Expert Panel member will be assigned to another Expert Panel member.

The Call Secretariat will perform a first review of potential conflicts of interest before providing an overview of the proposals to the Expert Panel members. Expert Panel members should indicate after receiving the overview of the proposals whether there is a conflict of interest with any of the researchers or research groups in the proposals for review. Expert Panel members will sign a formal declaration that they will not participate in the call nor have any conflicting interests regarding the researchers or research groups participating in the projects that they review. Expert Panel members will only receive the proposals after this



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declaration has been received and the Expert Panel member has indicated whether any conflicts of interest were found in the overview of proposals.

The staff involved in this call of the participating funding agencies will also be asked to check for and report any conflicts of interest they may have, and to take measures in order to mitigate these conflicts.



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### 5. Project implementation

On the European side, this call is part of JPI Urban Europe that includes various joint programme activities (e.g., knowledge sharing and networking) described in this section. Projects funded via this call will become part of the programme of JPI Urban Europe. Participants of projects funded in this call are expected to actively participate in the programme activities and to consider this in the planning of their project proposal by including a budget to participate in the programme activities.

#### 5.1 Data management

JPI Urban Europe and NSFC wish to promote open, transparent and robust urban and global change research by encouraging more open sharing of research data, leading to wider data analysis, more data reuse and the combination of datasets from multiple sources. JPI Urban Europe and NSFC believe that an increased emphasis on the open sharing of research data has the potential to stimulate new approaches to the collection, analysis, validation and management of data, and to the transparency of the research process. However, JPI Urban Europe and NSFC also recognise that not all research data can be shared openly, and that there will be legitimate reasons to constrain access, for example the risks to the privacy of individuals must always be considered where data arise from, or are derived from, personally identifiable data.

When publishing the results of the subsidised research, the support by JPI Urban Europe and NSFC should be mentioned.

#### 5.2 Project monitoring and reporting

Project monitoring and reporting will be in accordance with the respective national funding agency's rules applicable to this call. In addition to the funding agency's requirements, the consortia are expected to deliver progress reports to the Call Secretariat (JPI Urban Europe), in English, on an annual basis, including a description of their transnational cooperation and a publishable summary of the project status. A reporting template will be provided on the JPI Urban Europe programme website. A detailed survey must be completed by the European and Chinese Main Applicants together with the annual joint reports. This survey includes key performance indicators for project progress and their contribution to the overall aim of the call. Furthermore, a project observer from one of the participating European funding agencies and a project observer from NSFC will be assigned to each of the funded projects to monitor the progress in transnational cooperation on behalf of the participating funding agencies and to provide a communication link between the project, the Call Secretariat, JPI Urban Europe and NSFC.

#### 5.3 Programme activities

The coordination of the programme is seen as very important for creating added value to the researchers involved in the programme. Three project events are foreseen. A project kick-off will be organised in 2023, a mid-term event in 2025 and a final event in 2026. Active participation of the funded projects is obligatory, e.g., by preparing short project presentations and/or posters. All consortia of funded projects are expected to prepare popular science summaries of the project contents for programme activities, and JPI Urban Europe and NSFC publications (e.g., for brochures, (digital) newsletters and the website).

Please note: Time and budget should be reserved by the consortium for monitoring and programme activities.



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### 5.4 Data protection

The provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) shall be complied by the Call Secretariat and the funding agencies participating in the organisation of this call with respect to the processing of personal data.

Depending on the country and the participating funding agency, different national laws might apply, and different electronic systems will be used regarding the processing of personal data.

Please note: By submitting your proposal, the proposal will be forwarded to your responsible funding agency as well as to all other participating funding agencies involved in this call and the Expert Panel.

## 6. Contact details and other information

### General information on the joint call

Updated information on this joint call and all relevant documents / templates are published on [www.jpiurbaneurope.eu](http://www.jpiurbaneurope.eu) and <https://bic.nsfc.gov.cn/Show.aspx?CI=22>.

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

**Berry Bonenkamp**

**Maaïke Spiekerman**

NWO – Dutch Research Council

E-mail: [jpiue-nsfc@nwo.nl](mailto:jpiue-nsfc@nwo.nl)

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**Elena Simion**

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NSFC – National Natural Science Foundation of China

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### Contact points of participating funding agencies

Specific information about funding agencies' rules and additional forms, as will the details of national contact persons at the participating funding agencies are listed in Annex A.



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### Annex A: Specific Funding Agencies' Budgets and Rules of Eligibility

Table 2: Participating funding agencies: budget and organisations eligible for funding

Country	Funding agency	Funding (M€)	Maximum funding per project?	Anticipated number of projects	Organisations eligible for funding			
					Universities and research organisation	Urban public authority	Business organisations and companies	NGOs and similar
Belgium	F.R.S.-FNRS	€ 200,000	€ 200,000	1	YES	NO	NO	NO
China	NSFC	¥ 20,000,000	¥ 2,000,000	10	Universities and research organisations registered at NSFC	NO	NO, except if registered as host institution at NSFC	NO
Denmark	IFD	€ 1,000,000	Maximum € 300,000 (including overhead) per partner; maximum € 500,000 (including overhead) per project	3	YES	YES	YES	YES





## Europe-China Joint Call for Proposals

France	ANR	€ 500,000	€ 300,000	2	YES	YES	YES	YES
The Netherlands	NWO	€ 1,400,000	€ 350,000	4	YES	NO, unless through the NWO budget module material – work by third parties	NO, unless through the NWO budget module material – work by third parties	NO, unless through the NWO budget module material – work by third parties
Poland	NCN	€ 500,000	N/A	2 - 3	YES	YES (subject to conditions)	YES (subject to conditions)	YES (subject to conditions)
Romania	UEFISCDI	€ 500,000	€ 250,000 if Romanian Main Applicant / PI; € 200,000 otherwise	2 - 3	YES	YES (subject to conditions)	YES	YES (subject to conditions)
Slovenia	ARRS	€ 300,000	--	--	YES	NO	NO	NO
Sweden	SWEA	€ 900,000		3 - 4	YES	YES	YES	YES



## Europe-China Joint Call for Proposals

Table 2: Participating funding agencies: agency funding guidelines and contacts

Country	Belgium – Wallonia-Brussels Federation
Funding organisation	FNRS (F.R.S.-FNRS) – Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique – Wallonia-Brussels Federation (French speaking Belgium)
National contacts	Joël Groeneveld Telephone: +32 25049270 Florence Quist Telephone: +32 25049351 E-mail: <a href="mailto:international@frs-fnrs.be">international@frs-fnrs.be</a>
Funding commitment	€ 200,000
Anticipated number of projects with Belgian partners	1 project
Maximum funding per awarded project	€ 200,000
Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution	All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the <a href="#">PINT-MULTI regulations</a> . This call is NOT co-funded (see article III.6).
Eligibility of costs	
Submission of the proposals at the national level	<b>Applicants to F.R.S.-FNRS funding must provide basic administrative data by submitting an administrative application <a href="#">e-space</a> within 5 working days after the general deadline of the general call to be eligible.</b> Please select the “PINT-MULTI” funding instrument when creating the administrative application. Proposals invited to the second stage will be able to complete the pre-proposal form and provide information for the full proposal upon validation by the F.R.S.-FNRS.
Submission of financial and progress reports at the national level	See <a href="#">PINT-MULTI regulations</a> .
Information available at	<a href="https://www.frs-fnrs.be/fr/calendrier-des-appels">https://www.frs-fnrs.be/fr/calendrier-des-appels</a>
Other	It is strongly advised to contact F.R.S.-FNRS before submission, in order to verify the eligibility of the researchers and avoid ineligible projects / research consortia.



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Country	China
<b>Funding organisation</b>	NSFC – National Natural Science Foundation of China
<b>National contacts</b>	SHEN Jie E-mail: <a href="mailto:shenjie@nsfc.gov.cn">shenjie@nsfc.gov.cn</a> Telephone: +86 10 62327017
<b>Funding commitment</b>	RMB 20 million
<b>Anticipated number of projects with Chinese partners</b>	Up to 10 projects.
<b>Maximum funding per awarded project</b>	RMB 2 million for each project (direct costs including equipment expenses, experimental and operating expenses, and labour costs).
<b>Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution</b>	Information can be obtained from the NSFC website or national contact person.
<b>Eligibility of costs</b>	Information can be obtained from the NSFC website or national contact person.
<b>Submission of the proposals at the national level</b>	The Chinese Main Applicant is required to submit the full proposal via <a href="https://isisn.nsfc.gov.cn/egrantweb/">https://isisn.nsfc.gov.cn/egrantweb/</a> . Please pay special attention to the eligibility requirements specified in the Chinese call for proposals, such as selecting the correct reference code GG0102, G0109, G0116 and G0117 for Theme 1, and G0102 and G0116 for Theme 2. Further information can be obtained from the NSFC website or national contact person.
<b>Submission of financial and progress reports at the national level</b>	A progress report annually.
<b>Information available at</b>	<a href="https://www.nsfc.gov.cn/publish/portal0/tab442/">https://www.nsfc.gov.cn/publish/portal0/tab442/</a> <a href="https://bic.nsfc.gov.cn/Show.aspx?CI=22">https://bic.nsfc.gov.cn/Show.aspx?CI=22</a> <a href="http://isisn.nsfc.gov.cn/egrantweb/">http://isisn.nsfc.gov.cn/egrantweb/</a>
<b>Other</b>	It is strongly advised to contact NSFC before submission, in order to verify the eligibility of the researchers and avoid ineligible projects / research consortia.



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Country	Denmark
Funding organisation	IFD – Innovation Fund Denmark
National contacts	Martin Kyvsgaard E-mail: <a href="mailto:Martin.kyvsgaard@innofond.dk">Martin.kyvsgaard@innofond.dk</a> Telephone: +45 61905081
Funding commitment	€ 1,000,000
Anticipated number of projects with Danish partners	3 projects
Maximum funding per awarded project	Maximum € 300,000 (including overhead) per partner; maximum € 500,000 (including overhead) per project.
Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution	<b>At least one Danish non-academia institution as Co-applicant in the transnational consortium.</b> IFD can fund both Universities, GTS institutes, Hospitals, Public Organisations and Industry.
Eligibility of costs	Eligible cost-categories for Danish partners: Salary, Travel, Subcontracting, Materials, Communication and knowledge sharing, 'Other expenses' and overhead.
Submission of the proposals at the national level	IFD will automatically register the Danish partners in the proposals and create a national application file in our system E-grant. Danish partners will be notified and have to quality check the information and upload the full proposal as a PDF file.
Submission of financial and progress reports at the national level	Danish grant holders will have to submit financial and progress reporting every six months.
Information available at	<a href="https://innovationsfonden.dk/da/programmer/internationalt-samarbejde/pre-announcement-eu-jpi-urban-europe-urban-accessibility-and">https://innovationsfonden.dk/da/programmer/internationalt-samarbejde/pre-announcement-eu-jpi-urban-europe-urban-accessibility-and</a>
Other	It is strongly advised to contact IFD before submission, in order to verify the eligibility of the researchers and avoid ineligible projects / research consortia.



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<b>Country</b>	<b>France</b>
<b>Funding organisation</b>	ANR – Agence Nationale de la Recherche
<b>National contacts</b>	Pascal Bain E-mail: <a href="mailto:Pascal.BAIN@agencerecherche.fr">Pascal.BAIN@agencerecherche.fr</a>
<b>Funding commitment</b>	€ 500,000
<b>Anticipated number of projects with French partners</b>	ANR expects that no French partner will ask for a funding above € 300,000 and that the mean funding demand per partner will be around € 200,000 – € 250,000.
<b>Maximum funding per awarded project</b>	€ 300,000
<b>Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution</b>	Please consult the ANR funding regulations for detailed information: <a href="https://anr.fr/fr/rf/">https://anr.fr/fr/rf/</a> Within this framework, public research organisations such as universities, EPST, EPIC, as well as private entities (such as companies, NGOs, foundations) and municipalities may be eligible.
<b>Eligibility of costs</b>	<p>ANR funds basic and industrial research projects. Experimental development and innovation activities, if not excluded, should be minor activities compared to basic and industrial research activities.</p> <p>The funding rate is determined according to the classification of the entity in the European regulation. To check the funding rate, any private entity, EPIC or municipality must contact ANR.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For entities eligible to a funding “à coût marginal”, ANR grants cover only additional costs of the research projects. The eligible entities are included.</li> <li>• For entities eligible to a funding “à coût complet”, ANR grants cover the whole costs of the research projects according to different rates depending on the European category. The determining criterion is the exercise of an economic activity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ For associations that are Research Organisation (sense of the European regulation), ANR grants cover 50% of the full costs of the research projects;</li> <li>○ For entities are Company (sense of the European regulation): SME, ANR grants covers 45% of the full costs, 35% for experimental development;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ For large companies, ANR grants cover 30% of the full costs for basic and industrial research projects, 25% for experimental development.</li> <li>• For EPIC research organisations (CEA, BRGM, CSTB ...), ANR covers 50% of the full costs of the research if a company (trading company) is in the consortium, self-funded or funded by ANR.</li> </ul> <p>For detailed information on eligible costs, read: <a href="https://anr.fr/fr/rf/fiche-couts/">https://anr.fr/fr/rf/fiche-couts/</a></p> <p>Please note that starting 1 January 2022, the overhead rate (“frais d’environnement”) of entities eligible for funding “à coût marginal” has been raised from 12% to 13%.</p>
<b>Submission of the proposals at the national level</b>	At the second stage, an application on the ANR submission system by the referent French partner of each consortium in the eligible full proposals will be required for collecting information about the French partners for possible funding contracts and not for evaluation purposes.
<b>Submission of financial and progress reports at the national level</b>	A copy of the periodic joint scientific report should be sent to ANR.
<b>Information available at</b>	<a href="https://anr.fr/en/open-calls/">https://anr.fr/en/open-calls/</a>
<b>Other</b>	It is strongly advised to contact ANR before submission, in order to verify the eligibility of the researchers and avoid ineligible projects / research consortia.

Country	The Netherlands
<b>Funding organisation</b>	NWO – Dutch Research Council
<b>National contact person</b>	Berry Bonenkamp Maaïke Spiekerman E-mail: <a href="mailto:jpiue-nsfc@nwo.nl">jpiue-nsfc@nwo.nl</a> Telephone: +31 70 349 44 16 / +31 70 349 40 94
<b>Funding commitment</b>	€ 1,400,000
<b>Anticipated number of projects with Dutch partners</b>	4 projects



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<b>Maximum funding per awarded project</b>	€ 350,000
<b>Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution</b>	<p>For scientists based in the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the NWO eligibility criteria apply. Full, associate and assistant professors and other researchers (such as the position of lector at a university of applied sciences) with a comparable appointment* can submit an application if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- they have a tenured position (and therefore a paid position for an indefinite period) or a tenure track agreement at one of the following organisations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• universities established in the Kingdom of the Netherlands;</li> <li>• university medical centres;</li> <li>• NWO and KNAW institutes;</li> <li>• university of applied sciences as referred to in Article 1.8 of the Higher Education and Scientific Research Act (WHW).</li> <li>• the Netherlands Cancer Institute;</li> <li>• the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics in Nijmegen;</li> <li>• NCB Naturalis;</li> <li>• Advanced Research Centre for NanoLithography (ARCNL);</li> <li>• Princess Máxima Center.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Persons with a zero-hour employment agreement or with a contract for a limited period of time (other than a tenure track appointment) may not submit a proposal.</p> <p>It could be the case that the applicant's tenure track agreement ends before the intended completion date of the project for which funding is applied for, or that before that date, the applicant's tenured contract ends due to the applicant reaching retirement age. In that case, the applicant needs to include a statement from their employer in which the organisation concerned guarantees that the project and all project members for whom funding has been requested will receive adequate supervision for the full duration of the project.</p> <p>In case an organisation does not fall under one of the categories mentioned above, the researcher may only be a co-applicant (not Main Applicant). The researcher must</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- have an employment contract for at least the duration of the application procedure and the duration of the research grant applied for,</li> <li>- and have a PhD or equivalent,</li> <li>- and be from an organisation that meets the following cumulative criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. is based in The Netherlands;</li> <li>ii. is a public institute and carries out its research independently;</li> <li>iii. receives at least 50% public funding;</li> <li>iv. is not-for-profit other than for the purpose of carrying out further research;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



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	<p>v. its researchers enjoy freedom of publication in international scientific journals.</p> <p>Please note: These conditions will be assessed by NWO <b>prior to</b> submission of the application. To this end, the co-applicant's organisation must submit the following documents by e-mail to <a href="mailto:jpiue-nsfc@nwo.nl">jpiue-nsfc@nwo.nl</a> no later than <b>29 March 2022, 14:00:00 CEST</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– a recent extract from the Chamber of Commerce register;</li> <li>– the deed of incorporation, articles of association or other formal document indicating the public task and the non-profit status;</li> <li>– the latest available annual accounts accompanied by an auditor's statement.</li> </ul> <p>If NWO has not assessed the organisation in advance, it cannot take the pre-proposal into consideration.</p> <p><b>Please note:</b> If new applicants are added to the consortium in the full proposal, a further assessment based on these conditions will have to take place. Here too, the above documents should be submitted by email no later than ten working days before the submission deadline, so by <b>14:00:00 hours CEST on 30 August 2022</b>.</p> <p>*A comparable position refers to a researcher that has a demonstrable and comparable number of years of experience in carrying out scientific research and supervising other researchers as a full, associate or assistant professor. A lector or senior researcher employed by a university of applied sciences or a research organisation that does not fall into one of the above-mentioned categories must be able to demonstrate three or more years of research experience in order to qualify.</p>								
Eligibility of costs	<p>The budget modules (including the maximum amounts) that are available for applicants applying at NWO are stated in the table below. You should only request that which is essential for realising the research.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Budget module</th><th>Maximum amount</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>PhD</td><td>1 position, according to UNL or NFU rates</td></tr> <tr> <td>Postdoc</td><td>1 position, according to UNL or NFU rates</td></tr> <tr> <td>Non-scientific staff at (NSS) universities</td><td>€ 100,000, according to UNL or NFU rates in combination with PhDs and/or postdoc(s)</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Budget module	Maximum amount	PhD	1 position, according to UNL or NFU rates	Postdoc	1 position, according to UNL or NFU rates	Non-scientific staff at (NSS) universities	€ 100,000, according to UNL or NFU rates in combination with PhDs and/or postdoc(s)
Budget module	Maximum amount								
PhD	1 position, according to UNL or NFU rates								
Postdoc	1 position, according to UNL or NFU rates								
Non-scientific staff at (NSS) universities	€ 100,000, according to UNL or NFU rates in combination with PhDs and/or postdoc(s)								



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	Other Scientific personnel (OSS) at universities	€ 100,000, in combination with PhD student and/or postdoc
	Research leave	5 months, 1 fte, according to UNL or NFU rates <small>Fout! Bladwijzer niet gedefinieerd.</small>
	Personnel universities of applied sciences, educational institutions and other organisations	Rates based on Handleiding Overheidstarieven 2021 (HOT) (Manual for Dutch Government Fees 2021)
	Material costs	€ 15,000 per year per scientific position
	Knowledge utilisation	Max. 20% of grant requested from NWO
	Internationalisation	Max. 20% of grant requested from NWO
	Money follows Cooperation	Less than 50% of the total budget applied for.
	Project management	Max. 5% of requested grant from NWO

When applying for a PhD, a PhD should get a four year appointment. Only the first three years can be funded through this call. Official confirmation of payment for the fourth year needs to be provided by the university. A letter confirming this must be sent to [jpiue-nsfc@nwo.nl](mailto:jpiue-nsfc@nwo.nl) prior to the full proposal deadline.

For the budget modules “PhD” and “Postdoc”, a one-off individual bench fee of € 5,000 is added on top of the salary costs. This bench fee is intended to encourage the scientific career of the project employee funded by NWO. For personnel outside the Netherlands, the local rates are reimbursed up to a maximum of the UNL rates: [www.nwo.nl/salary-tables](http://www.nwo.nl/salary-tables)

Please note: The financial information that you are asked to submit in UDiManager follows a different structure than the mentioned budget modules. For this reason, at the full proposal phase, you will be asked to submit a budget form (available on the financing page on the NWO website) in which the costs requested from NWO are specified according to the NWO modules.



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	<p>More information on the call, and an explanation of the budget modules can be found at the following web address:  <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/research/as/merian-fund/china-merian-fund/cooperation-china-nsfc-merian-fund">https://www.nwo.nl/en/research/as/merian-fund/china-merian-fund/cooperation-china-nsfc-merian-fund</a></p> <p>Do not hesitate to contact the national contact person in case of questions.</p>
<b>Submission of the proposal at the national level</b>	<p>This is not necessary. NWO will receive your proposal via the Call Secretariat at UEFISCDI. Awarded proposals will have to be uploaded in ISAAC for administrative purposes following the conclusion of the evaluation procedure.</p>
<b>Submission of financial and progress reports at the national level</b>	<p>Yes, submission of financial and scientific reports at national level is required in accordance with the rules of NWO.</p>
<b>Information available at</b>	<p>For full details of the general NWO funding process, please refer to  <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/funding/funding+process+explained">https://www.nwo.nl/en/funding/funding+process+explained</a></p>
<b>Other</b>	<p>The <a href="#">NWO Grant Rules 2017</a> and the <a href="#">Agreement on the Payment of Costs for Scientific Research</a> are applicable to the part of the project's budget covered by the grant from NWO.</p> <p>Under the Dutch General Administrative Law Act, any interested party has the right to lodge an objection to the decision taken by NWO within six weeks of the date of the decision letter. Further information about the objections procedure can be found on the NWO website:  <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/funding/funding+process+explained/lodging+an+objection">https://www.nwo.nl/en/funding/funding+process+explained/lodging+an+objection</a></p> <p>It is strongly advised to contact NWO before submission, in order to verify the eligibility of the researchers and avoid ineligible projects / research consortia.</p>

<b>Country</b>	<b>Poland</b>
<b>Funding organisation</b>	NCN – National Science Centre
<b>National contacts</b>	<p>Katarzyna Jarecka-Stępień  E-mail: <a href="mailto:katarzyna.jarecka-stepien@ncn.gov.pl">katarzyna.jarecka-stepien@ncn.gov.pl</a>  Alicja Dyląg  E-mail: <a href="mailto:alicja.dyag@ncn.gov.pl">alicja.dyag@ncn.gov.pl</a></p>
<b>Funding commitment</b>	€ 500,000



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<b>Anticipated number of projects with Polish partners</b>	2 - 3 projects
<b>Maximum funding per awarded project</b>	N/A
<b>Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution</b>	<p>Proposals may be submitted by entities specified in Article 27 (1) of the Act on the National Science Centre (NCN).</p> <p>Please note that if one international project includes partners from at least two different Polish institutions, these institutions must apply as a group of entities. Each institution comprising this group has a separate budget, but the limit on the remuneration applies to the group.</p> <p>For details on eligibility of applicants, as well as terms of entry, please check the Annex to the NCN Council's Resolution on funding granted within calls for proposals for international research projects – UNISONO.</p>
<b>Eligibility of costs</b>	<p>Applicants may apply for funding of costs relevant, necessary and directly connected to the proposed research project, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Salaries and scholarships (including postdoc positions and scholarships / salaries for students and PhD students). Please note: If the principal investigator is also the coordinator of an international consortium submitting a joint proposal the budget of salaries and scholarships may be increased;</li> <li>• Research equipment, devices and software: Applicants may seek funding for research equipment up to PLN 500,000 per unit;</li> <li>• Other direct costs: materials and consumables, outsourcing and subcontracting, business trips, visits and consultations, collective investigators, other costs;</li> <li>• Overheads: indirect costs of open access of up to 2% of direct costs that may be spent on open access to publications and research data; other indirect costs of up to 20% of direct costs that may be spent on costs that are related indirectly to the research project, including the cost of open access to publications and research data.</li> </ul>
<b>Submission of the proposals at the national level</b>	<p>Up to 7 days of the end of full proposals' submission the Polish applicants are obliged to prepare a national proposal and submit it to NCN electronically via the ZSUN / OSF system available at: <a href="http://www.osf.opi.org.pl">www.osf.opi.org.pl</a></p>



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<b>Submission of financial and progress reports at the national level</b>	Yes, submission of financial and progress reports at national level is required in accordance with the rules of NCN.
<b>Information available at</b>	NCN website: <a href="https://www.ncn.gov.pl/wspolpraca-zagraniczna/konkursy-wielostronne">https://www.ncn.gov.pl/wspolpraca-zagraniczna/konkursy-wielostronne</a>
<b>Other</b>	It is strongly advised to contact NCN before submission, in order to verify the eligibility of the researchers and avoid ineligible projects / research consortia.

<b>Country</b>	<b>Romania</b>
<b>Funding organisation</b>	UEFISCDI – Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding
<b>National contacts</b>	Elena Simion E-mail: <a href="mailto:elena.simion@uefiscdi.ro">elena.simion@uefiscdi.ro</a> Telephone: +40 21 307 19 93
<b>Funding commitment</b>	€ 500,000
<b>Anticipated number of projects with Romanian partners</b>	2 – 3 projects
<b>Maximum funding per awarded project</b>	€ 250,000 if Romanian Main Applicant / PI; € 200,000 otherwise.
<b>Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution</b>	Legal entities established in Romania are eligible to get funding – public and private accredited universities, national R&D institutes, other research organisations, SMEs, large industrial enterprises.
<b>Eligibility of costs</b>	Personnel costs, consumables, equipment, subcontracting, travel, overhead.
<b>Submission of the proposals at the national level</b>	Not required.
<b>Submission of financial and progress reports at the national level</b>	Yearly basis.



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<b>Information available at</b>	<a href="https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/pachet-de-informatii-suprogramul-3-2-orizont-2020">https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/pachet-de-informatii-suprogramul-3-2-orizont-2020</a>
<b>Other</b>	It is strongly advised to contact UEFISCDI before submission, in order to verify the eligibility of the researchers and avoid ineligible projects / research consortia.

<b>Country</b>	<b>Slovenia</b>
<b>Funding organisation</b>	ARRS – Slovenian Research Agency
<b>National contacts</b>	Urša Novak E-mail: <a href="mailto:ursa.novak@arrs.si">ursa.novak@arrs.si</a> Telephone: +386 1 400 59 40 Website: <a href="http://www.arrs.si">http://www.arrs.si</a>
<b>Funding commitment</b>	€ 300,000
<b>Anticipated number of projects with Slovenian partners</b>	--
<b>Maximum funding per awarded project</b>	--
<b>Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution</b>	<p>The applicants shall be researchers holding a PhD degree who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- meet the requirements for a project leader of a basic or applied research project;</li> <li>- are registered at the Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS); and</li> <li>- are employed at a Slovenian higher education or research organisation or will be employed when signing the grant contract at the latest.</li> </ul> <p>Higher education or research organisations where the applicant is or will be employed need to be registered at the ARRS research organisations records and shall not be business sector entities. Business sector entities may apply, however, they need to ensure their own funding for participation. Eligible entities may participate in the consortium as Main Applicant or Co-Applicants.</p>
<b>Eligibility of costs</b>	<p>Eligible costs for Slovenian partners are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Personnel costs , PhD student (those funded as young researchers by the ARRS are excluded), postdoc;</li> </ul>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Social security, health, pension and other contributions according to the national legislation;</li> <li>- Material costs (Travel and meeting costs, Consumables, Dissemination and knowledge exchange costs, Other costs);</li> <li>- Depreciation costs.</li> </ul> <p>Slovenian teams will be financed as the price category A, B, C or D projects. Total sum of research hours is calculated by dividing total grant sum by the value of research full time equivalent for the chosen price category of the project (A, B, C or D) in accordance with the national regulation concerning the funding of research activities from the budget of the Republic of Slovenia.</p> <p>Overhead is calculated up to 20% of all eligible costs calculated at the level of the chosen project category (without subcontracting costs) being a consistent part of the total grant sum. The calculation of overhead thus lowers individual category of eligible costs in a proportional manner. Overhead costs are used for covering the running costs of the research organisation related to the implementation of the project.</p>
<b>Submission of the proposals at the national level</b>	All Slovenian applicants are strongly recommended to contact ARRS at the Pre-Proposal and Full Proposal stage as the applicant eligibility and proposed budget should be examined by ARRS prior to official submission. Additionally, names and research organisations of all Slovenian participants should be forwarded to ARRS with planned budgets for each year of the project (maximum 3 years).
<b>Submission of financial and progress reports at the national level</b>	Yes, the projects are expected to submit annual financial reports as well as mid-term and final progress reports according to national rules.
<b>Information available at</b>	<a href="http://www.arrs.si/sl/medn/urbana/">http://www.arrs.si/sl/medn/urbana/</a> <a href="http://www.arrs.si/sl/akti/">http://www.arrs.si/sl/akti/</a>
<b>Other</b>	It is strongly advised to contact ARRS before submission, in order to verify the eligibility of the researchers and avoid ineligible projects / research consortia.

<b>Country</b>	<b>Sweden</b>
<b>Funding organisation</b>	SWEA – Swedish Energy Agency will be the national contact point for this call (administrating the call). Swedish funding will be given from SWEA



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## Europe-China Joint Call for Proposals

	and Swedish Innovation Agency (Vinnova) in close collaboration with the two Strategic Innovation Programmes Viable Cities and Drive Sweden.
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<b>Funding commitment</b>	€ 900,000
<b>Anticipated number of projects with Swedish partners</b>	Approximately 3-4 projects
<b>Maximum funding per awarded project</b>	--
<b>Eligibility of a partner as a beneficiary institution</b>	All actors operating in Sweden are eligible for funding. (For example, public research organisations / institutions, cities / municipalities and civil sector can receive grants as well as large, medium-sized and small enterprises.)



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Eligibility of costs	<p>The Swedish agencies coordinate this call together with the Swedish Strategic Innovation Programmes Viable Cities and Drive Sweden, see the Swedish national call text. The Swedish agencies welcome projects related to all the topics described in the call text.</p> <p>For information regarding eligible costs and SWEA’s legislation see <b>the Swedish national call text for ENUAC Sino-European call</b> via the following link: <a href="http://www.energimyndigheten.se/utlysningar/">http://www.energimyndigheten.se/utlysningar/</a></p> <p>The proportion of a company’s level of support is determined partly based on which research category the various activities in the project are deemed to correspond to and partly based on the size of the company in receipt of the support.</p> <p>Table 1. Overview of <b>maximum level of support</b> – the actual rate of funding will be decided case by case.</p> <table><tr><th>Type of research and development</th><th>Non-economic actors*</th><th>Small company<sup>14F[1]</sup></th><th>Medium company</th><th>Big company</th></tr><tr><td>Fundamental research</td><td>100 %</td><td>100 %</td><td>100 %</td><td>100 %</td></tr><tr><td>Industrial research</td><td>100 %</td><td>70 %</td><td>60 %</td><td>50 %</td></tr><tr><td>Experimental development</td><td>100 %</td><td>45 %</td><td>35 %</td><td>25 %</td></tr></table> <p><b>*) For example universities, university colleges, research institutes and cities/municipalities (excluding their economic entities).</b></p> <p><u>National criteria</u></p> <p><i>Innovation projects:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Co-financing rate for <b>innovation projects</b> should be at least 50% of the total project costs. See Table 1.</li></ul> <p><i>Research projects:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Up to 100% of the eligible project costs for actors* can be financed for <b>Industrial research projects</b>. See Table 1.</li></ul>	Type of research and development	Non-economic actors*	Small company <sup>14F[1]</sup>	Medium company	Big company	Fundamental research	100 %	100 %	100 %	100 %	Industrial research	100 %	70 %	60 %	50 %	Experimental development	100 %	45 %	35 %	25 %
Type of research and development	Non-economic actors*	Small company <sup>14F[1]</sup>	Medium company	Big company																	
Fundamental research	100 %	100 %	100 %	100 %																	
Industrial research	100 %	70 %	60 %	50 %																	
Experimental development	100 %	45 %	35 %	25 %																	
Submission of the proposals at the national level	<p>Following the second stage of the international expert panel evaluation, the Swedish applicants in the projects recommended for funding will be invited to submit a national application to SWEA (via Mina sidor). Information about the submission will be provided in the invitation and by the contact person.</p>																				



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<b>Submission of financial and progress reports at the national level</b>	Following the national project decision: the funded projects will be required to submit one financial and one progress report annually to SWEA (via Mina sidor).
<b>Information available at</b>	For full information see the Swedish national call information for the ENUAC Sino-European call at the SWEA webpage: <a href="http://www.energimyndigheten.se/utlysningar/">http://www.energimyndigheten.se/utlysningar/</a> or <a href="http://www.swedishenergyagency.se">www.swedishenergyagency.se</a>
<b>Other</b>	<p>The Swedish funding agencies fund research and innovation projects that support the transition to a fossil-free, sustainable, inclusive and equal transport system. This entails for instance a comprehensive view on all modes of transport, user involvement and encourages different perspectives (e.g., social, political, economic, cultural and environmental) that aim to facilitate the transformation of transport to become sustainable.</p> <p>The Swedish funding agencies coordinate this call with the Swedish Strategic Innovation Programmes Viable Cities and Drive Sweden.</p> <p>Viable Cities has a focus on smart sustainable cities. Viable Cities' mission is to speed up the transition to climate neutral cities by 2030, while enabling a good life for everyone, within the planetary boundaries. The Viable Cities programme brings together about 100 members in business, academia, civil society and public organisations.</p> <p>Drive Sweden is driving the development towards automated, connected and shared mobility solutions for a more sustainable transport system. Through broad collaborations we create, develop, pilot and demonstrate new solutions – strengthening Swedish competitiveness. Drive Sweden brings together more than 170 partners from business, academia and public organisations.</p>



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### Annex B: Data Management

#### Why the JPI Urban Europe and NSFC require Data Management Plans

JPI Urban Europe and NSFC wish to promote open, transparent and robust urban and global change research by encouraging more open sharing of research data, leading to wider data analysis, more data reuse, and the combination of datasets from multiple sources. JPI Urban Europe and NSFC believe that an increased emphasis on the open sharing of research data has the potential to stimulate new approaches to the collection, analysis, validation and management of data, and to the transparency of the research process.

However, JPI Urban Europe and NSFC also recognise that not all research data can be shared openly, and that there will be legitimate reasons to constrain access, for example the risks to the privacy of individuals must always be considered where data arise from, or are derived from, personally identifiable data.

JPI Urban Europe and NSFC consider that the production and implementation of a project specific data management plan is an essential requirement to enable the sharing of research data. Research data includes:

- digital information created directly from research activities such as experiments, analysis, surveys, measurements, instrumentation and observations;
- data resulting from automated or manual data reduction and analysis including the inputs and outputs of simulations and models.

Project specific data management plans should be in accordance with relevant standards and community best practice, and which may vary by subject and disciplinary area. Research data should normally be open by default, unless there are legitimate reasons to constrain access, and the data must be made available with minimum time delay, including being discoverable through catalogues and search engines. Data with acknowledged long-term value should be preserved, protected from loss and remain accessible and usable for future research in sustainable and trustworthy repositories.

To enable research data to be discoverable and effectively re-used by others, including those outside the discipline of origin, sufficient metadata should be recorded and made openly available to enable other researchers to understand the research and re-use potential of the data. Published results should always include information on how to access the supporting data and other research materials. Researchers should ensure that metadata created to support research datasets retained for the long-term is sufficient to allow other researchers a reasonable understanding of those datasets and thereby minimise unintentional misuse, misinterpretation or confusion.

#### Data Management Plan Requirements

A Data Management Plan (DMP) describes the data management life cycle for the data to be collected, processed and/or generated by a research project funded within this call. As part of making research data findable, accessible, interoperable and re-usable (FAIR), a DMP should include information on:

- storage and backup of research data during and after the end of the project;
- the types of data, samples, physical collections, software, curriculum materials, and other materials to be collected, processed and/or generated during the project;
- the standards to be used for data and metadata format and content (where existing standards are



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absent or deemed inadequate, this should be documented along with proposed solutions or remedies);

- the documentation (for example the methodology of data collection and way of organising data) that will accompany data;
- compliance with legislation, ethical requirements and codes of conduct where appropriate (e.g. if collecting and processing personal data);
- policies for broad access and sharing including provisions for appropriate protection of privacy, confidentiality, security, intellectual property, or other rights or requirements;
- licenses and provisions for re-use, re-distribution, and the production of derivatives;
- plans for archiving data, samples, and other research products, and for preservation of access to them via an institutionally supported repository;
- resources (for example financial and time) that will be dedicated to data management and ensuring that data will be FAIR.



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