



## **Call for proposals**

### **Cooperation China (NSFC) Travel and subsistence costs, seminars**

2012

## Introduction and purpose

*Please note: The original Dutch-language text of this brochure is the authoritative version. Where the English-language text is open to a different interpretation, no additional rights may be derived from it.*

Under a cooperation agreement with the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) in Beijing, NWO offers researchers the following opportunities:

- *Exchange of Researchers & Collaborative Research*  
Fellowships for *short stays* from 1 to 3 months in China  
(grants for a maximum of 12-18 man-months are available each year)
- *Bilateral Joint Seminars*  
Contributions towards the costs of 3 to 7 day *joint seminars* in China or the Netherlands (maximum 10 participants per team and 3 seminars per year)

Grants for such short stays and seminars are provided jointly by NWO and the Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC).

The aim of this cooperation programme is to promote contact between Dutch and Chinese researchers in the natural sciences (i.e. all sciences except the social sciences and the humanities). The programme gives Chinese researchers the opportunity to spend time in the Netherlands and Dutch researchers the chance to visit China. The programme also helps to fund joint seminars held in China or the Netherlands.

## Who can apply

This NWO programme is open only to researchers with a permanent contract of employment at one of the thirteen Dutch universities, a KNAW institute or NWO research institute, NKI or MPI Nijmegen.

The fields of study referred to above are eligible.

## What can be applied for

### **Exchange of Researchers & Collaborative Research Projects – short stay fellowships**

These are fellowships for a stay of 1 to 3 months in China or the Netherlands.

In this form of cooperation fellowship, the home organisation is responsible for the costs of international travel and the host organisation for local travel and subsistence costs.

In the case of a fellowship for a *short stay* in China, NWO meets the costs of international travel (max. € 930) and NSFC covers local travel and subsistence costs.

In the case of a fellowship for a *short stay* in the Netherlands, NWO meets the local travel and subsistence costs (max. € 1750 for a senior researcher and € 2000 for a professor per month) and NSFC meets the international travel costs

Grants are available for a maximum of 12-18 man-months per year for each organisation.

### **Bilateral Joint Seminars**

Researchers may apply for a contribution towards the costs of a joint seminar, to be held either in the Netherlands or in China, lasting between 3 and 7 days and involving a maximum of 10 participants per team.

The home organisation meets the costs of international travel for a maximum of 10 participants; the host organisation covers local travel and subsistence costs for these participants.

When acting as home organisation, NWO meets the costs of international travel up to a maximum of € 930 per person. When acting as host organisation, NWO meets local travel and subsistence costs on the basis of € 175 per person per day.

The maximum total amount per seminar is € 15,000.

## **When can applications be submitted**

Proposals may be submitted at any time. There are no deadlines.

### **Exchange of Researchers & Collaborative Research Projects – short stay fellowships**

An application for a *short stay* in China must be submitted at least 6 months before the intended departure date.

### **Bilateral Joint Seminars**

An application for a *Joint Seminar* must be submitted simultaneously to NWO and NSFC at least 6 months before the intended date of the seminar.

## **Drawing up an application**

Your grant application has two parts: a fact sheet and the application form.

- You complete the fact sheet directly in NWO's electronic application system Iris.
- The application form is on the grant page for this programme on the NWO website. As soon as you have completed it you can add this form to the Iris fact sheet as a PDF file.

## **Specific conditions**

Applications will *not* be accepted for consideration by NWO if:

- the submission deadline has passed;
- the applicants fail to comply with any written request from NWO to supply information/documentation within a specified period;
- the entire costs have already been covered from another source;
- there is no room for them within the available budget.

Grants can only be awarded so long as the available budget has not been exhausted and the quota and limits set for travel fellowships and seminars have not been exceeded.

This form of grant does not imply any contract of employment with NWO.

### **Exchange of Researchers & Collaborative Research Projects – short stay fellowships**

NSFC sets the explicit condition that a visit to China must take place in the context of a research programme receiving a grant from NSFC. Researchers must have established contact with researchers from the host organisation in advance and be able to produce an invitation from the host organisation to participate in joint research.

### **Submitting an application**

An application can only be submitted to NWO via the electronic application system Iris. Applications not submitted on the appropriate form via Iris will not be admitted to the selection procedure. A main applicant is obliged to submit his/her application via his/her own Iris account.

If the main applicant does not have an Iris account yet then this should be created at least one day before the submission. Then any possible registration problems can still be solved on time. If the main applicant already has an Iris account then he/she does not need to create a new account to submit a new application.

#### *Bilateral Joint Seminars*

Proposals for seminars must be drawn up jointly, in English, by one Chinese and one Dutch researcher and must be submitted simultaneously to NWO and NSFC.

For technical questions, please contact the Iris helpdesk.

### **Procedure**

The NWO office will screen the applications to determine if they comply with the requirements of this call for proposals. Applications that do not comply with these requirements will not be considered.

### **Exchange of Researchers & Collaborative Research Projects – short stay fellowships**

As part of the assessment procedure for applications for short stays in China, NWO seeks the views of one or more referees (the number depending on the proposed duration and budget).

As a rule, for a visit of maximum six months, no external referee will be consulted. The Visitors Travel Grants committee will assess the application and accompanying documents and will advise; the Governing Board of NWO will decide whether the application will be nominated to NSFC.

When the application is nominated to NSFC and if NSFC also takes a positive view of the application, the grant is awarded jointly by NWO and NSFC.

NSFC can likewise select Chinese candidates for short stays in the Netherlands and present their applications to NWO.

#### **Bilateral Joint Seminars**

Applications received by NWO and NSFC for joint seminars are assessed separately by the two organisations. As part of its assessment procedure, NWO seeks one or more independent views (the number depending on the budget requested for the Dutch team).

The Visitors Travel Grants committee will assess the application and accompanying documents and will advise. The Governing Board of NWO will decide whether the application will be nominated to NSFC. Based on the outcome of their two assessments, NSFC and NWO then reach a joint decision on the application, with each organisation awarding a grant in relation to the costs for which it is responsible.

The NWO Code of Conduct on Conflicts of Interest applies to all persons and NWO staff involved in the assessment and/or decision-making process.

## Criteria

Proposals will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

### **Exchange of Researchers & Collaborative Research Projects – short stay fellowships**

- Scientific quality, originality and relevance;
- Quality of the research teams.

### **Bilateral Joint Seminars**

- Scientific relevance;
- Quality of the researchers involved;
- Effects of the seminar on e.g. cooperation between Dutch and Chinese researchers.

A further criterion is that the visit should promote scientific cooperation between the two countries.

## Contact details and other information

### Contact

For specific questions about Cooperation China (NSFC) and this call for proposals please contact:

NWO Secretariat for NWO-NSFC Cooperation (China)

- Winnifred Geldof, tel. +31 (0)70 344 05 27, e-mail [w.geldof@nwo.nl](mailto:w.geldof@nwo.nl)
- Sonja Krapels, tel. +31 (0)70 349 44 37, e-mail [s.krapels@nwo.nl](mailto:s.krapels@nwo.nl)

For technical questions about the use of Iris please contact the Iris helpdesk. Please read the Iris manual before consulting the helpdesk.

The Iris helpdesk is available from Monday to Friday from 11.00 to 17.00 hours on +31 900 696 4747. Unfortunately not all foreign phone companies allow you to phone to a 0900 number in the Netherlands. You can also send your question by e-mail to [iris@nwo.nl](mailto:iris@nwo.nl).

### Other information

There is no other information.

Published by:  
Netherlands Organisation  
for Scientific Research

Visitor's address:  
Laan van Nieuw Oost-Indië 300  
2593 CE The Hague

January 12