



NWO

Call for proposals

**China – Netherlands
Joint Scientific Thematic Research Programme**

JSTP – Dialogue Seminars

2011-2012



The Hague, December 2011
Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

The Netherlands and China are long-term partners in international research co-operation. The bilateral scientific co-operation between The Netherlands and China is facilitated via a number of funding instruments. The Joint Scientific Thematic Research Programme (JSTP) offers funding opportunities for bilateral research co-operation between Dutch and Chinese research groups. JSTP is one of several instruments in the bilateral co-operation between The Netherlands and China.

JSTP is jointly facilitated by seven stakeholders, three in The Netherlands and four in China. Through this co-operation, broad access to the scientific research community in both The Netherlands and China can be realised.

A Call for Proposals is published annually, calling both for research proposals in thematic areas, and for joint seminars in all fields of science. The Call for joint research proposals features a different thematic priority every year. The thematic priorities are selected by the JSTP Programme Committee, and will be sufficiently comprehensive to cover proposals that may focus on a variety of research questions pertaining to specific scientific disciplines, while fitting into the overall thematic area as defined in the annual Call (e.g., comprising research questions from the natural sciences as well as the social sciences and humanities).

Stakeholders

The stakeholders are, in The Netherlands:

- the Netherlands Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (OCW);
- the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW);
- the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO);

and in China:

- the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China (MoST);
- the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China (MoE);
- the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS);
- the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS).

This Call for Proposals sets out information about the possibilities for submitting applications for Dialogue Seminars, the conditions that applications must meet and the procedure for assessing the applications. It also includes a brief description of the programme. The Call for Proposals for the JSTP Joint Research Projects can be found in a separate document.

1.2 Available budget

For the 2011-2012 JSTP Call a budget up to a maximum of M€ 1,6 on the Dutch side is available. This budget covers funding for up to five Joint Research Projects and two Dialogue Seminars. This contribution will be matched by the Chinese counterparts.

1.3 Validity of the call for proposals

This Call for Proposals pertains solely to the fourth round in the grant process of JSTP 2011-2012 for Dialogue Seminars.

2 Aim

General

The China – Netherlands Joint Scientific Thematic Research Programme (JSTP) aims at stimulating sustainable research collaboration by funding Joint Research Projects and Dialogue Seminars. JSTP aims at a high level of visibility of the projects and their output.

Dialogue Seminars

The aim of the Dialogue Seminars is twofold: the seminars serve as fore-sighting exercises aimed at identification of research topics for future joint research that can be embedded in the research lines of the participating research teams. Secondly, the seminars are important networking opportunities for Chinese and Dutch researchers.

The Dialogue Seminars can target all scientific disciplines and are therefore not bound to the annual theme for the Call for Proposals for Joint Research Projects. Participation of multiple research groups in both The Netherlands and in China is envisaged.

3 Guidelines for applicants

3.1 Who can apply

Eligible research teams are composed of Dutch and Chinese researchers, with active involvement in the seminar of a senior Principal Investigator (PI) on both the Chinese and the Dutch side.

For Dutch scientists the NWO / KNAW eligibility criteria are applied, i.e., the Dutch Principal Investigator should be affiliated to:

- a Dutch university; or
- an institute affiliated to NWO; or
- an institute affiliated to KNAW; or
- the Netherlands Cancer Institute NKI; or
- Max Planck Institute Nijmegen;

AND

- have an employment contract for at least the duration of the application procedure and the duration the grant is applied for;

AND

- have at least a PhD or an equivalent qualification.

For Chinese scientists, the different Chinese counterparts will enable participation of the scientists resorting under their organisation. There are three contact points for JSTP in China: (1) MoST / MoE, (2) CAS, and (3) CASS. The Chinese Principal Investigator needs to meet the eligibility criteria of one of these contact points, including:

(1) MoST / MoE:

- the Chinese research group should be a key player in its research area;
- the Chinese PI should demonstrate that the research group in China is or has been involved in research collaboration with The Netherlands;
- the Chinese PI is affiliated to a non-CAS / CASS institution under MoST.

(2) CAS: The Chinese PI should be affiliated to a CAS research institute.

(3) CASS: The Chinese PI should be affiliated to a CASS research institute.

3.2 What can be applied for

Joint Dialogue Seminars, with approximately 10 to 15 participating scientists from each side. Participation of multiple research groups with relevant expertise from both The Netherlands and from China is required.

The maximum scope of an individual seminar will comprise up to € 30,000. JSTP funding can be used as a contribution to seminar costs, for international and local travel, and for subsistence costs. Additional contributions for on shore costs for seminars organised in China may be provided.

3.3 When can applications be submitted

The deadline for submitting JSTP applications for Dialogue Seminars is **10 April 2012, 11.00am CET**. Applications received after the deadline are not eligible for

further assessment. After the deadline, improvements of or additions to applications are not permitted.

3.4 Drawing up an application

An application consists of two parts: a completed Iris fact sheet and a core proposal in pdf format. In addition, information on the Chinese Principal Investigator in the Chinese language might need to be submitted to the Chinese funding agencies (please check with your Chinese contact point). The basic information listed in § 3.4.1 should be entered in the Iris fact sheet. The descriptions in § 3.4.2 form the core proposal. Information on how to structure the core proposal is provided in the description below. A Word template will be downloadable.

Please note that all applications are to be written in **English**, unless indicated otherwise.

3.4.1 Iris fact sheet

Please note that you will be asked to select an organisation if you want to register in Iris. Because the Chinese organisations are not in the Iris system, applicants from China should select the Organisation NWO-JSTP, Location 'S-GRAVENHAGE.

The basic information listed below should be entered in the Iris fact sheet:

- Title of the proposal
A short and specific title of the proposal.
- Concise summary
Give a short summary of the proposal, maximum of 300 words.
- Applicants
Enter the personal information for one of the two Principal Investigators. There is no need to give suggestions for reviewers.
- The Chinese contact point
Enter the contact point in China (1) MoST / MoE, (2) CAS, or (3) CASS. The contact point in China depends on the eligibility criteria for the Chinese Principal Investigator.

3.4.2 Core proposal

The descriptions stated below make up the core proposal. An application form will be available at the website (<www.nwo.nl/jstp>).

Composition of the research team

List the names of the researchers involved in the project, both in The Netherlands and in China.

Institutional environment

Please indicate the host institution in The Netherlands and in China.

List of key publications

Please list five key publications by the applicants related to the proposed research. The publications should give evidence of the qualifications of the applicants in this field.

Dialogue proposal

- Description of the Dialogue Seminar (maximum of 2,000 words)
 - Fore-sighting aim, key objectives, scientific background
 - Originality and/or innovative elements of the topic for dialogue

- Participating research groups
- Mutual benefit to The Netherlands and China (maximum of 500 words)

Budget

Provide a clear budget for the costs of the proposed activities. Please consider § 3.2 when preparing your budget.

Curriculum vitae of the Dutch Principal Investigator and Chinese Principal Investigator**3.4.3 Additional information on Chinese PI**

Additionally, the proposal requires information on the Chinese Principal Investigator, in the Chinese language. Please contact your Chinese contact point at (1) MoST / MoE, (2) CAS or (3) CASS for more information. The information on the Chinese Principal Investigator is to be submitted in pdf format, according to the format provided for a PI resorting under (1) MoST, (2) CAS or (3) CASS.

3.5 Specific conditions

For Dutch researchers, this 'Call for Proposals' is subject to NWO's general grant conditions.

For Chinese researchers that apply for MoST funds, this 'Call for Proposals' is subject to the general grant conditions for 'International Science and Technology Co-operation Program'.

For Chinese researchers that apply for CASS funds, this 'Call for Proposals' is subject to CASS's general grant conditions for international exchange co-operation.

3.6 Submitting an application

An application can only be submitted to NWO via the electronic application system Iris. Applications not submitted 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.

On the application form, applicants need to select one of the three Chinese contact points: (1) MoST / MoE, (2) CAS, or (3) CASS, according to the eligibility criteria for the Chinese PI.

4 Assessment procedure

4.1 Procedure

Selection of the proposals is performed according to a joint Sino-Dutch assessment and selection procedure.

1. After the deadline of the Call, the technical admissibility of the proposals is checked. Eligibility criteria are checked in The Netherlands and in China.
2. The quality of the proposals will be assessed in The Netherlands and in China. In The Netherlands, the KNAW-NWO China Committee assesses the quality of the proposals according to the criteria specified in § 4.2, and ranks the proposals. In China, the proposals will be assessed according to the relevant guidelines of the contact points: (1) MoST / MoE, (2) CAS, or (3) CASS. The outcomes of these assessment procedures on both sides and initial ranking will be sent as an advice to the JSTP Programme Committee.
3. The JSTP Programme Committee decides on the seminars to be funded.

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.

December 2011	Publishing of Call for Proposals 2011-2012
10 April 2012, 11.00am CET	Deadline for submitting JSTP proposals for Dialogue Seminars
October-November 2012	Decision on proposals by Programme Committee

4.2 Criteria

In assessing and ranking the proposals, the Committee will consider the following criteria:

- Aimed at fore-sighting and identification of topics for future joint research
- Originality of the topic for dialogue
- Quality of the applicants
- Mutual scientific interest and mutual benefit to The Netherlands and China

5 Contact details and other information

5.1 Contact

5.1.1 Specific questions

For specific questions about JSTP and this Call for Proposals for Dialogue Seminars please contact:

The Netherlands

NWO

Mr Berry Bonenkamp
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China

MoE / MoST

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CASS

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+86 10 8519 5149
<zhanglh@cass.org.cn>

5.1.2 Technical questions about the electronic application system Iris

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>.

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