



JOINT PROJECT Royal Society of Edinburgh – National Natural Science Foundation of China NOTES ON COMPLETION OF APPLICATION FORM

All completed applications must be submitted to The Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE) by the appropriate closing date. Please check the Society's website for annual closing dates, eligibility, and the most up to date information on the Royal Society of Edinburgh – National Natural Science Foundation of China (RSE – NSFC) Joint Projects (www.royalsoced.org.uk). All documents should be e-mailed to the RSE (internationalgrants@royalsoced.org.uk). Paper copies are not required.

Objectives of the Joint Projects Scheme

The Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE) – National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) Joint Project scheme is designed to facilitate international collaboration between researchers based in Scotland and China. The Joint Project grant provides a maximum of £6,000 per year. The Joint Project scheme runs for two years with Projects expected to commence in 2015. The funding may be seen as seed money to enable further collaboration and funding in the future.

Application

All questions must be answered fully, and each section of the form can be expanded as necessary. Incomplete or incorrectly completed forms will not be considered. Do not attach copies of CVs, publication lists, etc. as an alternative to answering the questions on the form. Applicants should explain clearly and concisely the main purpose of the joint project and the prospective benefits to the applicant, the collaborator and their respective scientific fields. Applicants should note the definition of impact provided with regard to the selection criteria below. Please use non-technical language as far as possible.

A parallel application must be submitted to the National Natural Science Foundation of China by the Chinese collaborator.

Please note that an applicant can only apply once per deadline and current RSE-NSFC Joint Project award holders are not eligible to apply. Holders of other RSE awards are still eligible to apply.

Subject Areas

Applications are invited for Joint Projects in the field of **Marine Science with a focus on Biodiversity**.

[For work outside these thematic areas, or for Joint Projects with other countries, applicants may wish to consider applying to the Royal Society (of London) Joint Project scheme: <http://royalsociety.org/grants/schemes/international-exchanges/>]

Duration and Level of Funding

The RSE – NSFC Joint Projects run for two years and the RSE provides a maximum of £6,000 per year. This may be used to claim the costs of travel and subsistence. Within this £6,000 up to £1,000 per year may be requested for research expenses. Research expenses may be used against any materials related to the research aspect of the award. These may include visa charges, police registration fees, postage, printing costs, books, computer software, stationery for overseas visitors whilst in the UK, fieldwork expenses and animal and plant licence fees. You may not claim against computer hardware. Please note that there is no provision for bench fees, conference fees, departmental costs, medical insurance, excess baggage costs, and expenses relating to accompanying dependents or contributions towards salaries.

Funding from the RSE is for the Scottish based group's international travel fares and the overseas group's subsistence costs in Scotland. The NSFC will provide funding for the Chinese based participant's travel to Scotland and for the Scottish participant's subsistence costs in China.

Participants

Joint Projects are intended for researchers of proven ability, employed by research institutes in Scotland and China. The Scottish team is required to name a 'Project Leader'. The Project Leader must be of at least postdoctoral status or equivalent. Their role is to liaise between project participants and the Royal Society of Edinburgh and to ensure that the grant is used according to the purposes stated in the application and the Conditions of Award. Please note that an award is 'attached' to the Project Leader, and therefore the RSE must be consulted before the Project Leader can be changed.

There are no restrictions on the number of participants per team. However, Scotland based participants must be employed by a Scottish university or research institute. PhD students may also be included on the team provided that the benefits to the project are made clear and that all funders are in agreement to their participation. Please note however that although PhD students can participate in the Joint Project, the RSE and NSFC can not fund their international activities (travel, subsistence etc).

Please note that China-based collaborators must be eligible to apply for NSFC funding. The Chinese applicant must be PI or Partner in an ongoing NSFC-funded scheme, which has a duration of at least 3 years. Please contact the NSFC for full details.

Supporting documents

The following documents are required with the application:

- (1) A letter, signed by the applicant's head of department, indicating consent in principle for the joint project and for the applicant's absence from the department
- (2) Two independent references (using the Referee Form available on the RSE website)
- (3) Evidence of previous contact between the Scottish based applicant and the overseas applicant.

References

A copy of the application should be sent to two independent referees of the applicant's choice. Referees currently based at the applicant's home institution, ex-supervisors/ mentors and collaborators will not be considered as appropriate independent referees. Referees should also not be biased by any other personal or academic relationships.

The referees must complete the Referee Statement (available to download from the RSE website) and forward it by e-mail directly to the RSE by the closing date (to internationalgrants@royalsoced.org.uk).

Terms and Conditions of award

- Any publications arising from research undertaken during this joint project should acknowledge the support given by the RSE.
- The award is granted for the purposes outlined in the application. The Society must be consulted on, and informed of any changes to, the proposed project. Failure to consult the Society about proposed changes could result in funding being withdrawn.
- Any funds remaining at the end of the Joint Project must be returned to The Royal Society of Edinburgh and the cheque made payable to 'The Royal Society of Edinburgh'.

Please see the "Terms of Award" document available on the RSE website for full details.

Progress Report

A progress report must be submitted to the Society 12 months after the start date of the Joint Project. A Final Report must be submitted no later than one month after the completion of the Joint Project. Funding for the second year of the

project will not be made available until a satisfactory report has been received. A report format can be downloaded from the RSE website.

Ethical Issues

Where any of the proposed research in a host institution overseas involves work with animals or with human subjects, the applicant will be expected to ensure that the ethical aspects of the project are equivalent to current UK standards.

Eligibility

- The Project Leaders must be of at least postdoctoral status or equivalent
- Scottish based collaborators must be employed by a Scottish research institution
- China based collaborators must be eligible to apply for NSFC funding
[The Chinese applicant must be PI or Partner in an ongoing NSFC-funded scheme, which has a duration of at least 3 years. Please contact the NSFC for full details]
- Awards are granted for research in the advertised subject area(s) only
- Applications will only be considered for bilateral (not multi-lateral) projects
- Visits must take place in both directions
- Joint Projects will last for two years only

Selection criteria

The primary considerations will be:

- The strength of the scientists and institutions in the area of the proposed research
- The mutual benefit of the collaboration
- The strength of the proposal in relation to potential outcomes/impact (see definitions below)

Outcomes – are the differences this project will make, the activities that will happen that would not otherwise have been possible and, in the longer term, the benefits to science and society.

Impact – includes the potential contribution to the UK science base, the sustainability of the project, future collaborations, follow-on activities, and plans for the development of the project outcomes.

Timescale

Deadline of submission of proposals	5 December 2014
Applications considered by NSFC and RSE	January/February 2015
Announcement of funding decisions	31 March 2015
Joint Projects commence	May 2015

Application checklist

- Parts I, II, III and IV of form
- Letter of consent from applicant's head of department
- Referee forms sent to two independent referees
- Evidence of previous contact and collaboration between the Scottish based applicant and the overseas applicant.

The completed application, the consent letter and the evidence of previous contact should be e-mailed directly to the RSE. References should be e-mailed directly to the RSE by the referees.

Contact

For further information or advice, please contact the RSE Awards Manager, Anne Fraser:

internationalgrants@royalsoced.org.uk or telephone:- 0131 240 5013.

or

NSFC Program Officer, Li Wencong: liwc@nsfc.gov.cn or telephone: +86 010 6232 7014.

Full details are also available on the RSE website: http://www.royalsoced.org.uk/801_NSFC.html

Joint Project RSE – NNSFC

Personal Data – In confidence

PART I: Scottish Based Project Leader Information	
1 Name	Family name : First name : Middle name (if any) :
2 Academic title	
3 Address of employing institution	Job title: Address of employing Institution (including department): Telephone: Fax: Email: : Start date of employment:
4 Subject area (two or three words only)	
5 Field of specialisation (up to nine key words)	
6 Discipline Area	Please select one from the following list of discipline areas: <input type="checkbox"/> Biomedical and Cognitive Sciences <input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Sciences <input type="checkbox"/> Organismal and Environmental Biology <input type="checkbox"/> Cell and Molecular Biology <input type="checkbox"/> Physics and Astronomy <input type="checkbox"/> Earth Sciences and Chemistry <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering <input type="checkbox"/> Informatics, Mathematics and Statistics <input type="checkbox"/> Language, Literature and History <input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy, Theology and Law <input type="checkbox"/> History, Theory and Practice of the Creative and Performing Arts <input type="checkbox"/> Economic and Social Sciences <input type="checkbox"/> Education and Public Understanding <input type="checkbox"/> Business and Management

7	Academic qualifications (state title and class of degree(s), year obtained and educational institutions; include academic awards and prizes)
8	Summary of scientific career (give dates and positions held and names of institutions)
9	Title and reference of three key recent publications in refereed journals
10	Outline of present research (please use non-technical language as far as possible)
11	Where did you hear of this programme?

PART II: Overseas Based Project Leader Information

[Please ensure that a parallel application has been submitted to the National Natural Science Foundation of China by the Chinese collaborator.]

1 Name Family name : First name : Middle name (if any) :
2 Academic title
3 Address of employing institution Job title: Address of employing Institution (including department): Telephone: Fax: Email: : Start date of employment:
4 Subject area (two or three words only)
5 Field of specialisation (up to nine key words)
6 Discipline Area Please select one from the following discipline areas: <input type="checkbox"/> Biomedical and Cognitive Sciences <input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Sciences <input type="checkbox"/> Organismal and Environmental Biology <input type="checkbox"/> Cell and Molecular Biology <input type="checkbox"/> Physics and Astronomy <input type="checkbox"/> Earth Sciences and Chemistry <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering <input type="checkbox"/> Informatics, Mathematics and Statistics <input type="checkbox"/> Language, Literature and History <input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy, Theology and Law <input type="checkbox"/> History, Theory and Practice of the Creative and Performing Arts <input type="checkbox"/> Economic and Social Sciences <input type="checkbox"/> Education and Public Understanding <input type="checkbox"/> Business and Management
7 Academic qualifications (state title and class of degree(s), year obtained and educational institutions; include academic awards and prizes)

8 Summary of scientific career (give dates and positions held and names of institution's)
9 Title and reference of three key recent publications in refereed journals
10 Outline of present research (please use non-technical language as far as possible)

PART III: Details of Proposed Joint Project	
1.	Subject of proposed project:
2.	Title of proposed project:
3.	Explain clearly and briefly the general aim of the project (please use non-technical language as far as possible):
4.	Expected outcomes/impact of this project (see the definitions provided in the Notes above):
5.	Benefits to Scotland:
6.	Benefits to China:
7.	Other project participants (please give names, institutions and departments):
8.	<p>Are you already acquainted with colleagues to be visited? Yes/No</p> <p>Evidence must be provided. Please attach a copy of relevant invitations and communications (copies of e-mail correspondence are acceptable).</p>
9.	Please state the policy between the two groups concerning publication of results and intellectual property rights.
10.	Please attach a letter from your employer giving approval, in principle, for this Joint Project and for your absence from the department.

PART IV: Proposed Expenditure		
TYPE	DESCRIPTION	COST (£)
<i>e.g. Travel</i>	<i>Flight for Prof. Smith from Edinburgh to Beijing, February 2007</i>	<i>£600</i>
<i>Subsistence</i>	<i>Two weeks accommodation and subsistence in Edinburgh for Chinese collaborators, May 2007</i>	<i>£400</i>
YEAR 1 (maximum £6000 from the RSE)		
Travel		£
Subsistence		£
Research Expenses (max £1000 from the RSE)		£
Other		£
Year 1 Total		£
YEAR 2 (maximum £6000 from the RSE)		
Travel		£
Subsistence		£
Research Expenses (max £1000 from the RSE)		£
Other		£
Year 2 Total		£
TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM THE RSE (maximum £12,000)		£
AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM ELSEWHERE (including bilateral partners)		£
<p>Partnership funding for this visit</p> <p>(a) Have you received promise of assistance from any other source? If so, give details.</p> <p>(b) Give details of pending or proposed applications (results must be communicated to the Society as soon as known).</p> <p>(c) Will you make a personal contribution?</p>		
<p>Please give brief details of any other Royal Society of Edinburgh grants received in the last five years and state whether you have any other Royal Society of Edinburgh grants pending.</p>		

I confirm that the information in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge and undertake to seek The Royal Society of Edinburgh's consent to any changes to the information provided here.

Where any of the proposed research in a host institution overseas involves work with animals or with human subjects, I confirm that I will ensure that the ethical aspects of the project are equivalent to current UK standards.

Personal data on this form will be held and processed on the Society's computer. A summary of the Society of Edinburgh's data protection policy, including the rights of subjects on which data are held, is obtainable from the Society.

DATA PROTECTION CONSENT:

The RSE accepts and processes your personal data which is held on the RSE's database. The RSE holds this data in confidence and will not release it to any third party (other than those organisations listed below) without your consent. Please read the statement below and tick the box provided if you agree to its provisions. Please note that if you do not agree, the RSE may not be able to process your application. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the RSE's Awards Manager to discuss this in more detail (international@royalsoced.org.uk or 0131 240 5013).

"I confirm that by completing this application form I accept and consent to the transfer of my personal data to The Scottish Government (the funders of this scheme) and its auditors, agents including any supplier processing such data and to third parties involved with the delivery, audit, review and evaluation of the RSE Joint Project Scheme and/or to the RSE's Sister Academies and their associated institutes, in each case for the purpose of evaluating my application for a RSE Joint Project, and for auditing, evaluating and reviewing the RSE Joint Project Scheme as a whole or in part and all related programmes.

I also confirm that I have received approval from my overseas collaborator(s), and any other collaborators whose personal data is included in this application, for their personal data to be used in this manner."

Signature of applicant:

Date:

RSE Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form

As an equal opportunities organisation the RSE welcomes applications from all suitably qualified people. To help us meet that aim we would be grateful if you could complete this form and return it to us with your application. The form will not be used in the assessment process for the International Exchange Programme, and will be separated from your application and kept by the RSE. Alternatively, if you would rather submit this separately from your application form, please send this to the address below, for the attention of the RSE Awards Manager.

The information you provide may, however, be stored on a computer system for the purposes of administration and statistical analysis. It will be treated as strictly confidential and only be used for Equal Opportunities purposes.

1) **Date of birth:**

2) **Gender:** Male..... Female.....

3) **Ethnic / Racial Origin**

Please indicate how you would describe your ethnic / racial origin from the selection below. (Ethnic origin is not about nationality, place of birth or citizenship, but about colour and broad ethnic group).

White
Black-African
Black-Caribbean
Indian
Pakistani
Black-Other
Bangladeshi
Chinese

Any other group, please specify

.....

4) **The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 defines disability as a “*physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and adverse effect on a person’s ability to carry out normal day to day activities*”**

Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

Yes No.....

✱ Thank you for your co-operation in completing the form ✱