



CALL FOR PROPOSALS
by
The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey
and
The National Natural Science Foundation of China
under
“Sustainable Development International Cooperation
Program”

1. Preamble

In the framework of the Protocol of Scientific and Technical Cooperation between The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC); TÜBİTAK and NSFC will support collaboration between Chinese and Turkish researchers through the SDIC (Sustainable Development International Cooperation) Programme.

2. Objectives of the Call

The aim of the call is to fund international cooperation projects to significantly improve understandings of the dynamic mechanisms of the coupled environmental-social system (i.e., the Surface-Earth System), as the scientific basis for coordinated actions to achieve the SDGs.

3. Priority Research Area:

The Priority research area of the call is ***Climate Change, Carbon Emissions and Regulation of Greenhouse Gas Emissions***, including but not restricted to:

- a) Effects of climate change on water ecosystems and solutions for lake restoration.
- b) Analysis solutions to reveal factors such as climatic, topographic and land usage that trigger the formation of floods, landslides and avalanches; Modeling and geographic information systems which could support early warning systems for early detection of threats; Technologies for effective and rapid response to disasters (including unmanned aerial vehicles, exoskeleton technologies, portable energy source solutions); Solutions for the prevention of problems caused by settlements, buildings and infrastructure systems.
- c) Remote sensing and innovative informatics applications for environmental waste management, waste water use, water resources management.

4. Financial Issues

Project partners will be funded by the funding institutions of the respective partner countries (Turkey and China). The projects will be supported with grants from the national budget in accordance with the respective national funding regulations.

TÜBİTAK-funded costs of each grant will be issued and managed by TÜBİTAK in accordance with the rules of TÜBİTAK 1071 Programme - Support Programme for Increasing Capacity to Benefit from International Research Funds and Participation in International R&D Cooperation (https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/3125/1071_arastirma_projeleri_surec_doku_mani.pdf).

As a rule, Turkish partners that are eligible for funding can receive up to 1.250.000 Turkish Liras (excl. overhead and Project Incentive Premium (PIP) approximately) per project.

Chinese partners that are eligible for funding can receive up to 100.000 USD per project (direct cost). NSFC-funded costs of each grant will be issued and managed by NSFC according to its funding guidelines and procedures.

2-3 projects will be funded and the duration of the projects should be maximum three years (36 Months).

For Turkish partners, total duration of international visits should not exceed two months (60 days) per year for the each supported joint research project. In the case of bilateral travel, economic class air tickets and daily allowance shall be paid in accordance with the provisions of the per diem Law No. 6245 for the Turkish partners.

The costs of exchange of experts, scientists and other specialists will be covered on the following

basis:

- The sending Party will meet all related costs connected with travel, lodging and allowances according to their own regulations.
- The sending Party shall be responsible for the emergency health insurance of its scientists.

The projects will be monitored through progress reports and the final report by both TÜBİTAK and NSFC for its content and progress.

5. Proposal Submission

The Joint Call will be open for applications between April 29th and June 23rd through online application systems of TÜBİTAK and of NSFC.

Turkish partners will make their joint online application via TUBITAK's UIDB-PBS online system, <http://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr> . For Turkish partners the system will be closed on June 23rd 2022 at 17:00 (Turkish time) and they should finalize the e-signatures until June 30th 2022 at 17:00 (Turkish time).

Chinese applicants must submit a completed joint online application to the NSFC's Internet-based Science Information System (ISISN) (<http://isisn.nsfc.gov.cn/egrantweb/>). For Chinese partners the system will be closed on June 23rd at 16:00 (Beijing Time).

- The partners should come to an agreement with each other using their own means of communication and jointly develop and complete their project proposal before submitting it to TÜBİTAK and NSFC. **TÜBİTAK and NSFC do not match the collaborating partners.**
- The proposals should be prepared in **English**.
- Additional requirements for Chinese applicants should be checked with the NSFC contact points.
- Project proposals must provide detailed information on the objectives and justification of the planned joint research work, the methodology to be followed, the composition of each research team and the intended time schedule.
- Turkish partners will make their joint online application via TUBITAK's online system: <http://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr>
- Turkish partners will use E-Signature for their applications. Detailed information can be achieved via http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/281/ardeb_e-imza_yardim_dokumani.pdf. There is no need to send any hard copy to TÜBİTAK.

Chinese partners should submit their application via NSFC ISISN online system, <http://isisn.nsfc.gov.cn/egrantweb/>. More requirements can be found in the *NSFC 2022 Guide to the SDIC Programme*.

6. The Evaluation Procedure

6.1. Eligibility Criteria

The proposals will be evaluated according to the national regulations of the funding institutions based on jointly agreed rules and criteria of evaluation. Only projects that fit to the call topics mentioned in Part 3 of this document can be funded.

For Turkish researchers, further information available at:
https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/3125/1071_arastirma_projeleri_surec_dokumani.pdf

Chinese partners should follow the relevant rules and requirements of NSFC. The details for the eligibility of Chinese partners can be found in the call for proposals to be launched on NSFC official website.

6.2. Evaluation Criteria

The project proposals will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

- Scientific and Technological Excellence
- Methodology
- Project Management
- Importance of Bilateral Cooperation
- Impact

6.3. Evaluation Method

Project proposals must provide detailed information on the objectives and justification of the planned joint research work, the methodology to be followed, the composition of each research team and the intended timetable and the proposed budget. Project proposals shall be submitted for evaluation and approval simultaneously to TÜBİTAK and to NSFC. Each proposal shall comprise an Application Form prepared in English and further formal and financial information according to the required form, which should be submitted to the both funding agencies respectively.

Applications which are not submitted on both sides will not be accepted for evaluation. Hence, Turkish/ Chinese project leaders should make sure that their counterpart submits a matching Application.

Eligible proposals will be subject to the independent evaluation by the funding agencies. Each funding agency will first establish its respective ranking list of proposals according to the evaluation result. Then a common ranking list will be developed based on a joint panel meeting organized by NSFC and TÜBİTAK with panelists recommended by the two funding agencies. The final decisions on 2-3 projects to be supported will be made by the TÜBİTAK and NSFC based on the common ranking list and within available budget.

7. Key Dates

ACTIONS	PERIODS
Deadline for Applications	June 23 rd 2022 (at 17:00 Turkish time, TUBITAK) June 23 rd 2022 (at 16:00 Beijing time, NSFC)
Deadline for E-Signatures for TÜBİTAK	June 30 th 2022 (at 17:00 Turkish time)
Jointly deciding the final result (panel meeting)	Mid November 2022
Announcement of the Results	December 2022

8. Contact Persons of TUBITAK and NSFC:

For Turkish Side:

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