

EU-China experts' seminar on developing a joint initiative for cooperation in research and innovation on Food, Agriculture and Biotechnologies (FAB), Beijing 10-11 October 2013

**EU expert briefing:
Thematic context of the
Seminar: Overall strategic
approach**

**Thomas Arnold, DG Research and Innovation,
Advisor "Sustainable Bio-economy"**

Strategic approach to thematic targeting

- **Starting point: Horizon 2020 societal challenges and enabling technologies**
- **Identify areas based on analysis of a set of criteria of the EU and potential partners:**
 - ✓ Research and innovation capacity;
 - ✓ Access to existing, new or emerging markets;
 - ✓ Contribution to international commitments;
 - ✓ Frameworks already in place to engage in cooperation and experience from previous cooperation
- **Differentiation by countries: Industrialised countries and emerging economies**
 - ✓ Focus on competitiveness
 - ✓ Tackle global challenges and develop enabling technologies
 - ✓ Business opportunities and access to new markets
- **End result: multi-annual roadmaps for cooperation with key partners**
- **Targeted actions to be implemented**
 - ✓ On the basis of a strategic approach
 - ✓ Common interest, priorities and mutual benefit

SC2. Food security, sustainable agriculture, marine, maritime and inland water research, and the bioeconomy

- Sustainable Agriculture and Forestry
- Sustainable and Competitive agri-food sector for a safe and healthy diet
- Unlocking the potential of aquatic living resources
- Sustainable and competitive bio-based industries and supporting the development of a European bio-economy
- Cross-cutting marine and maritime research



FAB EU-China R&I cooperation initiative

From EU interest to mutual benefit (1)

- **Starting from EU interest ...**
 - ✓ **Focus on competitiveness:** Europe's export oriented industry in a world of global competition; growth and jobs in Europe
 - ✓ **Tackle global challenges and develop enabling technologies:** climate and environment; resource basis for future generations and future economic development; food safety in global markets; zoonosis as a global thread in an interconnected world
 - ✓ **Business opportunities and access to new markets:** "way out of crisis" versus long-term vision for economic opportunities of tomorrow; bio-economy and new value chains and markets; scaling-up potential for deployment of innovative technological solutions in a major market with increasing purchase power; current and future potential for exporting "Quality" made in Europe and for European sustainable solutions; opportunities arising from lifestyle changes and evolving consumption patterns

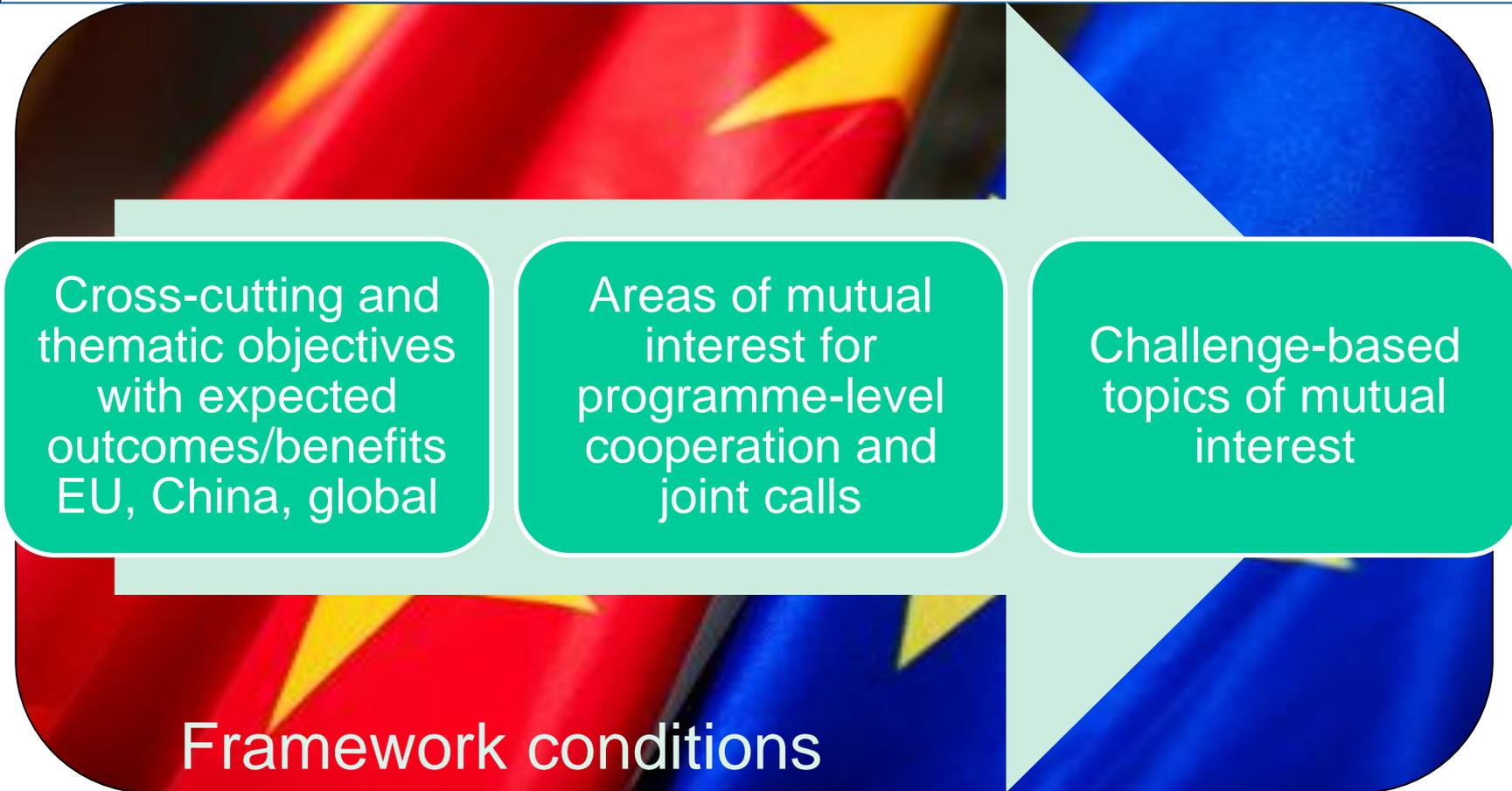
FAB EU-China R&I cooperation initiative

From EU interest to mutual benefit (2)

- **... leading to mutual benefit**
 - ✓ Which Win-Wins today and in future from strategic cooperation with China on the move towards the world's major economic power, becoming a world leader in research and innovation, and possibly increasingly concerned about sustainability?



Process of thematic targeting



Specific thematic objectives and expected outcomes and benefits

- **Shared thematic objectives contribute to overall strategic approach and priorities**
- **Objectives are mutually beneficial with identifiable benefits to both EU and China, and possibly at global level**
- **Objectives support cross-cutting approach of Horizon 2020**
- **Objectives will help to shape programme-level cooperation activities**

Areas of common interest for programme-level cooperation and joint calls

- **Areas for programme-level cooperation are in line with strategic priorities and based on common interest**
- **They contribute to shared and mutually beneficial objectives**
- **They encourage cross-disciplinary and cross-sectoral research and innovation in line with cross-cutting approach of Horizon 2020**

Challenge-based topics of common interest

NB: Thematic targeting does no longer mean defining small, narrow, mono-dimensional topics

- **Challenge-based topics contribute to shared and mutually beneficial objectives**
- **They should encourage cross-disciplinary and cross-sectoral research and innovation**
- **They may contribute or lead to larger programme-level activities**
- **They need to be in line with overall Horizon 2020 philosophy**
 - ✓ **Strong challenge-based approach, allowing applicants to have considerable freedom to come up with innovative solutions**
 - ✓ **Broader topics, less prescription, strong emphasis on expected impact**
 - ✓ **Address cross-cutting issues (such as embedding of Social Sciences and Humanities)**

Possible forms and instruments of cooperation

- **Joint and coordinated calls**
- **New instruments such as COFUND**
- **Participation in EU partnering activities where appropriate**
 - ✓ **Public-Private: European Technology Platforms, PPPs**
 - ✓ **Public-Public: Joint Programming initiatives, ERA-Nets**
- **Build on or develop synergies with Member State activities where appropriate**
- **In the short term: Common challenge-based topics**
- **Consider activities focussing on innovation**

Concerns related to framework conditions

- **Framework conditions in their thematic context**

- ✓ **Standards:** role with regard to trade, to consumer protection; needs for pre-normative or co-normative research
- ✓ **IPR:** current needs of protection of knowledge; anticipate future development of excellence in a global perspective
- ✓ **Procurement:** role of innovation procurement or for promotion of sustainable solutions?
- ✓ **Society:** urbanisation; lifestyles and consumption patterns; values
- ✓ ...

Possible timeline for implementation

- **Short-term:**

- ✓ Earmark existing topics for collaboration with China in 2014/2015 work programme
- ✓ Possibly introduce limited number of specific topics with China

- **Medium-term**

- ✓ Take-up outcomes of expert seminar in next strategic programming period for 2016/17
- ✓ Develop strategic programme-level cooperation activities based on shared objectives with mutual benefit

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EU expert briefing

Mandate of the experts and reporting

**Thomas Arnold, DG Research and Innovation,
Advisor "Sustainable Bio-economy"**

Why an EU expert briefing?

- **First opportunity to meet personally all European experts**
- **Encourage cross-disciplinary and cross-sectoral perspective in line with cross-cutting approach of Horizon 2020**

Mandate of experts

- **Present a panorama of EU potential priorities and needs in the field of Food, Agriculture and Biotechnologies, in their specific area of competence and with reference to broadly recognized research agendas, and function as a sounding board within the EU.**
- **Provide background on Chinese research and innovation capacities in areas earmarked for cooperation**
- **Identify, by discussing with Chinese counterparts, sub-areas of common interest, potential co-funding opportunities and issues related to framework conditions, and foster networking and future co-operation**
- **Contribute to reporting the results. Lead experts will present overall strategic conclusions and draft joint report.**

Role of participants

- **Co-chairs**

- ✓ Set the scene in thematic session from a programme perspective
- ✓ Coordinating role in reporting
- ✓ Report to FAB Task Force meeting

- **Presenters**

- ✓ Provide focus on possible areas for cooperation and address framework conditions
- ✓ Contribution to reporting
- ✓ Active participation in discussions

- **Rapporteurs**

- ✓ Support co-chairs

- **Other experts**

- ✓ Identify priorities for joint targeted actions and suggest best possible implementation

Joint EU-Chinese reporting

- **Wrap-up at the end of thematic sessions**
 - ✓ Thursday p.m.
- **Report to plenary session**
 - ✓ Friday a.m.
- **Report to 3rd FAB Task Force meeting**
 - ✓ Friday p.m.
- **Joint written report**
 - ✓ within 2 weeks

Report template

- **Why?**

- ✓ Facilitate structured note-taking
- ✓ Ensure coherence across thematic reports

- **How?**

- ✓ Review/complete objectives with expected outcomes/benefits
- ✓ Identify areas of mutual interest for programme-level cooperation and joint calls
- ✓ Identify challenge-based topics of mutual interest
- ✓ Reflect on possible forms and instruments of collaboration
- ✓ Address concerns related to framework conditions