



EU-CHINA SURFACE TRANSPORT FLAGSHIP INITIATIVE IN HORIZON 2020



STRATEGIC RESEARCH AND INNOVATION ACTIONS TO ADDRESS SURFACE TRANSPORT ISSUES BOTH IN EUROPE AND CHINA.

Demonstrating and testing innovative solutions for cleaner and better urban transport and mobility

Reduction of transport impact on air quality

Impacts of changes in urban mobility for sustainable urban mobility

Multimodal low-emission freight transport systems and logistics

Urban mobility and sustainable electrification in large urban areas in developing and emerging economies



THE EU-CHINA SURFACE TRANSPORT FLAGSHIP INITIATIVE

The EU-China Flagship Initiative on Surface Transport is one of the five Flagship Initiatives agreed by EU and China under Horizon H2020 Framework Programme to foster the cooperation between the two sides in Science and Technology in the period 2014-2020.

R&I activities in the area of transport were initially included under the umbrella of the EU-China Urbanisation Partnership that started in 2012.

At the 11th meeting of the Joint Steering Committee of the EU-China Agreement on Science and Technology Cooperation in 12 June 2014, the two sides recognised the depth and richness of EU-China STI relations and welcomed the substantial progress made to enhance EU-China cooperation in several areas, including transport. In response to that, EU and China set targeted research and innovation actions in surface transport under Horizon 2020.

Building on this positive experience, a flagship initiative on surface transport, covered by the Co-funding mechanism established with the Chinese Minister of Science and Technology, has been set up under H2020 for the period 2018-20, in line with the conclusion of 13th EU-China Joint Steering Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation held in March 2017.

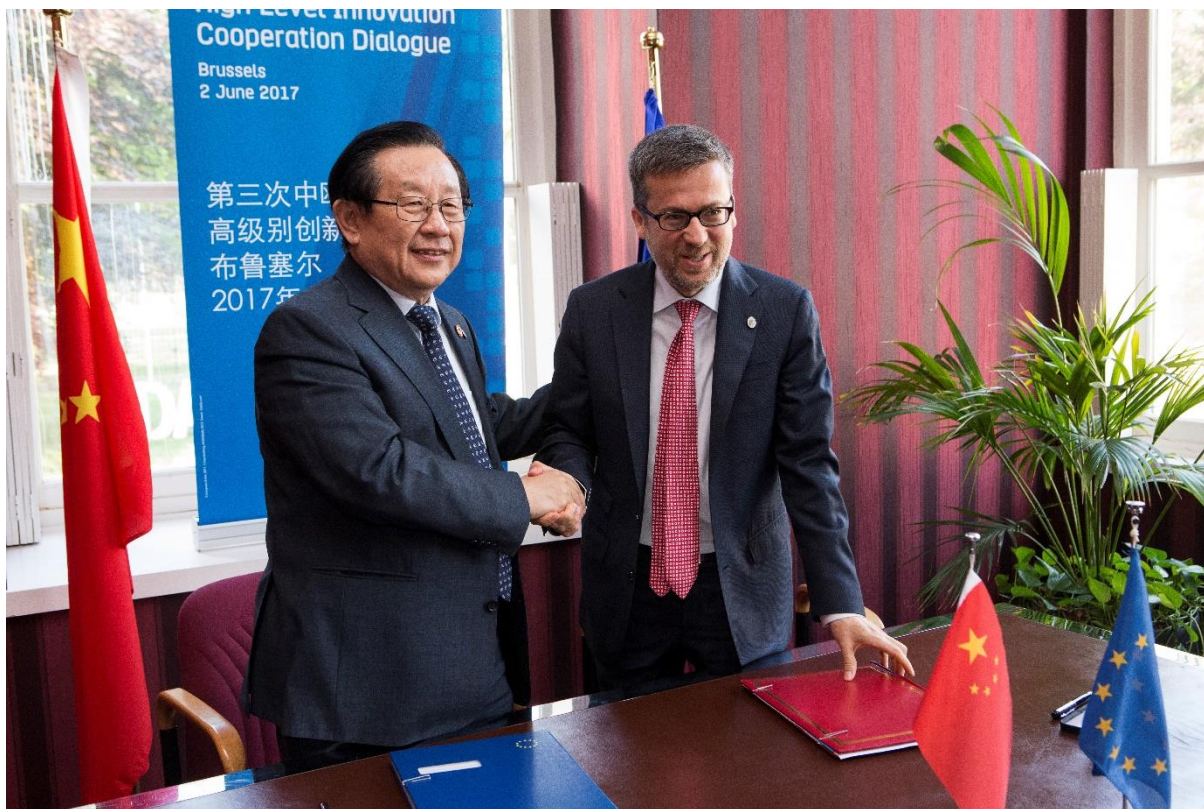


EU-CHINA CO-FUNDING MECHANISM (CFM) IN HORIZON 2020

In 2014, the Horizon 2020 programme ceased to fund automatically Chinese applicants. Co-Funding Mechanisms (CFM) were needed, eventually set by Chinese authorities to support the joint research activities carried between the EU and China. The China CFM on research and innovation cooperation has played a significant role in supporting the cooperation in topics of mutual interest since its launch in December 2015.

The CFMs involved two Chinese Ministries: MOST (and its China Science and Technology Exchange Centre – CSTEC) and the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT), as well as one Chinese funding agency, the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC). MOST, MIIT and NSFC co-funded five different flagship initiatives: food, agriculture and biotechnologies; environment and sustainable urbanisation; surface transport, aviation, biotechnologies for health and the environment.

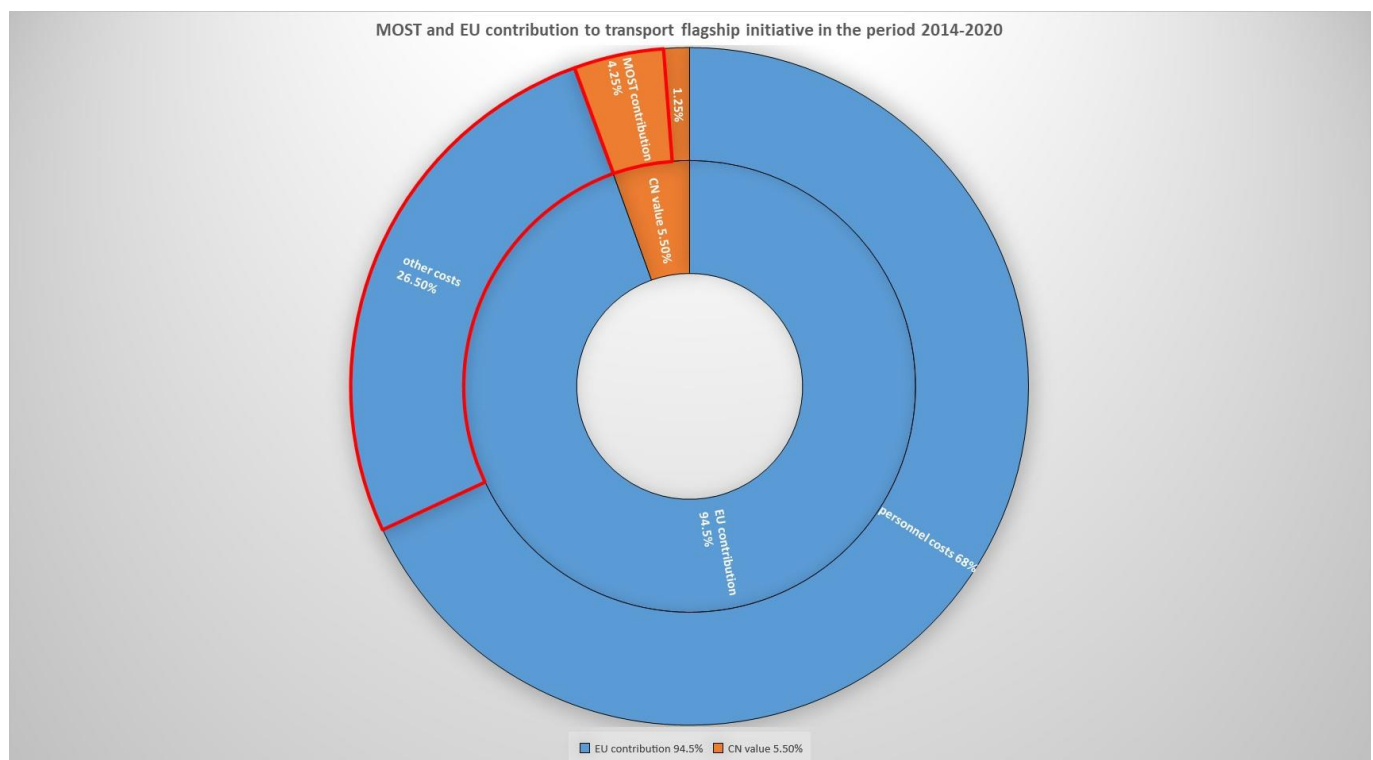
In addition to the flagship initiatives, MOST covered also the participation of Chinese entities in nine additional priority areas, for an overall (flagship and priority areas) commitment of ¥200M on an annual basis to provide competitive funding to China-based entities participating in joint projects with European partners under Horizon 2020 calls from 2014-15 and 2016-17 Work Programmes. During the third Innovation Cooperation Dialogue (ICD) meeting, held in June 2017, the CFM was renewed for the period 2018-2020 with the same budget commitment from both sides.



SURFACE TRANSPORT FLAGSHIP INITIATIVE IN H2020 AND CFM

The CFM set by MOST has supported the flagship initiative on Surface Transport, for which the two sides (EC and MOST) secured an overall investment of €80M altogether under Horizon 2020 (from 2014 to 2020), covering 9 projects, 4 of which were co-funded by MOST, with a success co-funding rate of 45%. The EU-China flagship initiative on surface transport was part of a large flagship initiative on transport to boost international cooperation at global level, where topics did not exclusively target China, but also other global regions. As a result, Chinese organizations were not fully engaged in the process leading to the identification of research topics. A second reason to explain the partial setback was that call text related to the flagship initiative on surface transport did not include the explicit reference to a balanced effort of resources between EU and China, as the purpose of the call was often multilateral. Projects from the flagship on surface transport are usually big projects, while the Chinese contribution is often minimal.

Event taking in consideration that MOST co-funding can not cover personnel costs, while Horizon 2020 grants can cover personnel costs up to 60% of the EU project contribution, generating also an overhead of 25%, the Chinese financial contribution to transport projects is not comparable with that secured by H2020 to EU participants.





SURFACE TRANSPORT FLAGSHIP INITIATIVE IN H2020

The embryonic phase of the flagship initiative on Surface Transport begun with the 2014-15 Work Program of Horizon 2020, which saw the H2020 funded project DESTINATIONS undertaking several cross-fertilisation activities in Europe and in China, in particular in the cities of Beijing and Shenzhen. With the Work Programme 2018-20 the flagship initiative on Surface Transport became more structured, in line with the conclusion of 13th EU-China Joint Steering Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation from March 2017, establishing the flagship initiative, with several topics targeting urban mobility, in synergy with the flagship initiative on Sustainable Urbanization, thus contributing to EU-China Urbanisation Partnership.

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PROJECTS/TOPICS IN WORK PROGRAMME 2014-2015

DESTINATIONS

Innovative holistic approach to building sustainable urban mobility systems for both residents and tourists

<http://civitas.eu/destinations>

uCARE

Studying drivers behaviour to reduce emissions

<https://www.project-ucare.eu/>

PROJECTS/TOPICS IN WORK PROGRAMME 2018-2020

TUBE

Unveiling the neurological impact of air pollution

<http://www.tube-project.eu/>

MODALES

Adapting driver behaviour for lower emissions

<https://modales-project.eu/>

CARES

Innovative remote-sensing technology for emission detection in real-world vehicles

<https://cares-project.eu/>

SPROUT

Sustainable Policy Response to Urban mobility Transition. City-led response to harness impacts of new urban mobility solutions

<https://sprout-civitas.eu/>

ePIcenter

Setting sail for future logistics chains

<https://epicenterproject.eu/>

PLANET

Paving the way for smarter, more integrated transport and logistics

www.planetproject.eu

SOLUTIONSplus

Integrated Urban Electric Mobility Solutions in the Context of the Paris Agreement, the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda

<http://www.solutionsplus.eu/>

