EU-CHINA FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND BIOTECHNOLOGY (FAB) FLAGSHIP INITIATIVE

A COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION COOPERATION PROGRAMME TO TACKLE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE, FOOD SECURITY AND SAFETY IN THE EU AND CHINA

Priority Areas of mutual interest for EU China research and innovation collaboration
Jointly identified and agreed by European and Chinese policy makers and experts

1. **Food related issues**: food safety, and quality, food processing, logistics, inspection and controls, traceability, sustainable consumption, food waste;

2. **Sustainable agriculture**: integrated pest management, organic and low-input farming, crop variety development, water and soil management, animal health and welfare, sustainable livestock breeding and production, urban agriculture;

3. **Biotechnologies**: new bio products, biomass sources and standards;
**FAB FLAGSHIP WORK PROGRAMME 2014-2015**

The EU China research and innovation flagship initiative on food, agriculture and biotechnologies (FAB) is a comprehensive research and innovation cooperation programme to tackle sustainable agriculture, food security and safety in the EU and China. A first phase implemented through the Horizon 2020 work programme 2014/2015 included seven topics in areas of common interest, which resulted in ten projects with European and Chinese participants.

**FLAGSHIP PROJECTS WORK PROGRAMME 2014-2015**

- **SAPHER**
  Strengthening Animal Production and Health through the Immune Response
  www.h2020-saphir.eu

- **FEED-A-GENE**
  Adapting the feed, the animal and the feeding techniques to improve the efficiency and sustainability of monogastric livestock production systems
  www.feed-a-gene.eu

- **Agrocycle**
  Sustainable techno-economic solutions for agricultural value chain
  http://www.agrocycle.eu/

- **EUCLID**
  EU-CHINA Lever for IPM Demonstration
  www.euclidipm.org

- **REFRESH**
  Resource Efficient Food and dRink for the Entire Supply cHain
  www.eu-refresh.org

- **MyToolBox**
  Food and Feed through an Integrated Tool Box for Mycotoxin Management
  https://www.mytoolbox.eu/

- **NoAW**
  Innovative approaches to turn agricultural waste into ecological and economic assets
  http://noaw2020.eu/

**FAB FLAGSHIP WORK PROGRAMME 2016-2017**

The second phase of the FAB Flagship in Work Programme 2016-2017 covered five topics identified and drafted together for the first time ever within the EU-China FAB Task Force. The calls resulted in five projects.

**PROJECTS/TOPICS IN WORK PROGRAMME 2016-2017**

- **SiEUGreen**
  Sino-European innovative green and smart cities
  https://www.nmbu.no/en/projects/sieugreen

- **EU-China-Safe**
  Delivering an Effective, Resilient and Sustainable EU-China Food Safety Partnership
  www.euchinasafe.eu

- **HealthyLivestock**
  Tackling Antimicrobial Resistance through improved livestock Health and Welfare

- **EUCLLEG**
  Breeding forage and grain legumes to increase EU's and China's protein self-sufficiency
  http://www.euclleg.eu/

- **SHui**
  Soil Hydrology research platform underpinning innovation to manage water scarcity in European and Chinese cropping systems
For third phase of the FAB Flagship in Work Programme 2018-2020, a more balanced EU-China cooperation is envisaged with emphasis on integrated approaches to food safety in agri-food chain, high-efficient management of soil quality and land resources, healthy soils for healthy food production, and use of biogas digestate for high-quality organic fertilisers, fertilisers and other topics with common interests when it is appropriate. Four topics are planned to be published.

**HORIZON 2020 WORK PROGRAMME 2018-2020**

- **SFS-37-2019:** Integrated approaches to food safety controls across the agri-food chain
- **SFS-38-2018:** Highly efficient management of soil quality and land resources
- **CE-SFS-39-2019:** High-quality organic fertilisers from biogas digestate
- **SFS-40-2020:** Healthy soils for healthy food production

**HORIZON 2020 – EU–CHINA CO-FUNDING MECHANISM (CFM)**

The China-EU co-funding mechanism on research and innovation (CFM) cooperation has played a significant role in supporting win-win cooperation since its launch in December 2015. The European Commission and Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) agreed the renewal of the CFM for the period 2018-2020 to support joint projects between European and Chinese universities, research institutions and companies. Under CFM the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) will provide financial support on a competitive basis to China-based entities that will participate in joint projects with European partners under Horizon 2020. For the period 2018-2020, MOST intends to reserve an annual budget of up to 200 Million RMB, and the EC intends to reserve a budget of up to 100 Million Euro in Horizon 2020 calls targeting cooperation with China. FAB is among the CFM priorities. China-based participants in projects selected under Horizon 2020 are invited to apply for co-funding from MOST.
THE EU-CHINA FAB FLAGSHIP INITIATIVE

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Being the two biggest food producers in the world, China and the EU, share a common goal to join forces for addressing challenges related to food security, food safety, healthy diets, animal health and sustainable agriculture. Research and innovation cooperation in Food, Agriculture and Bio-technology (FAB) can make a major contribution to these important common and global challenges.

The EU China Task Force on Food, Agriculture and Biotechnologies was created in 2011 as thematic working group under the Joint Steering Committee for EU China S&T Cooperation. The EU-China FAB Flagship Initiative on Food, Agriculture and Biotechnologies was officially launched at the EU-China Summit on 21 November 2013 with the signature of a Letter of Intent on Research and Innovation Cooperation in FAB between the European Commission and the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS). Through extended discussions among experts from both sides at the EU-China Experts’ seminars on R&I cooperation on FAB and the EU-China FAB Task Force meetings, mutually beneficial objectives and areas of common interests are identified.

It is in the interest of the European Union (EU) to ensure that China is moving towards more sustainable agro-food production systems, as unsustainability in China might have severe knock-on effects in an increasingly globalised market. The opportunity to export new advanced sustainable technologies and scale-up the potential of the Chinese market will enhance innovation in Europe and contribute to growth and jobs. Ensuring sustainable food production systems in China will also increase global trade predictability, overall productivity, transparency of the food chain and resource-efficiency.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION:
DG Agriculture and Rural development: AGRI-H5@ec.europa.eu
DG Research and Innovation: RTD-F3-PO@ec.europa.eu
EU-China Research and Innovation Cooperation: http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/index.cfm?pg=china

EU DELEGATION TO CHINA:
EU Delegation to China Agri-Santé Section: Delegation-China-Agrisante@eeas.europa.eu
EU Delegation to China S&T Section: Delegation-China-Scitech@eeas.europa.eu

CHINESE ACADEMY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES (CAAS): www.caas.cn/en

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (MOST): www.most.gov.cn