

Fundo para o Desenvolvimento das Ciências e da Tecnologia

Joint Funding Scheme for NSFC-FDCT Project

I. Objectives

In order to facilitate S&T exchanges and cooperation between scientific researchers in the Mainland and Macao, the Science and Technology Development Fund (hereinafter referred to as "FDCT") and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (hereinafter referred to as "NSFC") signed the *NSFC-FDCT Technical Cooperation and Exchange Memorandum* on 7 January 2016. FDCT has formulated this Joint Funding Scheme according to the *Action Plan on Joint Funding for Collaborative Scientific Research Projects* – the Annex to the aforementioned Memorandum, and Articles 15 and 16 of the *Financial Aid Grant Regulation* as approved by the Chief Executive's Dispatch No. 64/2021 on 4 May 2021.

II. Applying Entities

Entities that meet the requirements prescribed in paragraphs (1) to (4) of Article 2 of the *Financial Aid Grant Regulation* approved by the Chief Executive's Dispatch No. 64/2021 are eligible for project funding.

III. Application Requirements



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- 1. The applicant in Macao shall consult with the Mainland co-applicant on the research contents, research plans, division of research tasks, etc., and sign a cooperation agreement or memorandum; fill out the project proposal, and submit the application to FDCT by the application deadline.
- The Mainland co-applicant must concurrently declare to NSFC.
 For detailed methods, please refer to the relevant provisions of NSFC.
- 3. The name of the project and the names of the applicants on both sides must be consistent. The contents of the research plan shall reflect the complementary advantages of both sides.

IV. Funding Type

No repayment required.

V. Eligible and Ineligible Spending

Please refer to Article 3 of the *Financial Aid Grant Regulation* as approved by the Chief Executive's Dispatch No. 64/2021.

VI. Funding Amount and Project Duration

- 1. The amount funded for this Scheme by FDCT per year shall not exceed MOP 36,000,000 (thirty-six million patacas).
- 2. The maximum amount for each project is MOP 2,500,000 (two million five hundred thousand patacas).



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- 3. Each project has a maximum duration of three years.
- 4. This Scheme shall be launched on an annual basis in consultation with NSFC.

VII. Declaration Guideline

The FDCT's Administrative Committee will negotiate with NSFC each year on the requirements and details of key support areas, mutual cooperation, research findings and application plans, and prepare the corresponding declaration guideline.

VIII. Application Period

The period designated by the FDCT's Administrative Committee.

IX. Application Documents

Supporting documents shall be submitted in accordance with Article 6 of the Financial Aid Grant Regulation approved by the Chief Executive's Dispatch No. 64/2021.

X. Applying Method

The applying entities shall submit all the application documents mentioned in the preceding article in the manner designated by FDCT prior to the deadline of application.

XI. Formality Review



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- 1. FDCT and NSFC will respectively conduct a formality review after application deadline to verify whether the application documents are correct and complete, and to review whether the subject project meets the requirements to be funded.
- 2. FDCT will require the applying entity to submit additional documents within 15 days as needed.
- 3. FDCT and NSFC will jointly check the list of projects from their respective reviews. The projects will be considered as "FDCT-NSFC Projects" when such projects are included in both FDCT and NSFC lists.

XII. Assessment Methods

- 1. FDCT and NSFC conduct their respective assessments on the projects accepted.
- 2. The assessment is performed according to the *Financial Aid Grant Regulation* approved by the Chief Executive's Dispatch

 No. 64/2021.
- 3. Key considerations will be given to the followings:
 - (1) The scientific value and cutting-edge technology of the project;
 - (2) Qualifications of the applying entity;
 - (3) Project plan and cooperation foundation.



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XIII. Funding Allocation

- 1. The funded entities shall sign the Funding Agreement with FDCT.
- 2. The fund will be allocated in installments, and shall be reimbursed for the actual amount in accordance with the conditions provided for in the Funding Agreement.

XIV. Reports

The funded entities shall submit an annual report of their execution of the funded projects and the final work report for annual and final assessments by FDCT.

XV. Other Funding

Projects funded by FDCT shall not accept funding from other public funding schemes or programmes.

XVI. Right to Interpretation

FDCT reserves the right to offer the final interpretation of this Scheme.