

Provision of matching funds for Macau participants in selected Horizon 2020 projects(2016-2017)

In order to encourage local scientific research personnel to engage in international scientific research cooperation, the Science and Technology Development Fund (Hereafter as “FDCT”) after consulting the related department of the European Commission (Hereafter as “EC”), decided to provide matching funds starting from 2016, for Macau participants who successfully being selected to join the Horizon 2020 projects.

1. Major Area for Support

The matching funds will mainly support scientific and technological research projects with clear goals for application, which meet the needs of the development of science and technology in Macao. The specific scientific and technological field is not restricted though.

2. Financing of the Macao participant

The maximum amount of funding to each project in this scheme granted by the FDCT is MOP 5 millions, and the maximum funding limit for each year is MOP 1 million. If the research period goes beyond 3 years, the Macau participant must apply for renewal on its third year, for the FDCT to evaluate on its intermediate research progress and results, and to release the remaining funds after approval. The Macao grantee must implement the project according to the “Funding Agreement” signed with the FDCT.

3. Application Method and Requirements

- (1) The FDCT and the EC are the administrative units for the cooperating projects.
- (2) The Macao Project Leader (PI) can only undertake ONE project funded by this funding at the same time. After the submission of the final project report, the project leader (PI) can submit a new application for funding. But project members in the project are not restricted by this rule.
- (3) Participation in Horizon 2020 begins with the identification of an idea for a project and finding a related call on the Participant Portal of Horizon 2020. The project must be compatible with the interests of the development of science and technology in Macao.
- (4) The Macao participant must at least team up with 3 different country units from the members of the European Union (EU) and associated countries. The Macao applicant must fully discuss with its collaborative partners on issues such as the research content, the research plan and the division of labor.
- (5) The Macao participant must fill out the project proposal, together with the signed cooperation agreement or memorandum and submit the application to the FDCT for evaluation and no later than the deadline of the Call to which has applied in the EC. For any project applying for this fund, please label the application form with “FDCT-EC Project”.
- (6) The submission of the proposal to the EC must be made before the deadline indicated in the call by the coordinator of the consortium. The Macao participants must fill in the research content and budget executed by their side in the proposal submitted to the EC. Details

on applications of Horizon 2020 can be referred to the relevant rules and regulations by the EC.

4. Evaluation Procedures

- (1) Projects will be evaluated by the EC and the FDCT separately.
- (2) The evaluation procedures in Macao will be the same as the current scientific research projects funded by the FDCT (which include initial analysis; peer review by experts; evaluation by the Supervisory Board; approval by the Administrative Committee or the Trustee Committee), but priority will be given to the assessment of these projects by the Macao Science and Technology Development Fund.
- (3) When a proposal with a Macao participant is selected for funding by the EC, the Macao participant must inform FDCT and the Horizon 2020 supporting documents approved by EC must be submitted to FDCT. FDCT will inform the Macao participant of the result of the evaluation.
- (4) When a proposal submitted under this scheme is selected for funding by the FDCT, the Macao participant must inform immediately the coordinator of the project to speed up the final arrangement for signing the contract among all the European members of the consortium with the EC.

5. Requirements for Filling out the Project Proposal

- (1) The project proposal is an important source for the Macao Science and Technology Development Fund and the peer experts to understand about the conditions of the project, to conduct consultation and appraisal of the project, and to select the best projects. The applicant must carefully fill out the project proposal

according to requirements for the content, format and number of words.

(2) The basic requirements for filling out the project proposal are as follows:

- (a) The project applicant must meet the requirements stipulated in Article 2, Chapter 1 of the Chief Executive's Dispatch No. 273/2004.
- (b) The cooperation project should carry important meaning, ample reason, a clear goal, specific content, a feasible cooperation plan and assessable technical indicators.
- (c) The project must possess adequate foundation for cooperation. The project applicant must possess the relevant channels and ability for cooperation, and can foster a cooperative and trusting relationship with the cooperation partner. A relevant project cooperation agreement or letter of intent with the cooperating partner should be signed.
- (d) The cooperating partner must possess a relatively strong technological strength or a relatively high scientific research level, and the will and ability to cooperate with Macao. The cooperating partner can collaborate by means of technology, capital, personnel or data and information, advanced equipment and exclusive resources.
- (e) The intellectual property rights can be effectively protected and the findings of the cooperation research will be shared justly, thus upholding the interests of both parties.

6. Method of Filling out the Proposal

Please download the “Application Form” and the “Project Proposal Template” from the website of the Macao Science and Technology Development Fund (www.fdict.gov.mo) and directly fill them out according to the requirements for the format and number of words.

7. Submission of Documents

Pursuant to the requirements stipulated in the Announcement and in Article 6, Chapter 2 of the Chief Executive’s Dispatch No. 273/2004, please submit the relevant documents to the Project Funding Service Department of the Macao Science and Technology Development Fund before the deadline.

8. Application Deadline

The application starts in 2016 and ends in an undetermined date, which was announced in work programmes of the EU calls for proposals.