

**Joint Scientific Research Project Funding by  
the Ministry of Science and Technology of China and Science and Technology  
Development Fund of Macao (FDCT-MOST Project)  
Application Guideline (Year of 2020)**

According to the "*Agreement between the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China and the Macao Science and Technology Development Fund on the co-financing of research and development projects carried out through cooperation between the Mainland and Macao*", the Macao Science and Technology Development Fund (hereafter as: FDCT) and the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China (hereafter as: MOST) launch the Joint Scientific Research Project Funding Scheme (hereafter as: MOST-FDCT Projects).

**I. Administrative Units**

1. The administrative units of the current joint funding scheme are FDCT in Macao and Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Affairs Office of MOST in the Mainland.
2. The issues of applications, acceptance, evaluation, approval, implementation and management as well as final report of Macao applicants are governed by the Chief Executive's Dispatch No. 235/2018 "*Regulation on the Approval of Granting of Financial Support*".

**II. Major Areas for Support**

In view of the needs of Macao's social and economic development, giving full play to the advantages scientific research in the Mainland, the major areas for support include electronic information, biomedicine, energy saving and environmental protection, new materials, aeronautics and astronautics, marine science and other projects concerning people's livelihood. Projects cooperated with the industry are in priority.

**III. The Amount of Funding**

1. The maximum amount of the funding for such projects is 2.5 million Macao patacas, with a maximum of 3 years of funding dispatched in period. The funded entities in Macao are required to implement the project in accordance to the "*Funding Agreement*" signed with FDCT.
2. FDCT and MOST will issue grants to Macao and Mainland successful applicants respectively. Both funds can only be used locally.

#### **IV. Application methods and requirements**

1. The Macao Project Leader (PI) can only undertake ONE project fund by the joint funding MOST-FDCT Projects or the joint funding FDCT-NSFC Projects 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.
2. The lead application unit of Macao should consult with the Mainland partners on the research contents, research plans, division of research tasks, etc., signing a cooperation agreement or memorandum and filling out the project proposal, submitting the application to FDCT by the application deadline.
3. Mainland partners must also declare to MOST. Detailed declaration methods, please refer to the relevant provisions of MOST.
4. The name of the project and the names of the applicants on both sides must be consistent. The contents of the research plan should reflect the complementary advantages of both sides.

#### **V. The form of review and evaluation**

1. The Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Affairs Office of MOST and FDCT will conduct a formal review after the deadline for application, and then jointly check the list of projects from their respective reviews. The projects will be accepted as "FDCT-MOST project" when such projects are included in both FDCT and MOST lists.
2. FDCT and Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Affairs Office conduct their respective evaluation on the projects accepted.
3. The evaluation procedure of FDCT for such projects is the same as that of the current research projects (including preliminary analysis, peer review, project advisory committee review, administrative committee review, trust committee review). Such projects will be prioritised.
4. The evaluation process of FDCT will be conducted on the basis of the following criteria:
  - The scientific value of the project (40%): innovativeness of the project, research findings and effectiveness, and also research methodology.
  - Academic achievements and qualifications of the applicant (30%): scientific research ability, qualification of members, number of members, and level of complementariness with the cooperating party.
  - Project feasibility and work plan (30%): feasibility, work progress, research duration, division of labor with the cooperating party.

5. After the evaluation, FDCT and the Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Affairs Office will select the jointly funded projects from the projects approved by both parties. Both parties will simultaneously announce the list of jointly funded projects to the public.

## **VI. Requirements for Filling out the Project Proposal**

1. The project proposal is an important source for FDCT and the peer experts to understand 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:
  - (1) The project applicant must meet the requirements stipulated in Article 2, Chapter 1 of the Chief Executive's Dispatch No. 235/2018.
  - (2) The cooperation project should carry important meaning, ample reason, a clear goal, specific content, a feasible cooperation plan and assessable technical indicators. Two key supporting areas:
    - Projects that can effectively utilise science and technology resources in Mainland China to solve the technological bottleneck problem that hinders the social and economic development in Macao.
    - Projects that can cater to the industries and the needs of application, forming intellectual property rights or the benchmarks for the relevant techniques.
  - (3) 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 memorandum with the cooperation partner should be signed.
  - (4) The cooperation partner must possess a relatively strong technological strength or a relatively high scientific research level, as well as 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.
  - (5) 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) For any project initiated (or participated) by an enterprise, the enterprise is required to provide capital and related supporting facilities to the project.
  - (7) The Joint Fund does not support the construction of infrastructure or pure equipment

procurement. Neither does it support soft science research projects on policies and management, nor projects on market promotion.

## **VII. Method of Filling out the Proposal**

Please log in the online application system to complete the application.

<https://apps.fdct.gov.mo/sams/public/main-page.faces>

For more details, please refer to the [instructions of general research grants](#).