



NARODOWA AGENCJA
WYMIANY AKADEMICKIEJ

**Call for proposals
in the framework of NAWA Joint Research Projects
between the Republic of Poland and the People's Republic of China
hereinafter referred to as "Call."**

**Narodowa Agencja Wymiany Akademickiej – NAWA (Poland) / Department of
International Cooperation, Ministry of Science and Technology – MOST (China)**

Start date of the Call: 5 June 2025

Closing date of the Call: 9 July 2025 by 15:00:00 local time for Warsaw

1. Purpose and scope of cooperation

The Call for applications aims to support the mobility of scientists conducting research projects agreed upon and carried out jointly by eligible applicants from Poland and partners from the People's Republic of China entitled to the rules there.

The applications concerning a joint project (further referred as “Project”) shall be submitted jointly by partners from People's Republic of China to the Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Science and Technology as well as by Polish partners to NAWA. Only applications submitted jointly in Poland and the People's Republic of China will be considered. Applications submitted in Poland and the People's Republic of China should have the same English title and implementation period.

2. Eligible Applicants

Applications for funding may be submitted by the entities indicated in Article 7, paragraph 1 subparagraphs 1-8 of Law on Higher Education and Science.

3. Additional requirements

The Project coordinator can be a person employed by the Applicant holding at least a doctoral degree.

Members of the research team can be members of the Project coordinator’s current research team, employed in their unit or other units that are part of the Polish science and higher education system. Team members can also be students as long as they are actively involved in activities and the partner country allows their participation. Each researcher can be a coordinator or team member in only one application submitted in a call.

Priority for funding will be given to teams not funded in previous calls for Joint Research Projects for the country.

4. Eligible fields of science

The call for proposals is open only for the following thematic areas:

- 1) Natural sciences
- 2) Engineering and technology
- 3) Medical and health sciences
- 4) Agricultural sciences

Applications for other thematic areas will be left out of consideration.



5. Priorities

- 1) Participation of young researchers¹
- 2) Opportunities for collaboration with socio-economic partners during or as a result of the project.

6. Deadline for submitting applications

Applications must be submitted by 9 July 2025 by 15:00:00 local time for Warsaw in the NAWA ICT system. The Call will be resolved by 31 December 2025.

7. Form of submitting applications

Submitting the application is possible following the registration in the System available at <https://programs.nawa.gov.pl>.

The application and its attachments are prepared in Polish. The exception shall be the CV of the coordinator from the partner country, the title of the Project, and the abstract submitted in English.

There is no limit to the number of applications submitted by a single Applicant. Only one application for the same research project is allowed.

8. Person authorised to submit the application

The person submitting the application in the System must have a valid power of attorney granted by an authorised person to represent the Applicant (e.g., granted by the rector of the university or the director of the research institute) and attach it to the submitted application.

9. Project implementation period

Projects submitted under the Call are implemented from 01 January 2026 to 31 December 2027. Costs can be incurred from the moment of signing the agreement with NAWA.

10. Eligible costs covered by the Polish party

NAWA is able to finance up to 20 projects (depending on their quality). The maximum amount of funding for one Project from the NAWA budget is PLN 60 000,00. Expenses may be incurred during the Project implementation period specified in the agreement with NAWA.

Funding for Projects under the Call is intended to cover researchers' travel and subsistence expenses, excluding funding for the research itself. Funding for conducting research must be guaranteed from other sources.

According to the HES - a young scientist is a person conducting scientific activity who:

- 1) is a doctoral student or academic teacher - and does not hold a doctoral degree, or
- 2) holds a doctoral degree, less than seven years since obtaining it, and is employed in an institution of higher education and science.



Within the framework of funds allocated by NAWA, eligible expenses on the Polish side include:

- a) the unit rate for subsistence and accommodation costs for researchers from Poland in the partner's country is PLN 500,00 per day for stays of up to 11 days; for longer stays, the unit rate is PL 5 500,00 for the entire stay.
- b) The unit rate for travel costs for researchers from Poland to the People's Republic of China is PLN 6 500,00. The above rate is the total amount for a round trip for one person. Expenses related to the conduct of research and any other expenses incurred under the Project are ineligible.

11. Project selection procedure

Applications are evaluated independently in Poland and the partner country according to the procedure adopted by each party. Upon completion of the national evaluation, a joint committee composed of representatives of both countries selects the Projects recommended for funding.

12. Evaluation of applications at NAWA

Application evaluation procedure on the Polish side:

Applications for participation in the competition are subject to formal and substantive evaluation.

Formal evaluation

If an incomplete application is submitted, the Applicant shall be summoned to supplement it within 14 days of receiving the summons.

An application that does not meet formal requirements, including an incomplete one, shall be rejected.

Rejection of an application submitted in a partner's country means rejecting an application for the same Project submitted on the Polish side.

The form of communication with the Applicant is the Agency's ICT system, and the Applicant is obliged to regularly check the status of the submitted application in the ICT system.

Substantive evaluation.

Applications are evaluated by an evaluation team appointed by the NAWA Director.

Substantive evaluation of applications is carried out according to the following criteria:

- 1) Scientific significance of the Project - from 0 to 5 points;
- 2) Proposed research methodology - from 0 to 5 points;
- 3) Qualifications and experience of both research teams in the Project area - from 0 to 5 points;
- 4) Importance of the scientific cooperation undertaken and the prospect of its continuation - from 0 to 5 points.



Additional points will be awarded for the inclusion of the following priorities, with 1 meaning that the additional criterion has been met and 0 meaning that the additional criterion has not been met:

- Involvement of young scientists
- Possibilities of cooperation with socio-economic partners during or as a result of the Project.

The maximum number of points possible is 22

13. Appeal procedure

After receiving information about the rejection of the application or information about the granting of support by the Director, the applicant may turn to the Director with an appeal in case of formal violations in the granting of funds in the field of evaluation on the Polish side. The appeal may include objections only to formal issues in the process of awarding funds, not to the legitimacy of the substantive assessment carried out by the Polish side. Submission of an appeal for any other reason, including the result of the evaluation in the partner's country or the procedure implemented by the partner, will result in the rejection of the appeal. The appeal must be submitted to the Director within 14 days from the date of receipt of information on either the rejection of the application or the Director's award of support in writing to the following address: National Agency for Academic Exchange, 40 Polna St., 00-635 Warsaw, or electronically to the Agency's Electronic Submission Box (e-PUAP) in the form of an electronic document bearing a qualified electronic signature.

14. Financing

Funds for the Project are transferred to Applicants in two tranches, with the following:

- 1) the first tranche in the amount of 80% of the awarded funding is transferred to the Applicant's account within 30 days from the date of the agreement;
- 2) the balancing tranche of up to 20% of the allocated funding is transferred upon acceptance of the final report and completion of the financial settlement of the Project.

15. Reporting

The final report must be submitted within 30 days of Project completion. Reports are submitted by the beneficiary only in the ICT system.

16. Contact on the Polish side

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17. Contact on the People's Republic of China side

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