

**2015-2020 WORK PLAN FOR THE PROMOTION OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL
COOPERATION BETWEEN THE NATIONAL NATURAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION OF CHINA (NSFC)
AND THE PORTUGUESE FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (FCT)**

In pursuance of the Scientific Agreement between the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) and the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) (hereinafter referred to as the "Parties"),

Wishing to strengthen and develop scientific and technological cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, the Parties hereby agree to jointly carry out a 3-year work plan of activities in Science and Technology fostering partnerships between institutions from both countries, in the following terms:

1. The work plan aims to promote collaborative scientific and technological activities in areas agreed upon by NSFC and FCT.
2. The work plan shall be implemented through:
 - a) Joint funding of scientific and technological projects to be carried out by at least one Chinese and one Portuguese research group, in areas commonly defined. The Parties agree to open joint calls for projects every two years, from 2015 through 2020. The amount to be jointly funded will be defined in each Call.
 - b) Joint organisation of bilateral scientific and technological seminars, conferences, workshops, and symposia in areas of mutual interest, facilitating the meeting and interaction of potential cooperation partners. These gatherings will take place alternately in China and in Portugal and inform the joint calls for collaborative research projects. The workshop organisation expenses will be borne by the Host Party and the travel expenses of the visiting participants by the Sending Party.
3. NSFC and FCT will ensure the activities of this work plan.
4. Both Parties agree, for the duration of this work plan, to open a Call for proposals in 2015, in order to receive scientific and technological proposals of projects involving groups of both countries in defined areas. If agreed upon by both parties, the frequency of calls can be adjusted.
5. The proposals must be presented simultaneously to NSFC and to FCT, respectively by the Chinese and Portuguese coordinators, observing specific deadlines, procedures and requirements of each Call.
6. NSFC will finance the research cost for researchers in China, and costs related to mobility of Chinese researchers to Portugal.

7. FCT will finance the research cost for researchers in Portugal, and costs related to mobility of Portuguese researchers to China.
8. The review process will be as following: firstly, each Party will separately implement the scientific evaluation of proposals. Subsequently, the Parties will exchange information on their funding priorities. Afterwards, a list of consensual proposals to be supported will be released and sent for approval of the relevant NSFC and FCT boards.
9. The financial support to each project must abide by the norms of each Party.
10. The 2015 Call for collaborative research projects will address the following areas:
 - Marine Sciences
11. For the first Call, NSFC and FCT will provide for each project a maximum amount of 3000,000/RMB and 300.000/EUR. The Call will fund up to 3 projects. The duration of the projects will be 3 years.
12. The conditions for the following Calls will be negotiated between the Parties.
13. The obligations stemming from the present work plan are to be undertaken by NSFC and FCT and require the approval of authorities of both institutions.
14. The present work plan is valid until one of the parties informs the decision to revoke it. The revoke may not bring damage or solution of continuity to the execution of projects already approved or that began the execution, in which case the Parties shall keep in their respective budgets funds for the full completion of the projects not yet concluded.

As proof of agreement, 2 originals are signed in English, with same sense and effect.

July 2015

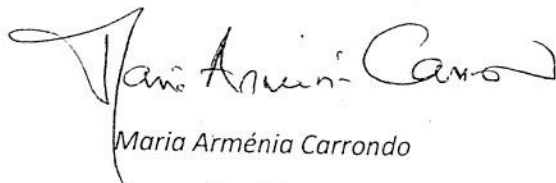
For National Natural Science
Foundation of China,



Liu Congqiang

Vice-President

For Portuguese Foundation
of Science and Technology,



Maria Arménia Carrondo

President