

**BUSINESS
FINLAND**

Finland-China MOST Joint Innovation Call Launch – 16 June 2025



FINLAND-CHINA MOST JOINT INNOVATION CALL 2025

MIKA KLEMETTINEN

Trade and Innovation Consul, Head of Innovation China
Business Finland

HARRIET GULLSTÉN

Chief Funding Advisor
Business Finland

ELISA YU

Innovation Advisor
Business Finland

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INTRODUCTION

FUNDING REMARKS

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INTRODUCTION

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BUSINESS OUTLOOK

- China is **among two largest economies** in the world. **Economic growth** has been the driving factor behind China's policies in the past decades.
- China's policy towards the growth has changed. Today the drive for **innovation, sustainability** and **more equal share of wealth** are behind the policy decisions, instead of growth only.
- Several new industry sectors are expected to grow fast, e.g., **carbon reduction, health care, industrial digitalization**, and **sustainable consumption**.
- During the past few years China has increased **regulation** on businesses with number of new **policies**.



MATERIALS

- If you want to know more about China and the China market, you can check the Market Information that is available on the Business Finland pages as follows:
 - [Doing Business in Greater China](#)
 - [Doing Business in Mainland China](#)
 - [Doing Business in HK Macao GBA](#)
 - [China Positioning Paper](#)
- Useful information about IPR and the recent laws impacting both business and innovations:
 - [IPR issues \(including trademark protection\)](#)
 - [Regulatory framework on data with RDI impacts](#)
 - [Cyber Security Law, Data Law and Personal Information Protection Law compliance in China](#)

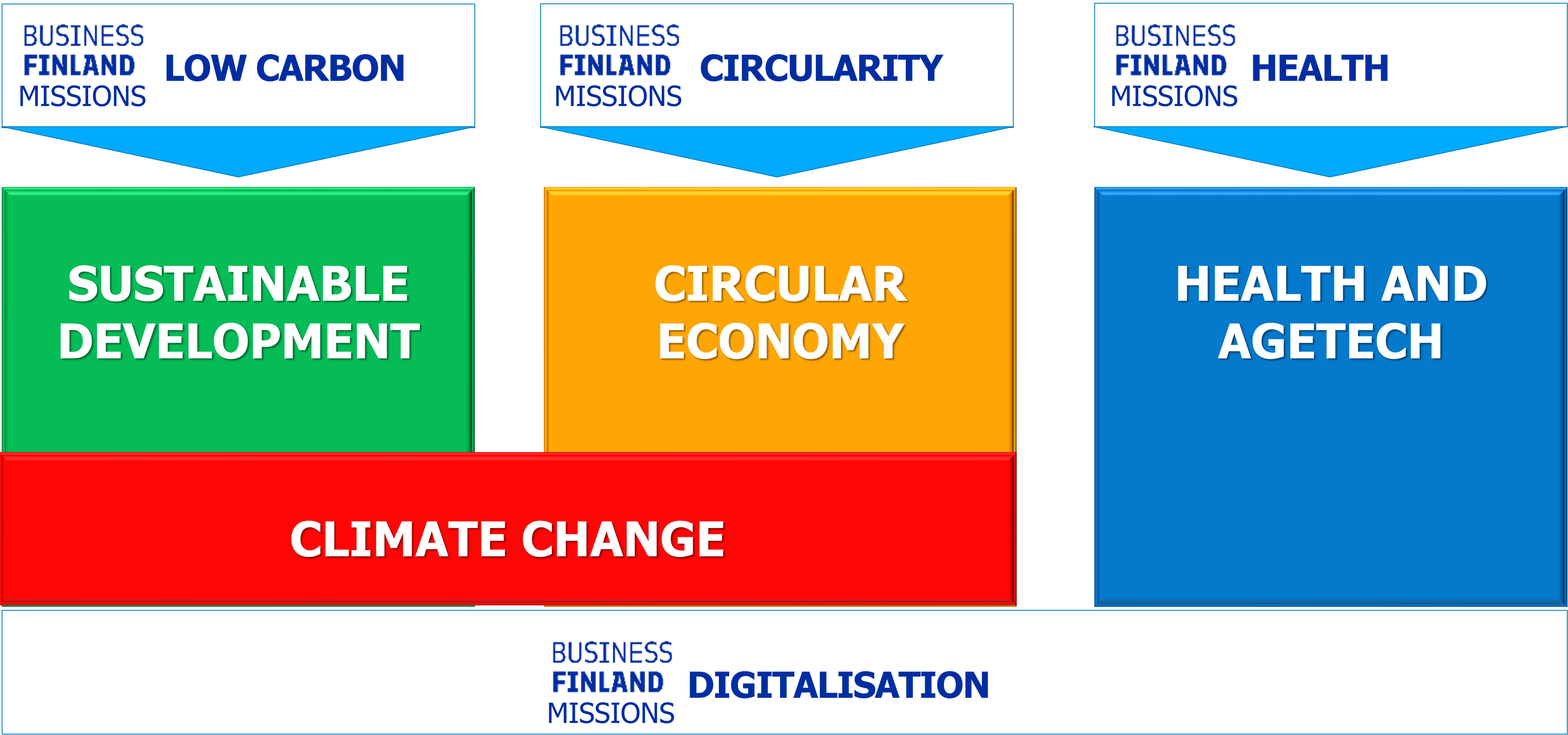


S&T FRAMEWORK

- **State-level agreement between Finland and China for S&T collaboration since 1986.**
- **MoUs between Business Finland, Ministry of Science and Technology of China and three provinces (Shanghai, Jiangsu, and Zhejiang).**
- **Annual calls with R&D, piloting, standardization, influencing the policies, etc.**

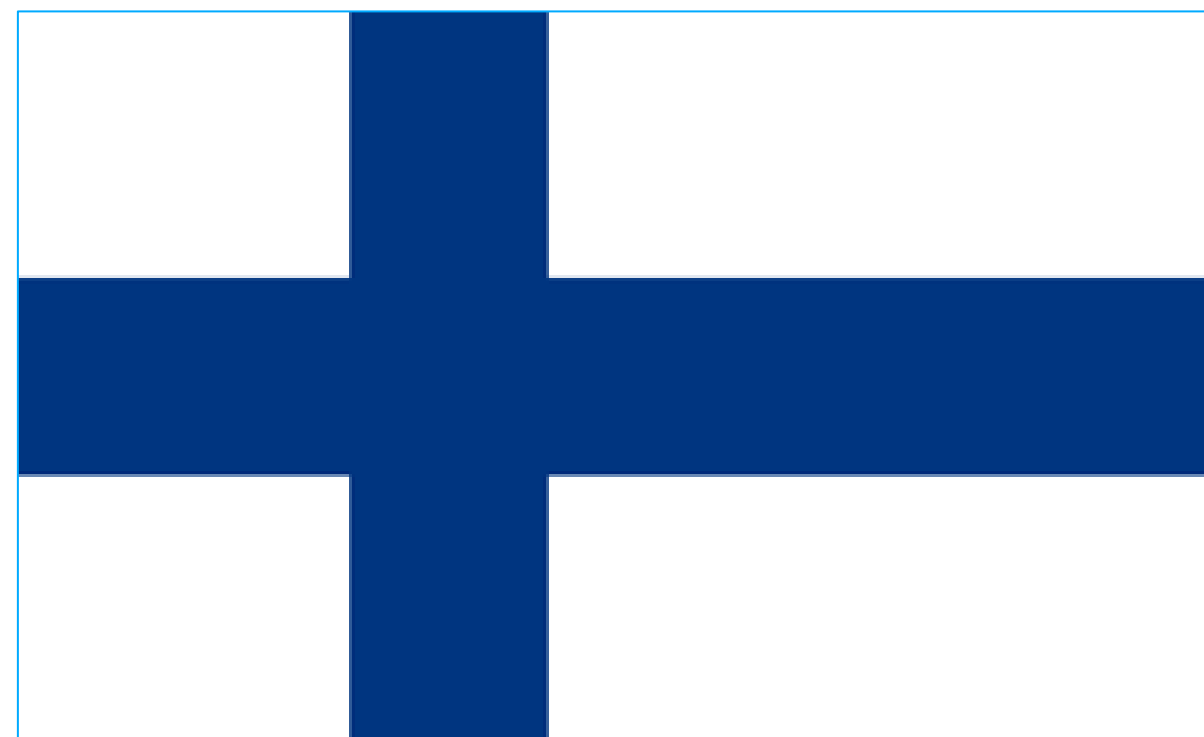


INNOVATION FOCUS AREAS IN CHINA



FRAMEWORKS AND ANNUAL CALLS

| MoU/Finland | MoU/China | Contents |
|------------------|--|---|
| Business Finland | Jiangsu Science and Technology Department | S&T collaboration Joint innovation calls |
| | Zhejiang Science and Technology Department | |
| | Science and Technology Commission of Shanghai Municipality | |
| | Ministry of Science and Technology of China (MOST) | |



www.businessfinland.fi/en/locations/asia-india-and-oceania/china/china-innovation

PREREQUISITES

- **Understand the China market**
- **...the opportunities and challenges**
- **...the IPR and regulatory issues**
- **...the geoeconomics and geopolitics aspects**



- **What do you want to achieve?**
- **Why China – is it the right market for you?**
- **Are you ready for the China market?**
- **Are you strong enough for overseas collaboration?**



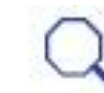
- **Good project idea and partners**
- **Discussion with Business Finland**
- **Well-prepared application**



PROJECT EXAMPLES

1. **Pilot solutions** in the markets with potential customers
2. Join **competencies/know-how** in order to create something new
3. Contribute to **standardisation** (pave the way to markets)
4. Contribute to **regulation** (create favourable business environment)
5. Join forces for **strategic planning**
6. **Open markets** in new business verticals with new players
7. Learn to **understand each other** and/or the market for future business
8. Do **normal innovation collaboration** as in Finland





FINLAND-CHINA JOINT INNOVATION CALLS AND INNOVATION COLLABORATION

[China](#) » [China Innovation](#)

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ELIGIBILITY/INNOVATION CALLS

| Country | MOST | YRD-Shanghai | YRD-Jiangsu | YRD-Zhejiang |
|----------------|---|---|--|---|
| Finland | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual company registered in Finland • Co-innovation project (*) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual company registered in Finland | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual company registered in Finland | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual company registered in Finland |
| China | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Company (** • University (** • Institute (** + Consortium | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual company registered in Shanghai | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual company registered in Jiangsu | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual company registered in Zhejiang |
| Remarks | (*) Either (a) two or more Finnish companies or (b) at least three Finnish companies (at least two applying and eligible for BF funding) and one or more research organizations; all registered in Finland (**) As the leading partner, the consortium may include other partners; all registered in China | | | |

NOTE: In all the Finland-China joint innovation calls, **normal Business Finland eligibility criteria** are applied: <https://www.businessfinland.fi/en/for-finnish-customers/services/funding/>

ELIGIBILITY/INNOVATION CALLS

| # | Specific Finland-China joint call requirements |
|---|--|
| 1 | Joint project consortia must include one Finnish partner and one Chinese partner . In the provincial/municipal calls, only individual companies from both countries can apply. MOST calls also allow co-innovation projects (Finland) and project consortia (China) to participate. |
| 2 | The joint industrial R&D&I projects must be highly innovative and business oriented . |
| 3 | The proposals should demonstrate applicant's resources for international collaboration , in case of the Finnish applicants especially for entering the Chinese markets . |
| 4 | The proposal should demonstrate the contribution of the participants from both countries and the project must be balanced between participants and be significant to all partners. |
| 5 | The project partners should agree in advance on the IP rights and on the commercialization strategy of the product or process. (Consortium Agreement) |
| 6 | The proposal must include a Bilateral Cooperation Form with a joint Finland-China project plan, clearly describing the main contents and objectives of the project as well as the roles of each partner. |

FUNDING/INNOVATION CALLS

| Country | MOST | YRD-Shanghai | YRD-Jiangsu | YRD-Zhejiang |
|----------------|--|---|--|---|
| Finland | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Normal funding principles • 40-60% grants (*(** • 50-70% loans | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Normal funding principles • 40-60% grants (** • 50-70% loans | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Normal funding principles • 40-60% grants (** • 50-70% loans | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Normal funding principles • 40-60% grants (** • 50-70% loans |
| China | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOST principles • 50% grants (1:1) (***) • Max 4M RMB/project | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shanghai principles • 33% grants (1:2) (tbc) • Max 1M RMB/project | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jiangsu principles • 50% grants (1:1) • Max 1.5M RMB/project | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zhejiang principles • 20% grants (1:4) • Max 1.5M RMB/project |
| Remarks | <p>(* 80% for research organizations in co-innovation projects</p> <p>(** Industrial research focus 50-60%, normal focus 40-50%</p> <p>(*** Applies to companies</p> | | | |

NOTE: In all the Finland-China joint innovation calls, **normal Business Finland funding principles** are applied: <https://www.businessfinland.fi/en/for-finnish-customers/services/funding/>

SUBMISSIONS/INNOVATION CALLS

| Country | MOST | YRD-Shanghai | YRD-Jiangsu | YRD-Zhejiang |
|---------|---|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Finland | • Business Finland (*) | • Business Finland | • Business Finland | • Business Finland |
| China | • MOST (*) | • Shanghai S&T Commission | • Jiangsu S&T Department | • Zhejiang S&T Department |
| Remarks | Remember to select at the “ Programmes and other connections ” section the “ Suomi–Kiina-haku ” (in English “Finland-China call”) option and write to the “ Other campaign or reference information ” the name of the call (i.e., “ Shanghai call ”, “ Jiangsu call ”, “ Zhejiang call ” or “ MOST call ”) | | | |

NOTE: In the Finland-China joint innovation calls, normal Business Finland submission system is used: <https://www.businessfinland.fi/en/for-finnish-customers/online-services/>

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MOST INNOVATION CALL 2025 / FRAME

| Innovation Call | Call opened | Call deadline | Results due (estimate) |
|-----------------------------------|--|------------------------|------------------------|
| MOST | June 16 Oct-Nov (tbc) | November 28 (earliest) | June-August (2026) |
| Topic | Details | | |
| Projects funded | Max 15 from the innovation focus areas (see the call text for details) | | |
| Funding available | China: 4M RMB/project, 60M RMB in total, 1:1 (50%), grants Finland: Not fixed, 40-60% grants, 50-70% loans (80% for research orgs.) | | |
| Eligibility | China: Company/university/institute registered in China + consortium Finland: Individual company registered in Finland, Co-innovation project | | |
| Project Plan | Use Business Finland and MOST submission requirements | | |
| Bilateral Cooperation Form | BF-MOST Finland-China Bilateral Cooperation Form 2025 (note: input <u>only non-confidential information</u>) | | |
| Consortium Agreement | Use a joint form, including remarks on IPR (note: input <u>only non-confidential information</u>); a more comprehensive IPR agreement can be made separately | | |
| Remarks | Use Business Finland and MOST submission systems for application submission | | |

MOST INNOVATION CALL 2025 / TOPICS

| Topic | Details |
|---|--|
| Climate Change and Sustainable Development | (1) Green and sustainable energy (2) Green and sustainable mobility (3) Green and sustainable manufacturing (4) Green and sustainable construction (5) Green and sustainable industry parks |
| Circular Economy | (1) Bio and circular economy |
| Health and Agetech | (1) Digital health (2) Agetech (3) Medical devices and drugs (4) Life sciences area |

MOST INNOVATION CALL 2025 / TOPICS

Climate Change and Sustainable Development

For example, including but not limited to cooperation areas such as:

1. Green and sustainable energy, including, e.g.

- smart grid technologies,
- clean technologies for energy production,
- renewable energy, including hydrogen economy,
- CCUS (Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage),
- energy efficient systems and processes in industries, and
- waste to energy and bio-based energy production (e.g. biofuel and biogas).

2. Green and sustainable mobility, including e.g.

- electrification of vehicles and mobile machines including green and smart solutions, and
- green and smart transportation and mobility services.

3. Green and sustainable manufacturing, including e.g.

- carbon neutral solutions for manufacturing, including but not limited to green and smart factories, resource and energy efficient production processes, and research on energy efficiency measurement, evaluation methods, and information management systems, flexible energy management for manufacturing companies, energy value chain management for industrial parks, lean energy and carbon emission control for manufacturing companies, improvement of energy control throughout the manufacturing process, and remanufacturing,
- intelligent solutions for manufacturing to optimize the manufacturing process, including but not limited to hyper automation, data-driven production, production optimization, and advanced solutions to empower the sustainable development of manufacturing, and
- testing and measurement solutions for manufacturing to enhance the environmental protection and improve the production efficiency.

4. Green and sustainable construction, including e.g.

- carbon neutral solutions for the building and construction sector, including but not limited to wood construction, green and smart building, healthy building technologies, technologies and equipment for low-carbon heating and cooling, sustainable building materials and electrification efficiency of buildings.

5. Green and sustainable industry parks, including e.g.

- solutions of carbon emission reduction, including, e.g., systemic planning, digital solutions for clean energy, digital and sensor technologies for measurement and monitoring, distributed energy production, energy efficiency, renewable energy, waste handling, and waste to energy.

Circular Economy

For example, including but not limited to cooperation areas such as:

1. Bio and circular economy, including e.g.

- sustainable and bio-based materials (especially sustainable packaging with bio-based materials),
- waste treatment and recycling,
- industrial water treatment,
- materials (plastics, textile, metal, etc.) treatment and recycling (especially rare earths), and
- foodtech and agritech.

Health and Agetech

For example, including but not limited to cooperation areas such as:

1. Digital health, including e.g.

- AI assisted imaging, AI for drug discovery and development, AI in pathology, AI for prediction and diagnosis, and AI in precision medicine,
- digital tools to improve patient care or hospital operation and management, and
- patient monitoring.

2. Agetech, including e.g.

- rehabilitation equipment,
- health monitoring for home and care home use,
- smart technologies to support care workers and doctors working in elderly care,
- digital tools to improve care home operation, and
- senior-friendly technology products and devices.


3. Medical devices and drugs, including e.g.

- molecular diagnosis,
- companion diagnosis,
- advanced implants and next-generation medical technologies, and
- biomedical therapeutics and preventive vaccines.

4. Life sciences area, including e.g.

- precision medicine,
- early diagnosis,
- cancer treatment and care,
- medicine research and development.

In all of the above, we are particularly interested in therapeutic areas such as neurology, oncology, orthopedics, ophthalmology and womentech (women's health and wellbeing).



Check also
the call text
for details!

BILATERAL COOPERATION FORM

1. Basic information

- 1.1 Project Title
- 1.2 Project Abstract (max. 300 words)
- 1.3 Technical Field
- 1.4 Cooperation Participants (Roles, Country, Contribution, Budget, Implementation Time, Total Budget)
- 1.5 Start Time, Finish Time

2. Project outline

- 2.1 Project Description
- 2.2 Advancements and Innovativeness of the Technology
- 2.3 Cooperation Content of Both Sides
- 2.4 Estimated Achievements
- 2.5 Ownership of Intellectual Property

CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT (EXAMPLE)

Partners (main partners from both sides)

- 1. Intent/Coverage (apply/run project)**
- 2. Composition of the Consortium**
- 3. Research Contents (summary)**
- 4. Task Allocation/Work Packages (short)**
- 5. Budget (general remarks)**
- 6. Ownership of IPR**
- 7. Ownersip of Assets**
- 8. Confidentiality (i.e. NDA)**
- 9. Liability (willful actions/negligence)**
- 10. Supplementary Statements**
- 11. Validity Period (until end of project)**
- 12. Signatures (main partners)**

Example:

Each party shall have their full ownership of their respective intellectual property rights which were obtained before application for this cooperation project as well as the resulted interests, and the intellectual property ownership shall not be altered because of application for this Cooperation Project.

Scientific and technological achievements as well as the resulting intellectual property solely conceived and/or developed by one party during the course of this Cooperation Project shall be owned by that party. Scientific and technological achievements as well as the resulting intellectual property jointly conceived and/or developed by multiple parties will be jointly owned by those parties.

CONTACTS / BUSINESS FINLAND

▪ **Business Finland contacts:**

▪ **Mika KLEMETTINEN** (Finnish, English)

- Trade and Innovation Consul; Head Innovation, China
- Head of International Innovation Partnerships (1.8.2025→)
- Tel: +86 134 8274 6884 / +358 50 483 6661
- E-mail: mika.klemettinen@businessfinland.fi
- Areas: China context, general (all areas)

▪ **Harriet GULLSTÉN** (Finnish, English)

- Chief Funding Advisor
- Tel: +358 45 137 4809
- E-mail: harriet.gullsten@businessfinland.fi
- Areas: Health and Wellbeing, Life Science, Biotech, Medtech

▪ **Renne KASEVA** (Finnish, English)

- Account Manager
- Tel: +358 40 073 9883
- E-mail: renne.kaseva@businessfinland.fi
- Areas: Health and Wellbeing

▪ **Jari SEILONEN** (Finnish, English)

- Account Manager
- Tel: +358 40 731 1187
- E-mail: jari.seilonen@businessfinland.fi
- Areas: Bio and circular economy, Built environment

▪ **Elisa YU** (English, Chinese)

- Innovation Advisor
- Tel: +86 138 0174 4271
- E-mail: elisa.yu@businessfinland.fi
- Areas: China context, general (all areas)

CONTACTS / MOST

- **MOST contacts:**

- **YU Sha** (Chinese, English)
 - Program Officer
 - Tel: +86 10 68581760
 - E-mail: yus@cstec.org.cn
- **ZHANG Ye** (Chinese, English)
 - Program Officer
 - Tel: +86 10 58881352
 - E-mail: zhangye@most.cn

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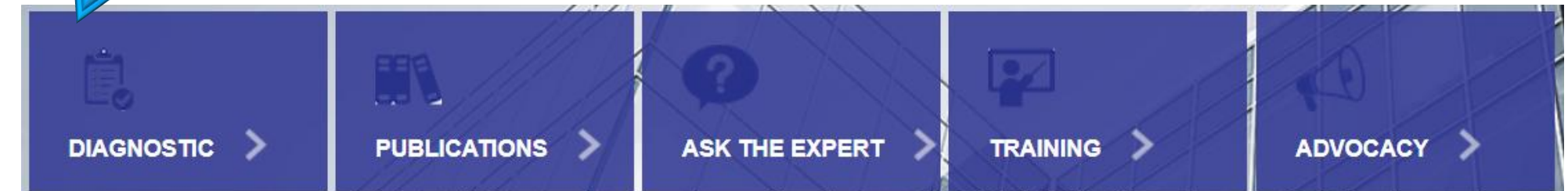
ADVICE AND INSTRUCTIONS

ARE YOU READY FOR CHINA?

SELF-DIAGNOSIS TOOL

An online self-diagnosis tool that allows you to gauge your readiness in developing your business strategy in China.

Example tool for help



The Self-Diagnosis Tool aims to assist European SMEs to make a prior assessment of their readiness to develop their presence on the Chinese market, and whether they are heading in the right direction. It will also provide further guidance and support through a tailored made list of good practices, additional resources, case studies and FAQs.

<https://www.eusmecentre.org.cn/quiz>

Getting started

Is there a market for my product?

Am I allowed to sell my goods in China?

How do you plan to enter the Chinese market?

How much work have you done already?

Assessment



China IP SME Helpdesk

A first line IP assistance service for European SMEs that operate or intend to access the China market and that aim to improve their global competitiveness.

Do you have a question about IP?

Submit your question and receive an answer from our IP experts within 3 working days – and it's free of charge!

[Ask us](#) >

The **China IP SME Helpdesk** supports European Union (EU) Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) to both protect and enforce their Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in or relating to China.

https://intellectual-property-helpdesk.ec.europa.eu/regional-helpdesks/china-ipr-sme-helpdesk_en

Training & Events

[Webinars](#)

[On-site training events](#)

[Matchmaking/Trade Fairs](#)

[Other events](#)

[E-learning](#)

IP Resources library

Use this database to find the resource you are looking for. The filter options will help you navigate our library and facilitate your search.

[Factsheets](#)

[IP Guides](#)

[Case studies](#)

[Infographics](#)

[Podcasts](#)

[IP glossary](#)

IP Tools

IP Helpdesk tools are free services designed to guide EU SMEs in IP related cost management and to assess IP management readiness and maturity.

[Diagnostic tool](#)

[IP cost tool](#)

Managing IP in China

IP can be complex and difficult to understand. Use the links here to get an introduction to the various aspects of doing business that are closely linked to intellectual property.

[About Managing IP](#)

CHECKLIST

I

- 1. Carefully read the call text (incl. eligibility, funding and submission information)**
- 2. Consider are you ready for China (resources, market understanding, regulation)**
- 3. Think what you really want and need (market entry, partners, customers, R&D)**

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II

- 4. Prepare an initial project idea/plan with content, objectives, resources and budget**
- 5. Identify what competencies/contributions you need from the Chinese partner(s)**
- 6. Come to discuss with Business Finland (your Account Manager at Business Finland or any of the call contacts)**

III

- 7. Initially check the IPR issues and protect your trademark, products, etc. if needed**
- 8. Participate matchmakings or otherwise identify potential partners**
- 9. Create a joint plan and improve your own plans (consult Business Finland)**
- 10. Consider jointly and individually whether to go for a submission**

IV

- 11. Finalize the needed documents and agreements (incl. IPR) for the submission – check that all requirements are completed (consult Business Finland)**
- 12. Make the submission on time**

COMMON MISTAKES

- 1. Applicants are not strong enough for China market (financials, personnel)**
 - In Co-innovation projects this might mean that entire project is not eligible
- 2. Objectives and export targets are not ambitious enough**
 - Export factor 20-30 is required according to normal Business Finland requirements
- 3. Business Finland (or MoST) is not contacted and consulted**
 - Business Finland can help in checking your eligibility and preparing the application
- 4. Eligibility criteria are not carefully checked**
 - E.g., from the Finnish side research organizations cannot apply alone in the MOST calls
- 5. Applicants are not aware of the China market**
 - Unrealistic plans not considering, e.g., IPR issues, regulation or competition
- 6. Attachments are missing or submission is done too late**
 - E.g., in the MOST calls the Bilateral Cooperation Form and/or Consortium Agreement is missing **(NOTE: This is a critical issue on the China side!)**; remember the time difference!



FINLAND-CHINA JOINT INNOVATION CALLS AND INNOVATION COLLABORATION

[China](#) » [China Innovation](#)

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BUSINESS FINLAND CHINA

**INCLUDES CONTACTS OF
ALL OUR BUSINESS FINLAND
CHINA ADVISORS ON
DIFFERENT INDUSTRIES**

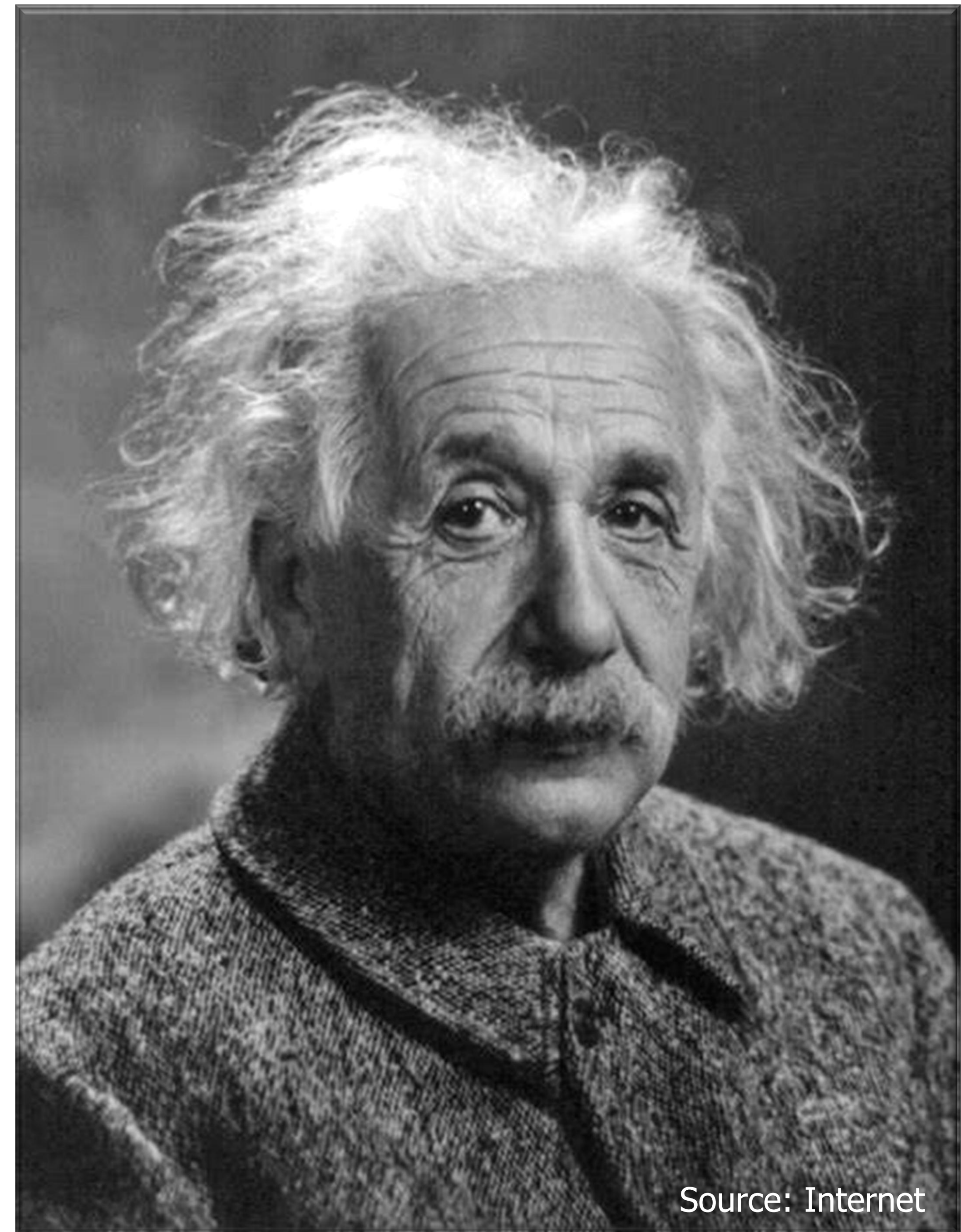


Why innovations?

“If you always do what you always did, you will always get what you always got.”

(Albert Einstein)

**Innovations → Renewal, Growth,
Transformation and Competitiveness**



BUSINESS FINLAND

THANK YOU! 谢谢!



MIKA KLEMETTINEN, PHD 米卡 博士

Trade and Innovation Consul 贸易和创新领事
Head of Innovation, China 中国区创新负责人

Mobile: +358 50 483 6661 (Finland)

Mobile: +86 1348 2746 884 (China)

Email: mika.klemettinen@businessfinland.fi

Twitter: @MikaKlemettinen

WeChat: mikkleme

fi.linkedin.com/in/mikaklemettinen

www.businessfinland.fi



Business Finland China 芬兰国家商务促进局

Finland Trade Center, Consulate General of Finland

FinChi, Room 402, Building 2, 690 Bibo Road, Shanghai 201203, China

芬兰驻上海总领事馆商务处

芬华创新中心, 上海市浦东新区碧波路690号2号楼402室, 201203