



CALL FOR SINO-NORDIC NETWORKS WITHIN HIGHER EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION.

The Nordic Council of Ministers invites Nordic university networks to apply for funding to establish networks between Nordic universities and universities and other partners in the wider Shanghai area.

1. Background

International collaboration within higher education, research has, as part the globalization, grown rapidly during the last decades and the so called BRIC countries (Brazil, Russia, India and China) has emerged as new knowledge based growth regions.

China has become an increasingly important partner for Nordic universities, innovation actors and companies. This is the background why the Nordic Council of Ministers now wishes to contribute to the future development of the Nordic Center at the Fudan University in Shanghai as and "hub" for SINO-Nordic collaboration within the whole "knowledge triangle"

2. Purpose of the call

The call aims at strengthening collaboration within education, research and innovation between Nordic universities and Chinese universities and other innovation actors in the wider Shanghai area that could benefit involved partners and establish fora for exchange of ideas, knowledge and experiences to work on common challenges and to increase collaboration.

The concrete aim with the call is to:

- *Contribute to the establishment of new and deeper SINO-Nordic collaboration within higher education, research and innovation.*
- *Contribute to the development of the Nordic Center Fudan as an "hub" for SINO-Nordic collaboration.*
- *Increase Nordic visibility in China/Shanghai*
- *Build knowledge and experiences through concrete projects valuable for potential future actions.*

3. Instrument: "Knowledge triangle networks"

The networks are thematically open, but the Nordic Council of Ministers welcome applications within fields such as climate/energy, "green growth", health and welfare and "the Nordic Model" within all educational and scientific fields.

What could the networks do?

The networks should be needs and interest driven and could for example include:

- *Exchange of information and experience*
- *Feasibility studies and pre-projects*
- *Preparatory actions for potential national, Nordic or international R&I initiatives*
- *Joint projects or actions*
- *Plattform building activities*
- *Mobility*
- *Knowledge sharing and "best praxis"*

The initiative can also include other alternative network models such as coordination and linked building in relation to already ongoing initiatives and projects.

Who can apply?

Applications should include a network of universities from at least 3 Nordic countries. One university shall be the main applicant and the main applicant must be a member university in Nordic Center Fudan.

4. Funding

The networks can apply for maximal 300.000 DDK/year for a 3-year period. Small scale applications with shorter time duration is also welcome.

Co-funding

The Nordic Council of Ministers expects some co-funding and contributions for the participating universities.

5. The application

Applications should be sent by email to the Nordic Council of Ministers no later than October 31st 2012. Applications should be sent to coordinator Susanne Scharbau Pedersen (susp@norden.org).

The application should be no longer than 5 pages and shall include:

- *Purpose and goal of the project*
- *Plan for implementation*
- *Participating partners and project organization, including responsible project leader.*
- *Project budget.*

Grant decision is made by the Nordic Council of Ministers based on the following criteria:

- *Contribution to the strategic development of Nordic Center Fudan*
- *Plan for longer term network development*
- *Inclusion and integration of education, research and innovation within the project*
- *Scope of Nordic and Chinese participation. Participation from at least 3 Nordic countries is required.*
- *Commitment from participating universities.*
- *Co-funding from participants.*

The Council of Minister expect to make decision on funding during November 2012 and project can be started from January 1st, 2013.

6. Administration and facilitation of the call

Aalborg University has, as chairman for the Nordic Center Fundan, the main administrative responsibility for the administration of the programme. Together with the Nordic Center Fundan Aalborg University supports the granted projects.

7. Contact information

Questions can be directed to.

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