

Calls on international cooperation in Societal Challenge 5

Advanced information on international cooperation
with specific focus on thematic areas of H2020

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"NCPs CaRE"

National Contact Points for Climate action, Raw materials, Environment and Resource Efficiency
Project of the National Contact Points in H2020 Societal Challenge 5

H2020 – International Cooperation

Reports on implementation of the Strategy for Intl. Cooperation and roadmaps:

- Decrease of participations of non-associated partners in collaborative projects → from 4.2 % in FP7 to 2.6 % in H2020
- Percentage of EU funding to non-associated countries dropped → from 1.8 % in FP7 to 0.9 % in H2020
- more topics with eligibility for INCO flagged BUT: less topics with mandatory INCO

Sources:

[Monitoring flash INCO](#) Feb 2019

https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/strategy/support-policy-making/support-eu-research-and-innovation-policy-making/evaluation-impact-assessment-and-monitoring/horizon-2020_en

Strategy Implementation Reports - 2nd & 3rd Report on the implementation of the Strategy for Intl. Cooperation and roadmaps (2018, 2016): <https://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/index.cfm?pg=strategy>

H2020 – International Cooperation

H2020 not directly comparable with FP7, as framework conditions changed*:

- No more funding of BRIC+M countries
- Ukraine an associated country (whereas 3rd country status in FP7)
- High number of IAs ref market application → generally not open for 3rd countries

Strengthening International Cooperation through measures in H2020 WP2018-2020:**

- Flagship Initiatives from which → *Joint calls were developed*
- More topics which demand a mandatory 3rd country participation → *re-enforced measure*
- More topics which encourage 3rd country participation → *re-enforced measure*

Source: Implementation of the strategy for international cooperation in research and innovation

*2016: https://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/policy/progress_report_oct-2016.pdf#view=fit&pagemode=none

**2018: https://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/policy/progress_report_oct-2018.pdf#view=fit&pagemode=none

H2020 – International Cooperation

What are flagship initiatives?

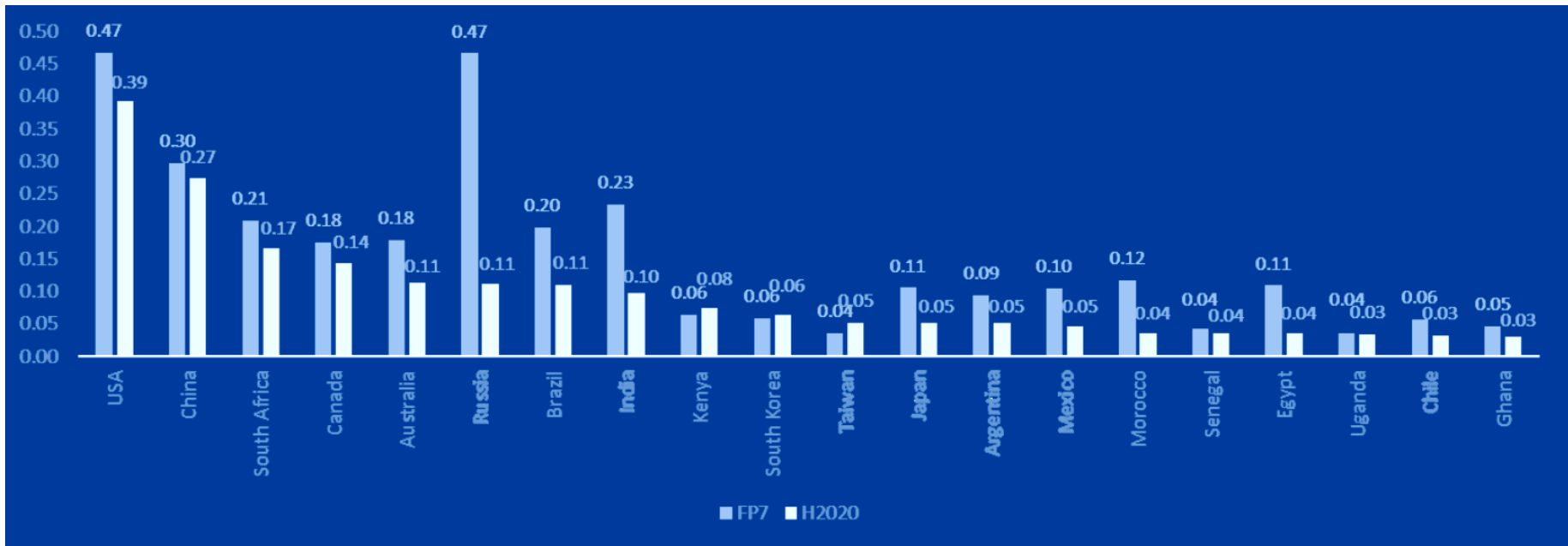
FAQ on basis for bioeconomy:

Flagship initiatives are a common understanding between the EC, implementing Horizon 2020 (H2020) calls under its rules, and funding organisations in Partner Countries implementing calls under its rules, to cooperate in specific areas of common research and innovation interest. In general, the EC and the funding body of the partner country have earmarked funding budgets to finance projects under the initiative.

Source: EC FAQ <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/faq;categories=;programme=null;actions=;keyword=What%20is%20this%20EU-China%20Flagship%20Initiative%3F>

H2020 – International Cooperation

Participations from top-20 non-associated third countries in collaborative projects in FP7 and Horizon 2020 (% of all participations in collaborative projects)



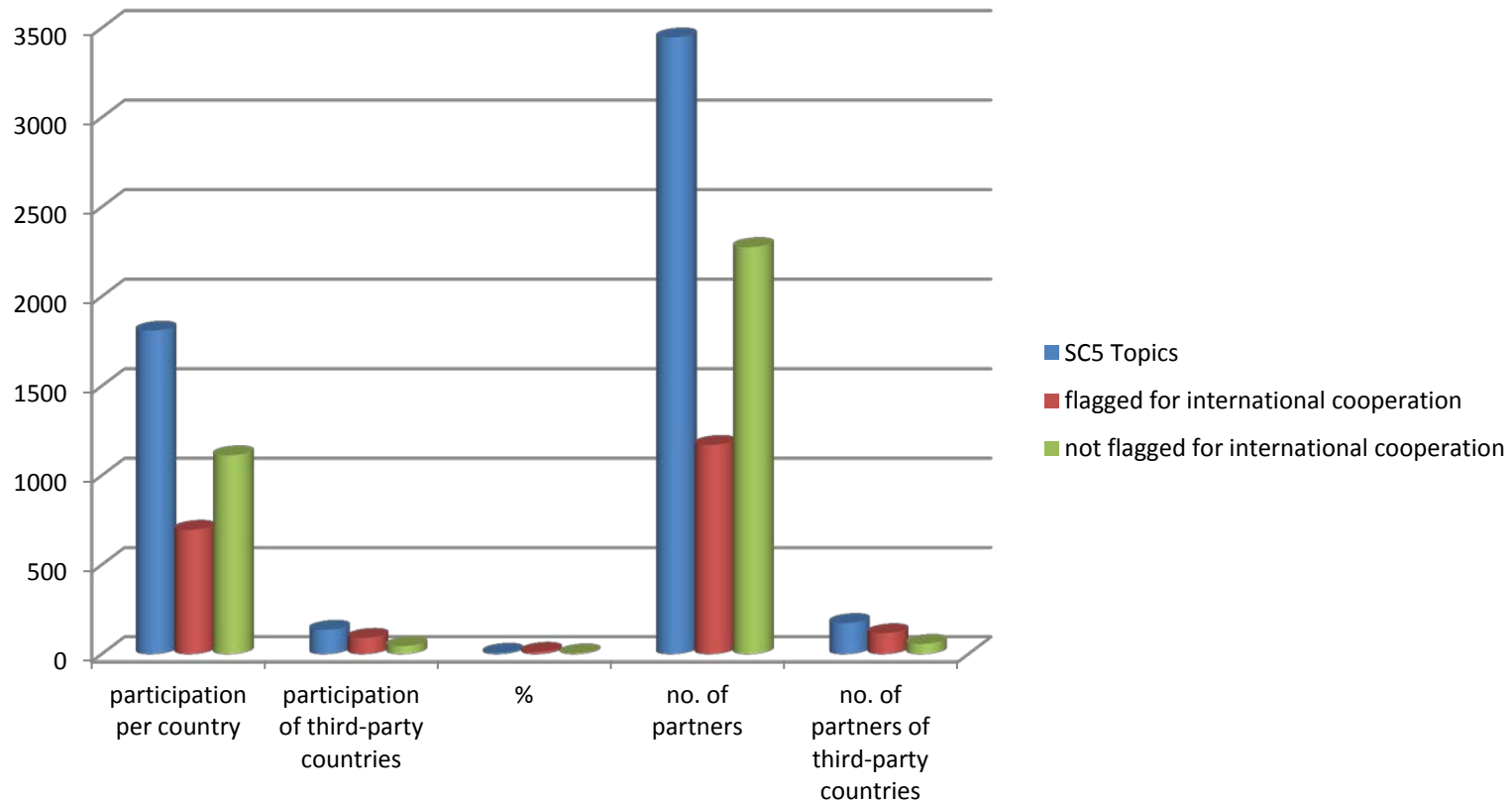
Source: [Monitoring flash INCO](#) Feb. 2019, European Commission, DG RTD, based on CORDA data, Cut-off date 1 January 2019

SC5 WP 2014-2017: Third Country Participation

Evaluation of participation in funded projects in SC5 WP 2014-2017						
Calls	Country Participation - total	Participation 3rd countries	%	Partners total	Partners 3rd countries	%
SC5 topics (all)	1809	136	7.52	3447	174	5.05
flagged for International Cooperation (incl. mandatory)	696	91	13.07	1171	117	9.99
Non-flagged	1113	45	4.04	2276	57	2.50

Source: own compilation based on eCORDA | EU Funding & Tenders Portal

SC5 WP 2014-2017: Third Country Participation



Source: own compilation based on eCORDA | EU Funding & Tenders Portal

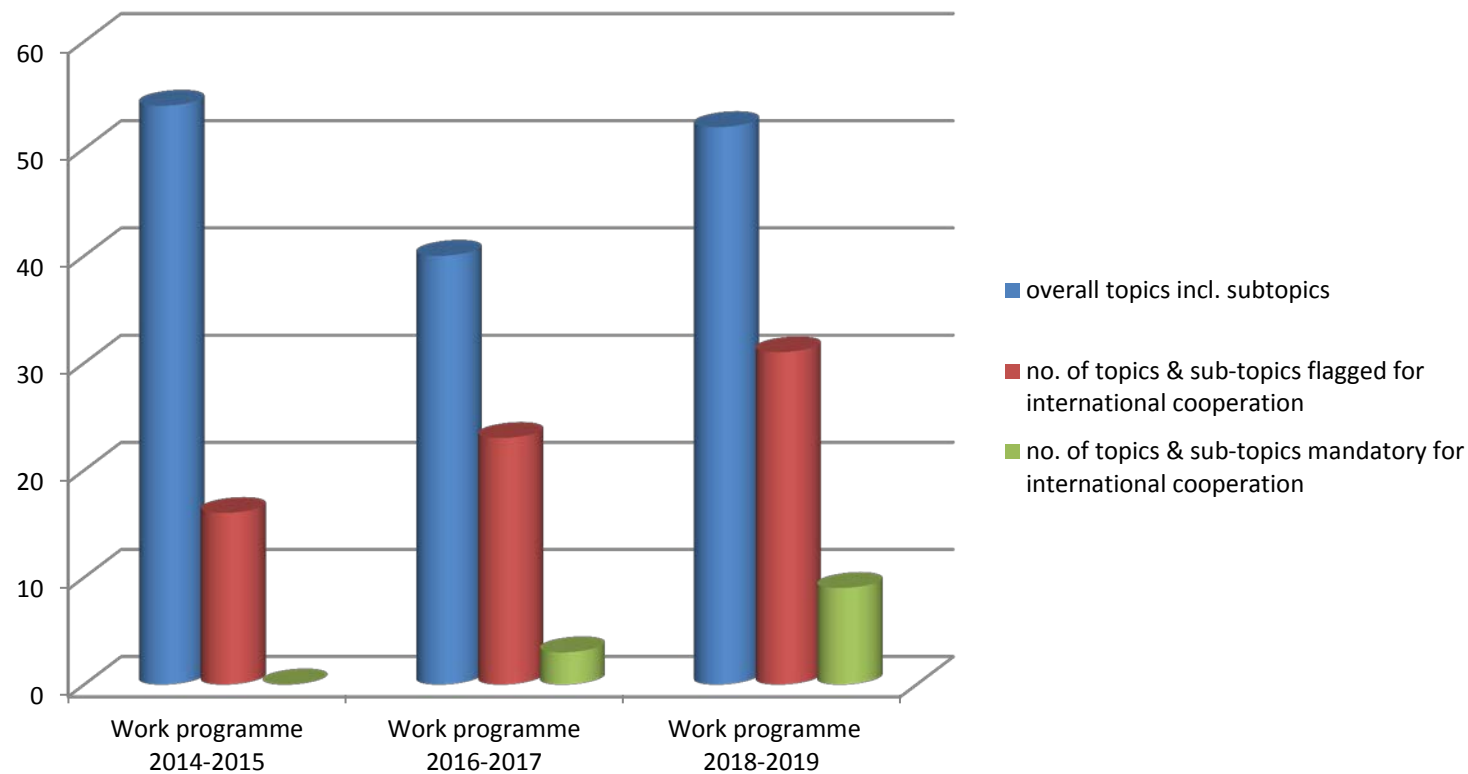
SC5 WP 2014-2019: Third Country Participation

Topics flagged for International Cooperation (INCO)	SC5 Work programme 2014-2015	SC5 Work programme 2016-2017	SC5 Work programme 2018-2019*
Total number of topics + subtopics	54	40	52
Flagged number of topics + subtopics (incl. mandatory)	16	23	31
Number of topics + subtopics with mandatory cooperation (without ERA-Nets)	0	3	9
Share flagged (in %)	29.63	57.50	57.69
Share mandatory INCO (in %)	0	7.50	17.31

Source: own compilation based on SC5 work programmes

* 2020 topics not included as these are to be published by ca. 24 June 2019

SC5 WP 2014-2019: Third Country Participation



Source: own compilation based on SC5 work programmes

2020 topics not included as these are to be published by ca. 24 June 2019

SC5: Overview of Calls - Work Programme 2018 – 2020

Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials

There are two calls:

- ❖ Call 1: Building a low-carbon, climate resilient future: climate action in support of the Paris Agreement
- ❖ Call 2: Greening the economy in line with the Sustainable Development Goals

SC5: Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials

Flagship Initiatives

- Climate action in support of the Paris Agreement
- Strengthening international cooperation on sustainable urbanisation: nature-based solutions for restoration and rehabilitation of urban ecosystems
- EU-India water co-operation
- Towards operational forecasting of earthquakes and early warning capacity for more resilient societies
- International network to promote cultural heritage innovation and diplomacy

International Cooperation in SC5 Topics - WP 2018-2020

❖ Flagship initiatives from which **joint call** topics were developed:

- SC5-12-2018: EU-**India** water co-operation*
- SC5-13a-2018: Strengthening EU-**China** collaboration on sustainable urbanisation**

EU strategic partner, as confirmed at the EU-India Summit on 30 March 2016; MoU on water cooperation between India and the EU adopted on 7 October 2016 → details see topic text. Due to the specific challenge of this topic, in addition to the minimum number of participants set out in the General Annexes, **proposals shall include at least three participants from India*

***SC5-13-2018-2019: Strengthening international cooperation on sustainable urbanisation: nature-based solutions for restoration and rehabilitation of urban ecosystems*

This topic is part of the EU-China flagship initiative on Environment and Sustainable Urbanisation → details see topic text

*In addition to the minimum number of participants set out in the General Annexes, proposals addressing sub-topic a) **shall include at least three participants from China***

International Cooperation in SC5 Topics - WP 2018-2020

❖ Topics which require **mandatory** 3rd country participation (total 9 | years 2018+2019):

- LC-CLA-05a-2019: Human Dynamics of climate change – (a) Climate services for **Africa**

*Due to the specific challenge of this topic, in addition to the minimum number of participants set out in the General Annexes, proposals addressing **sub-topic a)** shall include at least three participants from at least two different African countries.*

- LC-CLA-07-2019: The changing cryosphere

*All four subtopics (a-d): **INCO** (in particular with countries that took part in the **first Arctic Science Ministerial** of 28 September 2016 (i.e. **USA, Canada, China, Japan, Russian Federation, South Korea, New Zealand, India, Singapore, Greenland**). Due to the specific challenge of this topic, in addition to the minimum number of participants set out in the General Annexes, proposals shall include at least two participants from third countries.*

- CE-SC5-08c-2018: Raw materials policy support actions for the circular economy – (c) Responsible sourcing of raw materials in global value chains

***INCO** encouraged, particularly with partners from **advanced countries using raw materials**. In addition to minimum number of participants (General Annexes), proposals shall include at least one participant from third countries.*

- SC5-13b-2019: Strengthening EU-CELAC collaboration on sustainable urbanisation

*In addition to the minimum number of participants set out in the General Annexes, proposals addressing sub-topic b) shall include at least three participants from **CELAC** (Community of Latin American and Caribbean States) countries*

International Cooperation in SC5 Topics - WP 2018-2020

❖ Topics where **INCO** is **encouraged** (total 22 | years 2018+2019):

- many topics in LC-CLA | CE-SC5/SC5 | SC5 *
- LC-CLA-06-2019: Inter-relations between climate change, biodiversity and ecosystem services

*In line with the strategy for EU international cooperation in research and innovation (COM(2012)497), **international cooperation is encouraged, in particular with CELAC (Community of Latin American and Caribbean States) countries.***

EC**:
Encouraging International Cooperation
NOT an eligibility condition
A plus in the evaluation

* climate | circular economy & raw materials | water, nature-based solutions/innovating cities, earth observation, cultural heritage

** SC5 Info Day 2017 for 2018 calls – see PPT & webstream on International Cooperation:

<https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/2017-information-day>

EXERCISE I - SC5 Topics INCO Calls

Handout of topics – please read

- SC5-12-2018 → EU-India
- SC5-13-2018-2019 → EU-China | → EU-CELAC

Questions

1. What are key aspects of INCO required in SC5-13?
2. Where can you find funding info for these countries (India, China, CELAC)? Is info provided sufficient?
3. If additionally, unofficial Chinese translation on Chinese funding available for EU partners (simply FYI) – what do you advise your EU client?
4. What do you have to pay attention to, when advising on funding for CELAC?

→ total of 5 min to read topic texts concerning requested aspects in questions 1 and 2

H2020 – International Cooperation with China

- Co-funding mechanism (CFM) with China since 2015 → Chinese partners under H2020 criteria not eligible for funding and **only Chinese regulations apply to Chinese partners**
- Funding option for Chinese partners → participation in an EU funded project with own means
- Donors :
 - Largest Donor: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) → ref. EU-China flagship initiative in SC5
 - National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) funds Chinese partners in biotechnology & global health care calls
 - Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) funds Chinese partners in aviation calls
- Funds allotted on competitive basis: Chinese partners have to apply for funds → no automatic funding
- Further information:

Q&A EU-China Co-funding Mechanism for Research and Innovation Cooperation

https://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/news/faq_on_cfm_en.pdf

People's Republic of China - Country Page

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/hi/h2020_localsupp_china_en.pdf

H2020 – International Cooperation with China

- Last CFM-Call from MOST in October 2018: calls for proposals in 9 thematic focus areas*
- EU-China flagship initiative for SC5 Environment & Sustainable Urbanisation not listed (in comparison to earlier March 2018 version)**
- **Lessons learned for SC5 NCPs:**
 - Important to inform clients that Chinese partners have to inquire about their funding options in China
 - If they do not find their thematic area in an open call – risk of no funding - ?

*new generation information network; intelligent and green manufacturing; safe, clean and efficient energy; advanced, effective, safe and convenient health technologies; marine equipment; space; new materials; large research infrastructures; and public security

****Q: What is the main difference between this CFM call and the previous CFM calls?**

A: The main difference with the first CFM call for year 2018 published by MOST is that the call does not address the joint EU-China flagship initiatives but covers the projects in the nine broad priority areas identified by MOST. The same budget ceilings, number of projects and requirements apply for the projects under this call as for the nine priority areas in the last call.

Q: Who can apply for funding under this CFM call? A: A key requirement of the CFM call is that applicants should have submitted a joint proposal with their European partners under the EU's Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2018.

Source: Q&A EU-China Co-funding Mechanism for Research and Innovation Cooperation https://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/news/faq_on_cfm_en.pdf

H2020 – International Cooperation with **India**

Co-funding mechanism (CFM) with India through:

- Indian Department of Science and Technology (DST)
- Indian Department of Biotechnology (DBT)
- Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)

Further information:

- India Country page:
http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/hi/h2020_localsupp_india_en.pdf
- Funding rules - DBT:
<http://www.dbtindia.nic.in/wp-content/uploads/Call-doc-Horizon-2020-converted.pdf>
<http://www.dbtindia.nic.in/funding-mechanism/call/>
- Funding rules - MoES:
<https://www.moes.gov.in/writereaddata/files/Webnotice%20.pdf>

SC5 – International Cooperation with India (WP 2018-2020)

- LC-CLA-06-2019: Inter-relations between climate change, biodiversity and ecosystem services

*INCO (in particular CELAC - Community of Latin American and Caribbean States) encouraged
But DBT also would fund for this topic if Indian partners participate – see [India Country page](#)*

- LC-CLA-07-2019: The changing cryosphere (a-c) (→ MoES)

INCO encouraged, in particular with countries beyond the EU Member States and countries associated to Horizon 2020 – that took part in the first Arctic Science Ministerial of 28 September 2016 (i.e. USA, Canada, China, Japan, Russian Federation, South Korea, New Zealand, India, Singapore, Greenland. In addition to minimum number of participants (General Annexes), proposals shall include at least two participants from third countries.

- Common call within Flagship Initiative Water (joint EU-India Water Call) SC5-12-2018: EU-India water co-operation (→ DST/DBT)

*Procedure: Funding of successful Indian partners in pre-identified topics
In SC5-12-2018 Indian partners had to submit same proposal (SC5-deadline EU 27.2.18, IND DST → electronically by 27 February 2018 + Hard Copy(!) by 12 March 2018 → common panel due to one-stage)*

Total 11 projects funded one-stage (Source: EASME Newsletter - https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/easme-executive-agency-smes/11-new-environment-and-resources-projects-share-29-million-eu-funding?pk_campaign=newsletter-env-november)

EXERCISE II – Advice on SC5 INCO Topics

SC5-12-2018 | SC5-13-2018-2019

Questions (with focus on formalities not content)

What would you respond to the following questions posed to German SC5 NCP office?

- I. SC5-13-2018-2019, sub-topic b): Does it have to be three partners from three different CELAC countries, or can they be three partners from Brasil?
- II. Do CELAC need a PIC and sign the GA?
- III. SC5-12-2018 EU-India: Do partners from Canada & Australia need to sign a Lol?
- IV. Are Indian partners supposed to sign the Grant agreement in SC5-12?
- V. If CELAC countries are participating, do I still need a minimum of three EU countries?
- VI. Other direct costs (table 3.4b): Do I need to also add these for Chinese partners?
- VII. Which sections of proposal template are relevant for Indian (SC5-12) and Chinese (SC5-13a) partners?

SC5 – Some responses from SC5 NCP Germany - EXERCISE II

- I. SC5-13-2018-2019, sub-topic b): Does it have to be three partners from three different CELAC countries, or can they be three partners from Brasil only? → *Not clear from topic: therefore, should be possible. Always provide logical explanation in proposal.*
- II. Do CELAC need a PIC and sign the GA? → *Countries eligible for funding: Yes. BRA+MEX not eligible (have to bring own funding), but if INCO partners, then need to be partners in consortium, UNLESS using Art. 14a, then they do not need to sign GA.*
- III. SC5-12-2018 EU-India: Do partners from Canada & Australia need to sign an Lol? → *Safety sake yes, because they are not foreseen in this topic. BUT in case of Canada: they would sign an MoU not Lol.*
- IV. Are Indian partners supposed to sign the Grant agreement in SC5-12?
→ *Yes, Indian partners expected to sign GA (even though not requesting EU funding) → DG RTD stated this on SC5 Info Day 2017 for 2018 calls – see PPT & webstream on International Cooperation: <https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/2017-information-day>. (Otherwise: Art. 14a as an option).*
- V. If CELAC countries are participating, do I still need minimum of three EU countries?
→ *Yes, in SC5-13b, a minimum of 3 partners from EU MS/AC + minimum 3 partners from CELAC are required.*
- VI. Other direct costs (table 3.4b): Do I need to also add these for Chinese partners? Table only requires to list those who exceed 15 % personnel costs.
→ *Yes, you also need to add the Chinese partners here. Additionally, for a better overview, you can also add all partners' cost in this table.*

SC5 – Additional helpful information from EC - EXERCISE II

VII. Which sections of proposal template are relevant for Indian (SC5-12) and Chinese (SC5-13a) partners? → Category "Not automatically eligible – not requesting EU funding"

Proposal	India – SC5-12-2018	China – SC5-13a-2018
overall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "develop new and/or adapt ... solutions for Indian conditions" Proposals to be jointly developed Budget table will be used to assess contributions for Indian partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "capitalise on experiences and good practices in Europe and China" Proposals to ensure appropriate balance in terms of effort and/or number of partners between EU and the international partners
Part A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part A and budget table filled in for all partners [Indian partners - DST/DBT co-funding China partners - MOST co-funding] Full partner details [eligibility condition partners: Minimum requirement: 3 MS or AC + 3 [Indian Chinese] participants] Indicate the estimated costs/category – EU Requested Contribution = 0€ The identification of the costs could help securing budget through national mechanisms 	
Part B	Section 3 - indicate roles in the work plan (contribution to tasks) and the consortium + explain how the activities of the partner will be funded and from which sources	
	Table 3.2 - risk for implementation → convincing mitigation measure in case the funding for participation from other sources cannot be secured	
	Section 4.1 – description of the partner	
At GAP stage – they will need to be fully validated (anticipate this process)		

- SC5 Info Day 2017 for 2018 calls – see PPT & webstream on International Cooperation: <https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/2017-information-day>
- EC FAQ ref China-Call SC5-13-2018: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/faq;categories=;programme=null;actions=;keyword=SC5-13-2018>

SC5 – Some responses from NCPs CaRE network

→ see handout for all answers

- Slovakia: there wasn't an interest to participate in these calls
- SC5-12-2018 - India: Client concerned about IPR risk - not interested in topic
- **Finances:**
 - **India** - Frequent and recurrent questions about the necessity of including the budget from Indian partners and the requested amount in the proposal budget submitted to the EC
 - **China** - Controversial and confused information about the maximum budget of Chinese partners
 - **CELAC** - Frequent and recurrent questions about which countries are eligible and which ones can request contribution from EC. Confusion about eligibility and fundability

SC5 – Some responses from NCPs CaRE network

→ see handout for all answers

- **Formalities:**

- **China** - Confused information about eligibility criteria from MOST. Apparently minimum of three entities (any kind of entity) but we received information from some Chinese partners, at least two of the partners should be private companies to receive the Chinese grant
- **India** - Two different authorities to submit the proposal in India. Doubts about if it was necessary to submit both or only one, the deadlines and the requested documentation
- **India** - In some approved projects, some Indian partners have left the consortium during the GA preparation process. Doesn't it mean a change in the project scope? Shouldn't they have been evaluated again?

Some questions to you on your experience

- Participation of 3rd countries have significantly reduced: What are the causes? Is the inclusion of partners from 3rd countries rather a risk than a chance, if they are not specifically listed in the topic text?
- Co-funding topics: How good do these really function & what does a coordinator have to pay attention to?
- "National funding" provided by 3rd countries to participate in H2020-Calls: a good substitution for direct funding from H2020?
- New regulation in MGA (Article 14a) – noteworthy aspects & experiences?
- Horizon Europe: What´s planned in terms of INCO with 3rd countries (call types, participation rules, themes, coordination/alignment)?

Additional helpful links → other links see *Sources* in slides

Available local support for H2020 participants from non-EU countries

<https://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/index.cfm?pg=latin-america-carib>

List of countries eligible for funding → General Annex A to the Work Programme 2018-2020:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/how-to-participate/reference-documents;programCode=H2020>

International Cooperation - Strategy Implementation Reports:

<https://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/index.cfm?pg=strategy>

EU-India International Cooperation – Framework docs | Background docs | Co-funded calls | Links:

<https://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/index.cfm?amp;pg=india>

EU-China International Cooperation – Framework docs | Background docs | Co-fund mechanism | Links:

<https://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/index.cfm?amp;pg=china>

EU-CELAC International Cooperation – Framework docs | Background docs | Projects | Links:

<https://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/index.cfm?pg=latin-america-carib>

Flagship initiatives from 2018-20 Work Programmes across Horizon 2020 [Link](#)

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NCPs CaRE  : <http://www.ncps-care.eu/>

NCPs CaRE  : <http://partnersearch.ncps-care.eu/>

NCPs CaRE  : <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8302401>

SC5 EXERCISE I

- Calls on international cooperation in Societal challenge 5 -

Advanced information on international cooperation with specific focus on thematic areas of H2020
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Horizon 2020 - Work Programme 2018-2020

Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials

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SC5-12-2018: EU-India water co-operation

Specific Challenge: In recent years, India and Europe have collaborated extensively to enhance and enrich each other's technological and scientific knowledge and management capacities to cope with increasing stress on water resources. Increasing heterogeneity in the uneven distribution of water resources triggered by climate change, extreme water-related events (floods and droughts) and increasing demand due to population growth and economic development add additional stress to water, environment and food security and to the national economy. Many of these water challenges are common to India and some of the EU Member States. Therefore there is a need for a concerted effort of India and EU to address these issues. This will also help in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals' (SDGs) agenda on water.

Scope: This action should develop new and/or adapt the most suitable existing innovative and affordable solutions for Indian conditions, both in urban and rural areas, addressing one or more of the following broad challenges:

- drinking water purification with a focus on emerging pollutants;
- waste water treatment, with scope for resource/energy recovery, reuse, recycle and rainwater harvesting, including bioremediation technologies;
- real time monitoring and control systems in distribution and treatment systems.

Actions should therefore take into account India's water challenges both with regard to quantity and quality. In doing so, allocation of water should be facilitated and the supply should become more competitive or lead to an optimisation of costs; it should also lead to better water management and quality by finding solutions to the treatment of widely varying pollution loads including those from emerging pollutants.

The impact of extreme climate and hydrological conditions (monsoon floods) also need to be taken into consideration

Actions addressing wastewater treatment should focus on sustainable use/reuse of water in rapidly expanding urban areas, as well as smaller cities lacking any type of suitable wastewater treatment. Actions may also address the development of appropriate decentralized water treatment and wastewater treatment and recycling systems, including the improvement of sewage collection and urban drainage systems. Water and energy efficient and costeffective processes, optimising use and maximising energy and materials recovery from wastewater treatment, reliable monitoring schemes to ensure safe water use and reuse, and simple and affordable operation and maintenance methods also need to be considered.

Actions focusing on drinking water purification should address multiple contaminants or focus on the identification and removal of specific classes of pollutants (e.g. pesticides, fertilisers, geogenic contaminants, etc.).

In actions on wastewater treatment and drinking water purification, the design, development and deployment of sensors and decision support systems for real time monitoring and control of water quantity and quality, should be considered.

In all cases, the involvement of relevant stakeholders, including industry partners, local authorities, water users, research centres and social communities, and consideration of possible gender differences in the use and need of water, is essential in order to enable a strong demonstration component involving transfer of European knowledge, expertise and technology to facilitate future in-house replication. Understanding and assessing the impacts of the developed innovative solutions to the society, in particular for the vulnerable societal groups, should be duly considered. Moreover, in addressing water allocation, the governance of water management and the efficiency of water use, especially for irrigation which is the largest water consumer, should be considered. Actions may also choose to address a combination of the above challenges at river basin scale and should capitalise on knowledge acquired in the projects supported by the joint coordinated EU-India call on water under FP7.

Activities are expected to focus on Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) 3 to 6.

In line with the strategy for EU international cooperation in research and innovation (COM(2012) 497), international cooperation is encouraged, in particular with the EU's strategic partners – which India is, as confirmed at the EU-India Summit on 30 March 2016. Actions should include Indian partners in a balanced way. This call should also contribute to the objective stated in the Memorandum of Understanding on water cooperation between India and the EU adopted on 7 October 2016⁶² aiming at strengthening the technological, scientific and management capabilities of India and the EU in the field of water.

Proposals should pay attention to the special call conditions for this topic. Both the Indian Department of Science and Technology (DST) and the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) within Indian Ministry of Science and Technology, are committed to co-fund the Indian entities and thus Indian participants will not be eligible for EU funding. This call text will also be available on the websites of DST and DBT respectively and it will refer to the agreed Co-Funding Mechanism (CFM)⁶³ between the EC and DST and DBT. Proposals are to be developed jointly with the Indian entities. For funding purposes, the Indian entities must submit the proposal to DST and/or DBT. Evaluation will be done jointly according to the conditions specified in the CFM and respecting the EC peer review rules.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting an overall contribution (including both EU and India funding) of between EUR 3 million and EUR 5 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts. The funding support for the Indian entities will be according to the DST and/or DBT funding guidelines.

⁶² https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2014-2019/vella/announcements/memorandum-understanding-between-republic-india-and-european-union-water-cooperation_en

⁶³ http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/hi/h2020_localsupp_india_en.pdf

Expected Impact: The project results are expected to contribute to:

- improved and efficient wastewater treatment systems, combined with recovery and reuse
- of energy, substances and treated water;
- improved novel drinking water purification technologies for safe drinking water with
- easy access at affordable cost both in rural and urban regions;
- improved smart and comprehensive solutions for both quality and quantity monitoring
- and management of water resources;
- strengthening the Sustainable Development Goals' (SDGs) agenda on water;
- boosting initiatives like the Ganga Rejuvenation Initiative⁶⁴, fostering the emergence of quick-win business, affordable, innovative solutions based on integrated Indian and EU best practices;
- creating a level playing field for European and Indian industries and SMEs working in this area, paving the way for a potential joint venture for manufacturing of water
- treatment technologies and systems.

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

Special conditions to this call:

SC5-12-2018: Due to the specific challenge of this topic, in addition to the minimum number of participants set out in the General Annexes, proposals shall include at least three participants from India.

⁶⁴ <http://nmcg.nic.in/>

SC5 EXERCISE I

- Calls on international cooperation in Societal challenge 5 -
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Horizon 2020 - Work Programme 2018-2020
Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials
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SC5-13-2018-2019: Strengthening international cooperation on sustainable urbanisation: nature-based solutions for restoration and rehabilitation of urban ecosystems

Specific Challenge: Unsustainable, non-resilient urbanisation patterns, the expansion or neglect of urban areas have caused the fragmentation, depletion and destruction of habitats, biodiversity loss and the degradation of ecosystems and their services. Increasing connectivity between existing, modified and new ecosystems and restoring and rehabilitating them within cities and at the urban-rural interface through nature-based solutions⁶⁶, is necessary to enhance ecosystem resilience and adaptive capacity to cope with the effects of climate and global changes and to enable ecosystems to deliver their services for more liveable, healthier and resilient cities.

Scope: Actions should develop models, tools, decision support systems, methodologies, strategies, guidelines, standards and approaches for the design, construction, deployment and monitoring of nature-based solutions and restoration, prevention of further degradation, rehabilitation and maintenance measures for urban and peri-urban ecosystems and the ecological coherence and integrity of cities. **Actions should review and capitalise upon existing experiences and good practices in Europe and (for option a) China or (for option b) CELAC.** The strategies and tools should be part of an integrated and ecologically coherent urban planning and city-making process that would secure a fair and equitable distribution of benefits from the restored urban ecology and limit its exposure to environmental stresses. Methodologies, schemes and indicators should be developed to allow for the assessment of the cost-effectiveness of the restoration measures, also accounting for their possible negative effects. They should account for the totality of the benefits delivered by the restored ecosystems in terms of, for example, enhancing cities' climate-proofing and resilience, enhancing mitigation options, improving human health and well-being, reducing inequalities and reducing cities' environmental footprint. Actions should also dedicate efforts to awareness raising, outreach activities and education of citizens, including school children about the benefits of nature for their social, economic and cultural well-being.

Actions should bring together European and – depending on the option chosen – Chinese or CELAC research partners, government agencies and urban authorities, private sector and civil society with relevant expertise and competence and foster participatory engagement in urban ecological restoration actions. Further to the eligibility and admissibility conditions applicable to this topic, proposals are encouraged to ensure, to the extent possible, an appropriate balance in terms of effort and/or number of partners between the EU and the international partners, which would correspond to their respective ambition, objectives and envisaged work. This

⁶⁶A definition is provided in the introductory text of this Work Programme

would enhance the impact of the actions and the mutual benefits for both the EU and the international partners.

In line with the strategy for EU international cooperation in research and innovation (COM(2012)497), international cooperation is encouraged. Proposals should pay attention to the special call conditions for this topic.

To ensure that knowledge, evidence and capacity developed within the framework of this topic covers an as broad range of conditions and urban contexts as possible across Europe, urban and peri-urban areas and ecosystems funded through projects under sub-topic a) are not invited to sub-topic b). Exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis, provided that applicants can duly and convincingly justify the added value – in terms of additional knowledge, evidence and capacity regarding nature-based solutions for restoration and rehabilitation of urban ecosystems – of addressing the same area(s) under sub-topic b) in addition to them being covered through a project funded under sub-topic a). The appropriate use of Horizon 2020 resources in funding such cases will be assessed during the evaluations and the potential granting process.

The participation of social sciences and humanities disciplines, addressing also the gender dimension, is crucial to properly address this topic. Cooperation and synergies with the activities undertaken within the Covenant of Mayors initiative for Climate and Energy⁶⁷ initiative (supported by the EC) should be sought where appropriate.

Actions should address only one of the following sub-topics:

a) Strengthening EU-China collaboration (2018)

This topic is part of the EU-China flagship initiative on Environment and Sustainable Urbanisation which aims at promoting substantial coordinated and balanced research and innovation cooperation between the EU and China.

China-based participants have the possibility to apply for funding under the Chinese cofunding mechanism and other Chinese sources⁶⁸.

b) Strengthening EU-CELAC collaboration (2019)

The possibility for participants from some CELAC countries to apply for funding under national co-funding mechanism should be explored⁶⁹.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU in the range of EUR 5 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

⁶⁷ www.covenantofmayors.eu

⁶⁸ See http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/docs/h2020-funding-guide/cross-cutting-issues/internationalcooperation_en.htm#support-non-eu-countries

Expected Impact: The project results are expected to contribute to:

- restored and functioning urban ecosystems with an enhanced capacity to deliver their services;
- making a business and investment case for nature-based solutions on the basis of increased evidence about the positive and negative impacts from restored urban ecosystems with regards to urban liveability, climate change resilience, social inclusion, urban regeneration, public health and well-being;
- guidelines for cost effective urban ecosystem restoration and ecological rehabilitation measures and new planning approaches and methods.

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

Special conditions apply for this topic:

SC5-13-2018-2019: In addition to the minimum number of participants set out in the General Annexes, proposals addressing sub-topic a) shall include at least three participants from China and proposals addressing sub-topic b) shall include at least three participants from CELAC (Community of Latin American and Caribbean States) countries.

NCPs CaRE Coordinator is participating in an INCO Training from NCP Academy, where SC5-INCO calls will be presented, especially of interest is:

When giving advice to clients/proposers, what was especially difficult?

What questions were asked again and again?

What were difficulties / hurdles for us in terms of advising?

How did we give advice and how did you exchange advisory practice ?



Categories of questions	Country WP2018 + 2019	Topic-ID 2018+2019	Content of question
Formalities Finance Interpretation of Topic Text Other	India China CELAC	SC5-12-2018 SC5-13-2018-2019 [SC5-13a-2018 - China] [SC5-13b-2019 CELAC]	
Other	China	SC5-13a-2018 - China	The information for the proposal submission to the MOST portal is only an unofficial information of the commission. Reference is made to the MOST website, but there is no English version and it is not up to date.
Formalities	China	SC5-13a-2018 - China	Deadline in MOST call changes. Initially the deadline for MOST call was going to be after call resolution. However it changed and partners had to send the information to MOST between first and second stage
Other	China	SC5-13a-2018 - China	Controversial and confused information received from MOST (by Chinese partners). No feedback to EU partners
Formalities	China	SC5-13a-2018 - China	Confused information about eligibility criteria from MOST. Apparently minimum of three entities (any kind of entity) but we received information from some Chinese partners, at least two of the partners should be private companies to receive the Chinese grant
Other	China	SC5-13a-2018 - China	Even in the case of project granted by EU, doubts about the final decision of the Chinese authorities. Uncertainties about the viability of the project
Finance	China	SC5-13a-2018 - China	Controversial and confused information about the maximum budget of Chinese partners
Other	China	SC5-13a-2018 - China	Serious difficulties to find Chinese partners specially if you does not have any contact there
Finance	China	SC5-13a-2018 - China	Frequent and recurrent questions about the necessity of including the Chinese budget and the requested amount in the proposal budget submitted to the EC
Formalities	China	SC5-13a-2018 - China	In some approved projects, some Chinese partners have left the consortium during the GA preparation process. Does not it means a change in the project scope? Shouldn't have they been evaluated again?
Other	India	SC5-12-2018	Serious difficulties to find partners from India, specially if you does not have any contact there
Finance	India	SC5-12-2018	Frequent and recurrent questions about the necessity of including the budget from Indian partners and the requested amount in the proposal budget submitted to the EC
Formalities	India	SC5-12-2018	Two different authorities to submit the proposal in India. Doubts about if it was necessary to submit both or only one, the deadlines and the requested documentation
Finance	India	SC5-12-2018	Controversial and confused information received from India about the maximum budget for Indian partners
Formalities	India	SC5-12-2018	In some approved projects, some Indian partners have left the consortium during the GA preparation process. Does not it means a change in the project scope? Shouldn't have they been evaluated again?
Finance	CELAC	SC5-13b-2019 CELAC	Frequent and recurrent questions about which countries are eligible and which ones can request contribution from EC. Confusion about eligibility and fundability
Finance	CELAC	SC5-13b-2019 CELAC	Frequent and recurrent questions about if the CELAC countries budget and the requested contribution had to be included in the proposal submitted
Finance	CELAC	SC5-13b-2019 CELAC	Problems to get information about the instruments to finance EU calls in Brazil because of the different funding agencies in the different Brazilian states. Also questions about Mexican funding mechanisms
Formalities and Finance		LC-CLA-07-2019	Question about the eligibility and funding conditions; in this topic, there should be at least 2 participants from third countries, in particular those participating in th 1st Arctic Science Ministerial in Washington (e.g. USA, Canada, China, Japan, Rusia , South Korea, New Zealand, India, Singapore, and Greenland)
Formalities and Finance		SC5-17-2018	In this topic, international cooperation was encouraged, e.g. with USA, New Zealand, Japan, Chile, Mexico. Questions about how to include the budget of participants from this countries and also the funding mechanisms in them were quite frequent.
Others	India	SC5-12-2018	Client concerned about IPR risk - not interested in topic: possible support from SME IPR helpdesk
Finance	CELAC	SC5-13b-2019 CELAC	The list of eligible countries (footnote no 69) was given in the WP, but no further information is provided about the organisations in CELAC countries, which can provide funding for participants from CELAC countries. SEE same question above, lines 19 & 21 Reply from EC (Luis Patrick SAMANIEGO MOFFRE, Senior Policy Officer , DG Research & Innovation, C2 –International Cooperation Argentina, Mexico, Central America and Caribbean) In the LAC region all countries are eligible for funding with the exception of Brazil and Mexico. In the case of Mexico, Conacyt has a co-funding mechanism in place. You can contact Moira Karosuo (mkarosuo@conacyt.mx) at the EU-MX liaison office. On BR's side, each applicant has to verify with FAPs, CNPq, FINEP and CONFAP its own eligibility. When a participant is located in a State where the Funding Agency is not participating to the Mechanism then, he/she should/could make reference to CNPq and FINEP which are national institutions.