

# Hong Kong and Macao

## Available local programs or funds that could provide support to Horizon 2020 participants from Hong Kong and Macao Special Administrative Regions

Horizon 2020 is fully open to international participation in all fields and areas. Researchers, enterprises, research institutions and universities from Hong Kong and Macao special administrative regions will be able to team up with their European partners to participate in projects under Horizon 2020 and make best use of Europe's excellent opportunities in research and innovation. Through participation in Horizon 2020 beneficiaries can gain great benefits from access to excellent knowledge, access to research data and access and connection to world-leading scientific networks and research teams.

## Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

### Hong Kong Research Grants Council Collaboration Scheme

On 19 April 2018, the Hong Kong Research Grants Council (RGC) launched the invitation for applications (2018/19-I) under the European Commission (EC) / Research Grants Council (RGC) Collaboration Scheme for research and innovation 2018/19.

The collaboration scheme aims to foster EU-Hong Kong collaboration in academic research and to support the participation of researchers in universities funded by the University Grants Committee (UGC) in Hong Kong in joint research projects conducted under the framework of Horizon 2020. A budget of HK\$9 million (or 1 million euro) is intended for the 2018/19 exercise, subject to approval of the RGC in June 2018.

Hong Kong partners in a successful proposal submitted under Horizon 2020 work programme 2018-20 calls can apply. The call covers both basic and applied research projects through "research project proposals" in science disciplines (viz biology and medicine, engineering and physical sciences) and "exchange proposals" in all disciplines. Applications should include a summary of the proposal submitted to the EC and research work undertaken by the Hong Kong team, to be signed by the coordinator of the Horizon 2020 project and the EC's official notification of the proposals being funded. Applications should be submitted through the Research Offices of the Hong Kong applicants' universities to the RGC by 5 July 2018 1700 hours (Hong Kong time).

The project duration should normally be not more than 5 years. The project duration proposed by the Hong Kong PI should not be longer than that of the concerned Horizon 2020 project. The per-project ceiling of RGC's research project grants and exchange grants are HK\$3 million and HK\$0.5 million (both excluding on-costs) respectively.

Evaluation of proposals will be arranged by RGC in accordance with its rules including the extent to which the existing strengths of each side may complement each other in the proposal, opportunities for training young researchers, credentials of project teams, and impact to Hong Kong. The results of the first round of the 2018/19 exercise will be announced around September 2018 at the RGC homepage. The RGC intends to invite applications twice in 2018/19 in the months of April and October 2018 subject to availability of funding.

Details of the call can be found at the official website of RGC:  
[http://www.ugc.edu.hk/eng/rgc/funding\\_opport/ec\\_rgc\\_cs.html](http://www.ugc.edu.hk/eng/rgc/funding_opport/ec_rgc_cs.html)

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## Macao Special Administrative Region

### Macau Science and Technology Development Fund Collaboration Scheme

Following the 20th EU-Macao Joint Committee Meeting on Cooperation in Research and Innovation, the European Commission and the Macao Science and Technology Development Fund (FDCT) agreed to set up a Collaboration Scheme to encourage Macao researchers in participating in the EU's Framework Programme Horizon 2020. Under the Scheme, FDCT will provide financial support for Macao participants in selected Horizon 2020 proposals. The call is open for application with the same deadlines as provided by the Horizon 2020 call on the EU side.

With maximum amount of funding per project at \$5 million patacas (or 0.55 million euro) and maximum funding limit per year at \$1 million patacas, the Cooperation Scheme provides financial support to Macao partners in Horizon 2020 proposals under all themes. Macao researchers will apply for FDCT funding in accordance with the FDCT's rules and procedures. The FDCT research project grants will support the subsidies for Macao research personnel, expenses on instruments and equipment, expenses on experiment materials and consumables, travel and subsistence costs for Macao research workers to visit collaborators in Europe, expenses for the Macao researcher workers to participate in international conferences, expenses on publications/reference materials.

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