



## EU-CHINA COOPERATION ON RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

# Food, Agriculture and Bio-technology (FAB Flagship Initiative)

Being the two biggest food producers in the world, China and the EU share a common goal to join forces for addressing challenges related to food security, food safety, healthy diets, animal health and sustainable agriculture.

Research and innovation cooperation in Food, Agriculture and Bio-technology (FAB) can make a major contribution to these important common and global challenges.



## The FAB Initiative

The EU and China launched the EU-China FAB Flagship Initiative at the EU-China summit on 21 November 2013 with the signature of a Letter of Intent on Research and Innovation Cooperation in Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology between the European Commission and the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS). It was also announced during the 1st EU-China Innovation Cooperation Dialogue.

It is in the interest of the European Union (EU) to ensure that China is moving towards more sustainable agro-food production systems, as unsustainability in China might have severe knock-on effects in an increasingly globalised market. The opportunity to export new advanced sustainable technologies and scale-up the potential of the Chinese market will enhance innovation in Europe and contribute to growth and jobs. Ensuring sustainable food production systems in China will also increase global trade predictability, overall productivity, transparency of the food chain and resource-efficiency

## Current cooperation and new initiatives

A first phase implemented through the Horizon 2020 work programme 2014/2015, included **seven topics in areas of common interest. Ten projects** started or will shortly kick-off as a result.

Over the past two years, the FAB Task Force has been active in identifying common areas for cooperation and establishing close working arrangements, leading to a second phase of the FAB Flagship Initiative. **Five topics were identified and drafted together for the first time ever within the FAB Task Force.** Topic texts have been confirmed by the Innovation Cooperation Dialogue (ICD) representatives from both sides. They will be published under the HORIZON 2020 Work Programme for 2016/2017, with a total budget of EUR 26 million for EU partners in future selected projects. It is expected that China will provide funds to support Chinese partners

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## More information:

<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/news/towards-eu-china-food-agriculture-biotechnology-flagship>