



DRAGON-STAR

**SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT
CONTEXT AND THE MAIN OBJECTIVES**

DRAGON-STAR

Project Overview

Dragon-STAR was built upon the work performed by two previous FP7 INCO projects (BILAT-SILK and ACCESSChina4EU), aiming to support the Sino-European collaboration in four levels, namely:

- Enhancing the quality of the Chinese participation in the European Framework Programs.
- Supporting the reciprocity originating from the signed EU-China Scientific Cooperation Agreement and the other bilateral initiatives.
- Supporting the bilateral cooperation in the broader field of innovation and especially technological cooperation between industrial players.
- Supporting the ongoing bilateral Scientific Cooperation dialogue and the other related initiatives.

The strategy of the workplan was to address all requirements of the call and rationalise the work by grouping it into four distinct layers (check the following graph).

Work Package Overview

WP2 integrates all the work related to the basic objective of improving the quality of the Chinese participation in the framework programs, building upon the work already performed in the previous funded bilateral activity (BILAT-SILK). WP2 includes: the provision of quality NCP support services, the expansion of the existing network of the Regional Contact Points all over China as well as the monitoring of the Chinese participation in FP programs.

WP3 builds upon the work done for ACCESSCHINA4EU including several new activities for reinforcing the direct European cooperation with Chinese institutions. WP3 highlights the opportunities for participation in the national Chinese research programs and will support the twinning of labs, the creation of joint liaison offices (with specific pilot activities), and identifies opportunities to use Horizon 2020 as a tool for addressing specific societal challenges.

WP4 focuses on addressing innovation related activities. The Enterprise Europe Network is employed to bridge and address specific technological collaboration opportunities between SMEs and research actors, while a Grant Scheme of 100,000€ facilitates the direct bilateral

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The project has received funding from the European Union's 7th Framework Program for research, and Innovation under grant Agreement No 309794



The project provides support services to European and Chinese researchers for enhancing the bilateral cooperation, and provides a platform for bilateral policy discussions

research and technological collaboration.

WP5 groups all the work aiming to support the scientific policy dialogue between EU and China. The WP includes several activities to produce useful reports (China 2025, Chinese Research Competitiveness, Quality of the Chinese FP7 participation, etc) that can practically support and contribute to the bilateral dialogue in different levels: SFIC, EU-China Summit, Joint Declaration on the EU-China Partnership for Urbanisation, EU-China SME dialogue, EU-China Industrial Policy Dialogue, member states bilateral dialogues, etc.

Dissemination activities are provisioned under specific tasks of all WPs, in order to facilitate the focused diffusion of the project results and deliverables to the relevant stakeholders (researchers, policy makers, SMEs, etc). In addition, task 1.3 under the management WP aims to provide central dissemination tools for the project results (webpage, leaflets, newsletters, etc). Bringing dissemination activities close to the coordination activities is expected to contribute to the effective communication of all project results and will contribute to the cost-effectiveness of the project's activities.

Work summary (main achievements)

The planned work was focused on addressing the four main project objectives and several positive outputs produced within the project's lifetime. However, more important is the fact that DRAGON-STAR managed to establish stable collaborations with all the major stakeholders in Europe and China. There is an established collaboration with other EU funded projects, while joint events have been organized with the EU Delegation in China, DG Research, DG Agriculture, and EURAXESS Links China.

Below follows a brief description of **main achievements** of the DRAGON-STAR project:

1. **DRAGON-STAR Collaboration culture:** Strong collaboration links with Chinese institutions throughout China (e.g. Peking University, EU-PIC, Beijing Municipality, BTEPC, CAAS) have been established. In addition, the project is recognized as an important stakeholder supporting bilateral cooperation and there is a regular communication with the EU Delegation in China and with scientific advisors based in China. The project team regularly cooperates with the EU Delegation in China in supporting the implementation of the annual "Tour of China" flagship event, as well as in the implementation of specific joint activities.

Moreover, DRAGON-STAR has established a collaboration with the Enterprise Europe Network , while three organisations in China have become associated partners of the project. The project also regularly cooperates with other EU project and initiatives

2. **H2020 promotion & NCP operation in China:** A network of Regional Contact Points spread around China, has been coordinated by CECO/CSTEC, are providing information on H2020 to interested parties. Moreover, CECO, as the official Chinese NCP, runs a help-desk service and a special website offering updated tailor-made information.



The operation of the NCPs in China is reviewed by a self-evaluation benchmarking tool, initially developed by INCONTACT. The promotion of H2020 in China, is complemented with a Chinese NCP website, dissemination in Chinese Social Media as well as numerous amount of infodays and workshops organized around China (often in cooperation with the EU Delegation in China). Finally, the DRAGON-STAR has organized and participated in several policy development meetings with EU Scientific counselors and Chinese policy makers.

3. **Joint-Labs mapping – China:** A mapping work of the main joint labs in China was performed in cooperation with the EU Delegation in China and EURAXESS. At the same area, DRAGON-STAR has produced a feasibility study regarding the creation of Joint Research Structures in China.

Assessment of University performed Research in China. A set of bibliometric studies has been carried out for the Horizon 2020 thematic areas and for the horizontal cross-cutting area of Urbanization.

The report helps to fill this gap in knowledge by assessing the research strengths, relative standing, and internal research landscape of the People's Republic of China.

The analysis of the performance of Chinese institutions in all the thematic areas of H2020 is published at www.dragon-star.eu/assessing-chinas-research



4. **Innovation Ecosystem in China:** An analysis of the Innovation Ecosystem in China has been produced. The report analyses the innovation measures and system in China and especially the incentives and obstacles towards the exploitation of research results.

The report aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of China's Innovative Ecosystem and specifically, to identify innovation support mechanisms. <http://www.dragon-star.eu/innovation-activities>



5. **Project Dissemination and Branding:** A strong "Dragon-Star" identity has been established in China, with the DRAGON-STAR name and Logo receiving broad recognition within the research community. Another innovation of the project was the production and dissemination of several interactive infographics, for several of the project activities.



6. **Programs Database:** An on-line searchable database of funding opportunities in China was produced which is constantly updated. The database includes programs on research and innovation from China (including Hong-Kong and Macau), the Member & Associated States, and International Organisations or Charities: www.dragon-star.eu/research-funding

Research Funding

Research Funding

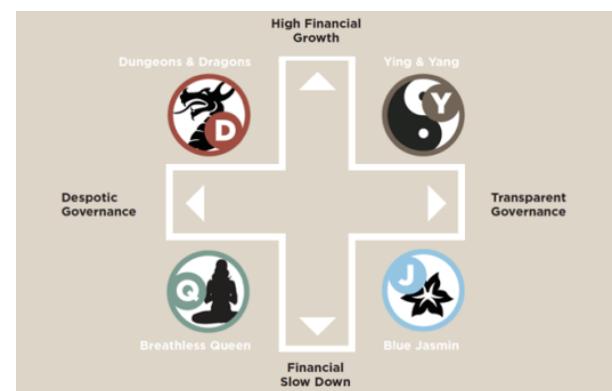
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Recent Events

Chinese Hi-tech Business Delegation to Europe 2014 (Brussels, Prague, Hamburg)
12 May 2014

Supporting EU access to Chinese Research and Innovation Programmes, Porto, 14 May 2014
28 Apr 2014

7. **China 2025: Research and Innovation landscape.** Addressing the need to understand the rapid changes in the Chinese research and innovation landscape and draft a suitable cooperation strategy, DRAGON-STAR performed a foresight scenario study. A combination of a desk-study analysis, media scanning, a Delphi study, as well as a crowd-sourcing tool, were utilized to define and analyse 16 critical drivers that play a



substantial role in transforming the R&I landscape in China.

Furthermore, a cross impact analysis revealed the interrelations between the different drivers and highlighted the strong impact of both the Government and of the National Economy, on positive or negative future developments. Taking into account the main identified drivers, as well as some critical uncertainties, four plausible scenarios for the future of the Chinese research & innovation landscape, have been finally composed. www.dragon-star.eu/china-research-2025

9. **Innovation Travel Grant Scheme:** Within the context of the Dragon-STAR project a Travel Grant Scheme was implemented, providing the opportunity to European organizations to investigate the Chinese market and identify suitable partners to conclude technological and/or research collaboration. Overall, DRAGON-STAR published 3 Calls for applicants and supported the participation of 36 companies and research institutions from 11 EU countries. The output was 402 performed meetings, 33 concluded cooperation agreements, and 98 potential future cooperation opportunities.
10. **Innovation Award:** The Dragon-STAR Innovation Award aimed at showcasing shining examples of Chinese-European cooperation in research and innovation. The three winning teams received the awards during the China-EU S&T Cooperation Forum in Brussels in 2015. <http://www.dragon-star.eu/eu-china-research-and-innovation-forum-28-april-2015-brussels>
11. **Tackling Societal Challenges:** The scientific state of the art in China and European in two specific topics of societal importance and potential synergies were studied. The first approach focused on water security and urban agriculture, due to the high-level interest in further collaboration. <http://www.dragon-star.eu/tackling-societal-challenges-water-security-and-urban-agriculture-a-dragon-star-study>
12. **China in the Framework Programs:** According to the workplan, a qualitative analysis was performed in order to study the role and importance of the Chinese partners in the shortlisted FP7 projects. The completed report was disseminated to stakeholders but also internally to provide strategic guidance to other project activities, e.g. trainings. Interesting aspects of the study would be the benefits of participating, perceived barriers, cultural aspects, IPRs, etc.
13. **Handbook for industrial support services:** A Handbook for industrial support services in China available for the EU SMEs and labs was produced. The publication includes general info on relevant framework conditions, a presentation of the European support instruments and initiatives, Chinese support instruments and initiatives, and selected case studies.



CONTACT US

Epaminondas Christofilopoulos, Epaminondas@help-forward.gr

web: www.dragon-star.eu

twitter: @DragonStarEU

linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/DRAGONSTAR-Plus-4724980/about>

youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG6sEDqDkqfpMMKhi3VZMGQ>