

**EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME OF SCIENTIFIC AND
TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN
ITALY AND CHINA
FOR THE YEARS 2024-2025**

Within the framework of the Scientific and Technological Agreement between the Italian Republic and the People's Republic of China, signed in Beijing on June 9th, 1998, the 17th Session of the Italian-Chinese Joint Committee was held in Beijing and Rome using video conferencing in order to examine the present state and further development of the scientific and technological cooperation between the two Countries and define the new programme for the years 2024-2025.

The institutions in charge of the coordination and the realisation of the present Programme are:

for the Italian Party: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Directorate General for Country Promotion

for the Chinese Party: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) of the People's Republic of China, Department of International Cooperation

The Italian delegation was led by Min. Plen. Giuseppe Pastorelli, Director for Integrated Promotion and Innovation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

The Chinese delegation was led by Mr. XU Jie, Deputy Director General, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Science and Technology.

Members of the two delegations are listed in **Annex 1**.

The following agenda was adopted:

- 1) Present state of scientific and technological cooperation between the two Countries
- 2) New Executive Programme
- 3) Final provisions.

1. Present state of scientific and technological cooperation between the two Countries

The two Parties acknowledged the growing importance of science and technology for the economic, social and cultural development of the two Countries.

The two Parties, considering the good relationships between the two Countries, have stressed the need to develop and further strengthen the cooperation in the fields of science and technology and

agreed to consider the possibility to extend the cooperation in bilateral and multilateral research and development programs.

2. New Executive Programme.

A joint call for proposals was published in Italy and in China, between November 9th, 2022 and January 30th 2023, to collect bilateral research projects of Particular Relevance, in the following priority areas:

1. Agriculture and Food Sciences
2. Artificial Intelligence applied to Cultural Heritage
3. Astrophysics and Physics
4. Green Energy related research
5. Biomedicine

Both Participants expressed their satisfaction for the significant total number of 237 joint proposals validly received in both countries within the above-mentioned research areas, a testimony of the excellent level of scientific collaboration achieved in the last few years between China and Italy.

The general criteria, adopted by both Parties, in evaluating and selecting the joint research projects were the following:

- Scientific relevance
- Methodology and documentation
- Competence and expertise of the research teams
- Added value of the bilateral cooperation
- Involvement of early career researchers
- Appropriateness of the budget requested with respect to methods and expected results.

In addition, preference was given to:

- Projects involving more than one national public/private research organization
- Initiatives having a potential industrial impacts and/or involving industrial partners
- Structured mobility programmes, to the benefit of existing sino-italian Joint Laboratories.

Pursuant to the criteria referred above, the Parties have jointly selected 10 joint research projects of Particular Relevance which will receive financial support within the limits of annual available budget and according to the rules applicable in each Country.

The list of projects is given in **Annex 2**.

3. Final provision

The two Parties have agreed that the next session of the Joint Committee will be held in Rome, at a date to be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

The present Executive Programme for the years 2024-2025 will remain valid until the signature of the next one.

Any amendment to the text of this Programme must be authorised by the competent Ministries in both Countries and has to be carried out through diplomatic channels.

Annexes 1 and 2 are integral part of the present document.

Signed on November 28th 2023 in Beijing in the English language in two originals, both being equally authentic.

For the Italian Party

For the Chinese Party



Mr. Massimo Ambrosetti
Ambassdor of Italy in China

Mr. Xu Jie
Deputy Director General for International
Cooperation, Ministry of Science and Technology
of China

Annex 1

MEMBERS OF THE TWO DELEGATIONS

Italian Delegation	Chinese Delegation
Min. Plen. Giuseppe Pastorelli, Director for Integrated Promotion and Innovation (DGSP), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation	Mr. XU Jie, Deputy Director General, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Science and Technology
Cons. Amb. Alessandra Tognonato, Head of Office IX, Bilateral Policies for the Internationalization of Scientific and Technological Research and Innovation, DGSP	Mr. SHEN Jianlei, Minister Counselor of Chinese Embassy in Rome
Seg. Leg. Francesco De Ciantis, Vice Head of Office IX, Bilateral Policies for the Internationalization of Scientific and Technological Research and Innovation, DGSP	Ms. SHI Ling, Director, Division of European Affairs, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Science and Technology
Cons. Ginevra Oliva, First Counselor, Embassy of Italy in Beijing	Ms. WANG Yingshi, China - Italy Cooperation Officer, Division of European Affairs, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Science and Technology
Prof. Alessandra Guidi, Scientific Attaché, Embassy of Italy in Beijing	Mr. SUN Hui, Director, Division of European Affairs, Bureau of International Cooperation, Chinese Academy of Science
Dr. Riccardo de Sangro, Science Advisor, Office IX, Bilateral Policies for the Internationalization of Scientific and Technological Research and Innovation, DGSP	Ms. SHEN Jie, Program Officer, National Nature Science Foundation of China
Dr. Giuseppe Ippolito, Director General for Research and Innovation, Italian Ministry of Health	Mr. LIU Jianzhou, First Secretary, Chinese Embassy in Rome
Dr. Gianluigi Consoli, Director General for Internationalization and Communication, Italian Ministry of University and Research (TBC)	
Dr. Graziella Romito, Director of International Relations, Italian Ministry of Agriculture (TBC)	

Annex 2

Projects of Particular Relevance jointly selected within the frame of the Executive Programme of Scientific and Technological cooperation between the Italian Republic and the People's Republic of China for the years 2024 - 2025

Research Area	Project Title	Chinese Principal Investigator	Italian Principal Investigator
Agriculture and Food Science	Investigation of cross talking between rumen microbiome, liver and immune system in regulating energy metabolism from dry off to early lactation in dairy cows	Guowen Liu <i>Jilin University</i>	Trevisi Erminio <i>Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore</i>
Agriculture and Food Science	Characterization and dynamics of microplastics from agricultural soils to ground waters	Chunmiao Zheng <i>Southern University of Science and Technology</i>	Castelvetto Valter <i>University of Pisa</i>
Artificial Intelligence in Cultural Heritage	sCHans – Solar loading infrared thermography and deep learning techniques for the noninvasive inspection of precious artifacts	Zhang Hai <i>Harbin Institute of Technology</i>	Sferra Stefano <i>University of L'Aquila</i>
Astrophysics and Physics	GRBAXP: Guangxi-Rome Bilateral Agreement for X-ray Polarimetry in Astrophysics	Fei Xie <i>Guangxi University</i>	Soffitta Paolo <i>Istituto di Astrofisica e Planetologia Spaziali, Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica</i>
Astrophysics and Physics	Exploitation of CSES Satellite in Space Weather Monitoring and Early Warning	Zeren Zhima <i>National Institute of Natural Hazards</i>	Battiston Roberto <i>University of Trento</i>
Biomedicine	Wearable, Flexible Printed Biosensor System for Smart Health Monitoring	Xiongchuan Huang <i>Fudan University</i>	Tarabella Giuseppe <i>Institute of Materials for Electronics and Magnetism (IMEM) National Research Council (CNR)</i>
Biomedicine	Synthesis and evaluation of new theragnostic agents for a breakthrough in neutron capture therapy	Yuan-Hao Liu <i>Neuboron Therapy System Ltd.</i>	Panza Luigi <i>Università del Piemonte Orientale</i>
Green Energy	Study of the Visible Light-Driven Intermolecular Electron Transfer Between the Triplet Excited State of Photosensitizers and Electron Donors and Acceptors for Efficient Reduction and Oxidation Processes	Jianzhang Zhao <i>Dalian University of Technology</i>	Barbon Antonio <i>University of Padova</i>
Green Energy	Efficient and stable perovskite/organic tandem solar cells (PAIR)	Liming Ding <i>National Center for Nanoscience and Technology</i>	Rizzo Aurora <i>CNR NANOTEC Institute of Nanotechnology</i>
Green Energy	Research on BIPV Photovoltaic Facades for Fire Spread Mechanisms, Structural Failures and Resilience Improvement Methodologies (3FiRES)	Wang Yu <i>University of Science and Technology of China</i>	Bedon Chiara <i>University of Trieste</i>