



Sino-EU Doctoral School for Sustainability Engineering (SESE)

2016 Call for Applications for Doctoral Programs

The Harbin Roadmap was signed on September 2012, during the 3rd Sino-EU Engineering Workshop, where the Sino-EU Doctoral School for Sustainability Engineering (SESE) was launched. On September 2013, at the 4th Sino-EU Engineering Workshop, the first SESE applications were presented and approved. The applications of the 2nd Call were presented in September 2014 during the Xi'an 5th Sino-EU Engineering Workshop.

The SEEEP universities are encouraged to apply to the 2016 SESE Call.

1. Background

SEEEP was created at the first Sino-EU Engineering Workshop held in Shanghai, China in September 2010. During this Workshop, the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for Cooperation in Engineering Education between the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China (MOE) and the CLUSTER - Consortium Linking Universities of Science and Technology for Education and Research was signed. This MoU includes 12 European member universities of CLUSTER and 18 Chinese universities selected by MOE. SEEEP aims at jointly facing challenges and opportunities and fostering leading international talents in science, technology, and engineering. At the 2nd Sino-EU Engineering Workshop held in May 2011 in Portugal, the Lisbon Action Plan was signed with consensus reached on the SESE project, which will promote joint research in advanced areas and mobility of PhD students, researchers and professors. In September 2012, Harbin Roadmap was signed on the 3rd Sino-EU Engineering Workshop, where the SESE was launched.

Both China and Europe have comprehensive engineering education and research systems, with tight collaboration with industry, and can be complementary in doctoral education. Sino-EU engineering education cooperation can help to enhance their international influence in scientific and engineering research, education and innovation, by promoting mutual recognition, creating joint research teams in challenging fields, and fostering future engineering talents.

The main objectives of SESE are as follows:

- § Promote joint supervision of doctoral candidates and cooperation competence in education and research for China and Europe;
- § Enhance Sino-EU joint research in sustainability engineering according to the Lisbon Action Plan and Harbin Roadmap;
- § Provide more opportunities for Sino-EU mobility for relevant professors and their doctoral candidates, explore diversified cooperation model of doctoral candidates'

- supervision;
- § Establish a basis for fostering future young faculty and Sino-EU high level engineering talent exchange.

2. Call Description

The programs approved in this Call will run from 2016 to 2021, for a maximum of 4. The 2016 SESE Call, among the ten areas listed in the MoU signed during the 1st Sino-EU Engineering Workshop, prioritises the following topics:

- § ICT; and
- § Advanced Manufacturing.

Each proposal must include between 2 to 4 SEEEP member universities, with one Chinese university and one European university, acting as the co-coordinators and with the possibility of having other Chinese/European university as partners.

Each SEEEP member university can apply for a maximum of one program as the co-coordinator, and participate in another program as a partner. Other SEEEP institutions can join the activities of the Doctoral Program but the coordination responsibility remains with the applicants.

Each Program is expected to promote activities contributing to the joint education of doctoral students and the exchange of research ideas and collaboration. The activities should include doctoral student mobility, joint co-supervision and research meetings/workshops held on a regular basis.

The duration of the exchange periods will depend on the financial resources available to the program, through the partners own resources and competitive grants. Should the financial conditions allow, the preferred exchange duration will be of 12 months for Doctoral candidates and 3 months for PhD supervisors.

The doctoral program must report once a year, covering the executed activities and plans for the subsequent year.

The application must be submitted electronically, using the specific SESE Application Form. Each proposal must include an *Endorsement letter* of each applicant university, at the adequate management level, to ensure the existence of institutional support at the right level of governance.

3. Selection

The SESE applications will be subject to expert evaluation and be reported on the Sino-EU Engineering Workshop.

The evaluation criteria and their weights are as follows:

- § Academic & Research Quality (25%)
- § Consortium Partners & Research Team (25%)
- § Implementation of SESE Doctoral Programme (25%)
- § Management and Resources (25%)

After evaluating the proposals based on their merit, an analysis of the overlapping with other SESE Doctoral Programs focussed on similar topics will be done. Recommendations to

coordinate activities (e.g. summer schools, student exchange...) between analogous programmes may be made and are a condition for the final approval. Successful proposals will be endorsed by the SEEEP as a seal of quality.

4. Resources

SEEEP encourages the SESE program partners to share their education and research resources, jointly promote their cooperation with industry, develop joint research, and provide internship and practice conditions.

SEEEP encourages the SESE program partners to jointly apply for research programs, such as the project of international cooperation of the National Natural Science Foundation of China, the Framework Programs of European Commission, etc.

SEEEP encourages universities to support the implementation of SESE program by synergising other possible resources, such as 111 program of State Administration of Foreign Experts Affairs of China, high-level visiting scholar program of China Scholarship Council (CSC), doctoral candidate joint supervision program of CSC, Erasmus+ and Horizon2020 programmes, and other funding of their own.

SESE partners will apply for CSC specific funding for their Doctoral Programs and will explore other external resources, such as funding from the industry.

5. Timetable

30/09/2016 - Pre-application (submission of the 1st page of the Application Form)

30/10/2016 - Formal application (submission of the full file of the Application Form)

10/11/2016 - Results announced on the 5th Sino-EU Workshop (Guangzhou, China)

Annex: SESE Application Form_2016

Please send the first pages of the application by email before September 30th 2016 to SEEEP Secretariat, and send by email before October 30th 2016 the completed application package, including CVs, *Endorsement letters*, in scanned copy and other supporting documents to SEEEP Secretariat

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SEEEP Secretariat

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