

Innovative ideas invited by US India S&T Endowment Fund to address COVID-19 challenge

The United States–India Science & Technology Endowment Fund (USISTEF) has invited Proposals for joint U.S.-India S&T based entrepreneurial initiatives that address ‘development and implementation of new technologies, tools, and systems to address COVID-19 related challenges. These include monitoring, diagnosis, health and safety, public outreach, information, and communication’. Categorized as Ignition Grants, the invitation encourages out-of-the-box, innovative ideas from the community to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

Across the world, countries are being challenged by the COVID-19 pandemic in ways they have never been before. Science, Engineering, and Technology is expected to play a critical role in finding solutions to this global challenge through the development of new vaccines, devices, diagnostic tools, and information systems, as well as strategies to help communities and nations manage and deploy resources to combat this pandemic.

USISTEF, established by The Government of USA (through the department of state) and the Government of India (through the Department of Science and Technology) for the promotion of joint activities that would lead to innovation and entrepreneurship through the application of S&T have also geared by to meet the challenge.

Waking up to the emergency situation, USISTEF, which encourages projects that demonstrate a high degree of innovation leveraging advances in science and technology, would also consider proposals related to technologies and products that can be re-purposed to address COVID-19 in the current scenario.

Applications will be accepted online from 15 April 2020 onwards with a submission deadline of 15 May 2020.

For more details, please visit <https://www.iusstf.org/>
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United States - India Science and Technology Endowment Fund

Special Call for **COVID-19** Ignition Grants

Science, Engineering, and Technology will play a critical role in finding solutions to the COVID-19 global challenge through the development of new vaccines, devices, diagnostic tools, and information systems, as well as strategies to help communities and nations manage and deploy resources to combat this pandemic.

The aim of the **United States-India Science & Technology Endowment Fund** (USISTEF) is to support and foster joint applied R&D to generate public good through the commercialization of technology developed through sustained partnerships. In keeping with its vision, USISTEF announces a **Special Call for Proposals** under the category of **COVID-19 Ignition Grants**. USISTEF encourages projects that demonstrate a high degree of innovation leveraging advances in science and technology.

Objectives

USISTEF invites U.S.-India S&T based entrepreneurial initiatives that address *“development and implementation of new technologies, tools, and systems to address COVID-19 related challenges including, but not limited to, monitoring, diagnosis, health and safety, public outreach, information and communication”*.

Eligibility

- Binational Teams with unique/complementary expertise/resources being leveraged from each partner.
- Initiatives can originate from government, academic, non-governmental or commercial entities, and any combination thereof.

Proposals will be solicited in two categories

- **Ignition Stage I:** To help early-stage creative ideas develop a proof-of-concept and/or build a prototype [Grant support up to INR 50,00,000/- or approx. \$66,000/-]
- **Ignition Stage II:** To support a team with a workable, validated prototype and/or with the ability to repurpose existing innovative solutions to meet the COVID-19 challenge [Grant support up to INR 1,00,00,000/- or approx. \$1,33,000/-]

Application Process

Applications will be accepted online from 15th April 2020 onwards with a submission deadline of 15th May 2020.

For more details, please visit www.iusstf.org