

## 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. USD 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. USD 133,000]

#### Application Process

Applications will be accepted at <https://covid19.usistef.online>