

SERIES 1

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#TechFlattensTheCurve

Concept Note No. 1

**Virtual  
Innovation  
Discovery  
Events  
(VIDE)**

[young-moon.org/techflattensthecurve](http://young-moon.org/techflattensthecurve)



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Virtual Innovation Discovery Events (VIDE)

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## Synopsis

This VIDE series remakes a process originated and used by the U.S. Navy – the day-long in-person innovation discovery event -- into a four-hour virtual event to promote the commercialization and practical application of tech IP in advancing the STI framework for UN SDGs 3, 6, 7, 9 and 11.

## Implementing Entity and Partners

A consortium of private, public, and social sector firms

## Background

Global health is intertwined with sustainable development. By broadening access to innovation tools, we can all be in the fight against COVID-19. Innovation with a social mission means *#TechFlattensTheCurve*. In the months to come, we will hold virtual Innovation Discovery Events (IDEs) to showcase tech IP from 300+ U.S. research laboratories that are primed for both the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the fight against COVID-19.

The COVID-19 outbreak reminds us of how technology affects the global economy and drives social transformation. This Virtual Innovation Discovery Event (VIDE) series that will build an appreciation of tech transfer as a support for community development and social entrepreneurship.

This VIDE series will (a) push social, public, and private sector participants to design social welfare use-cases for a curated list of tech IP; (b) help participants apply systems thinking in addressing overlapping health, sanitation, food, energy, and water sector issues related to COVID-19; and (c) demonstrate how cross-disciplinary solution-making supports innovation for sustainable development, especially for vulnerable populations.

Amazon, Facebook, Hewlett Packard Enterprise, IBM, and Microsoft join the Federal Lab Consortium in ensuring that hundreds of thousands of patents could be used in the research, development, and deployment of medical equipment, network products, software solutions, and other technologies to assist in the resolution of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Open COVID Pledge, launched on April 7, 2020 by an international coalition of legal experts, scientists, and technologists, mobilizes companies, universities, and researchers to make their intellectual property available free of charge for use in ending the COVID-19 pandemic and minimizing the impact of the disease.

The pipeline of IP being pledged can be used not only for urgently needed solutions to fight the pandemic but also those that mitigate real-world problems caused by urbanization, pollution and degradation, and extreme fluctuations in climate.

This VIDE series capitalizes on the Open COVID Pledge by remaking a process originated and used by the U.S. Navy – the day-long in-person innovation discovery event -- into a four-hour virtual event designed to promote not only commercialization of tech IP but also the practical application of tech IP in social impact ventures, particularly those that advance the ‘science, technology, and innovation’ (STI) framework for the implementation of the UN SDGs.

The special SDG focus of this VIDE series is on SDGs 3 (Good health and wellbeing), 6 (Clean water and sanitation), 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure), and 11 (Sustainable cities and communities).

The original U.S. Navy formulation of an innovation discovery process is to increase the rate of invention disclosures in order to increase patent applications, issued patents, and license agreements. This process also achieves multiple objectives, namely to (a) increase awareness of the value of intellectual property protection; (b) increase understanding of the commercialization opportunities that can result from technology transfer; (c) identify technologies being developed at the lab that were potentially patentable and commercially viable; and (d) document the undisclosed inventions occurring at a U.S. Navy lab.

## Relevant UN Sustainable Development Goal(s)

1. SDG 3 (Good health and well-being)
2. SDG 6 (Clean water and sanitation)
3. SDG 7 (Affordable and clean energy)
4. SDG 9 (Industry, innovation, and infrastructure)
5. SDG 11 (Sustainable cities and communities)

## Objective

To promote the commercialization and practical application of approximately 36 tech IP for social impact ventures that advance the STI framework for UN SDGs 3, 6, 7, 9 and 11, annually.

## Planned Accomplishments

1. On a monthly basis, enable three (3) patent applications, issued patents, and license agreements between participating inventors and social entrepreneurs for the purpose of advancing a tech solution or tool for UN SDGs 3, 6, 7, 9 and 11.
2. Build a global network of social entrepreneurs and impact investors primed to partner with inventors and innovators in commercializing DoD tech IP.

## Key Performance Indicators

- 1.1. Identify a minimum of two (2) tech IPs to be showcased monthly.
- 1.2. Conduct a VIDE monthly.
- 2.1. Engage four to six social entrepreneurs and/or impact investors monthly.
- 2.2. Deliver full-service business development support to resulting startups on a timely basis.

## Main Activities and Timeline

- 1.1.1. By end of June 2020, have on file the first batch of tech IP.
- 1.2.1. By end of June 2020, pilot the VIDE .
- 2.1.1. By end of June 2020, secure first batch of social entrepreneurs and/or impact investors to participate in VIDEs for FY2020-21.
- 2.2.1 By start of July 2020, facilitate dialogue that promotes business development and acceleration.

## Program Design for USC VIDE Pilot

Title: Tech Transfer for Social Work in the Age of COVID-19

Location: Univ of Southern California Suzanne Dworak-Peck Sch of Social Work

Description: The COVID-19 outbreak reminds us of how technology affects the global economy and drives social transformation. This lab is a Virtual Innovation Discovery Event (VIDE) that will build an appreciation of tech transfer as a support for social work approaches in community development and social entrepreneurship. This VIDE will (a) push MSWs to design social welfare use-cases for a curated list of tech IP; (b) help MSWs apply systems thinking in addressing overlapping health, sanitation, food, energy, and water sector issues related to COVID-19; and (c) demonstrate how cross-disciplinary solution-making supports innovation for sustainable development. This VIDE is part of the #TechFlattensTheCurve initiative.

More info at <https://www.young-moon.org/techflattensthecurve>

Takeaways: Competencies 3, 4, & 6. MSWs will learn how to (a) appraise the practical utility of research-based innovations in social work macro practice; (b) ideate social welfare use-cases for research-based tech IP in a cross-disciplinary environment; (c) apply systems thinking in addressing system nexus issues related to COVID-19 for vulnerable groups.

Date/time/location: Thursday, June 25, 2020, 8 AM – 12 PM PDT via Zoom



## Target FY 2020-21 Budget\*

<b>Budget Category</b>	<b>Budget</b>
1. Admin and project management (@ \$3,000/mo. x 12 mos.)	\$36,000
2. Program expenses, fees, and stipends (@ \$7,000/mo. x 12 mos.)	\$84,000
<b>FY 2020-21 Total</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>

\* Figures are subject to change as partnerships develop over the course of program implementation

*#TechFlattensTheCurve Series 1*

Virtual Innovation Discovery Events Concept Note. Written and prepared by R. Bong Vergara, May 2020.

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