

## **CISCO: \$225M COVID-commitment (03/22-2020)**

Cisco is committing \$225 million in cash, in-kind, and planned-giving to support both the global and local response to COVID-19. As part of their commitment, **they are allocating \$8 million in cash and \$210 million in product to the global coronavirus response**. They are focusing these resources on supporting healthcare and education, government response and critical technology. Part of this will go to the United Nations Foundation's COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund, supporting the World Health Organization's (WHO) worldwide efforts to help prevent, detect, and manage the spread of COVID-19.

<https://blogs.cisco.com/news/committing-225-million-to-global-covid-19-response>

**Opportunity:** Pandemic/COVID19 Science, Technology and Social Impact

**Invitation Code:** RFP-20-04

**Deadline:** Not defined

**Link:** <https://research.cisco.com/research#rfp-202004>

### **Summary:**

Pandemics have far reaching consequences that range from deaths to shutting down the economy as we have witnessed during the recent COVID19 crisis. Hence there is a need to be better prepared for such pandemics. We need to solve problems ranging from predictive analytics innovative devices for saving lives to technology for devising voting machines. The social and economic impact for the above areas is significant and some of the work can be transformative and save lives.

Areas of interest to CISCO include, but are not limited to:

- Mathematical models for spread and the impact of pandemics.
- Scalable simulation techniques for pandemics (e.g. with multi agents).
- Biomedical/Nano sensor devices for detecting symptoms and agents.
- Algorithms for rapid exploration of the drug screening and discovery workflows (e.g. use reinforcement learning)
- Advanced computational biology techniques for sequencing, detecting viral evolution (e.g. in COVID-19).
- Algorithms and systems for contact tracing (with privacy preserving).
- Algorithms and recommendation systems for curating media and news.
- Collaboration techniques for more effective health, and efficiency during pandemics.
- Improved identity and security techniques.
- Distributed Ledgers, their applications and their governance for and during pandemics.
- Pandemic data science – understanding the patterns and the impact of a pandemic like COVID-19. Creation of curated data sets.

CISCO is interested in both the science and technology aspects and especially, the intersections between them. By cultivating stronger partnerships between scientists, technologists, and the broader community; they plan to accelerate scientific research and conservation outcomes to support larger-scale studies, more sophisticated analyses, and translation of learnings across multiple domain areas.