

1Day/IFP Advanced Market Commitment “OWS 2.0”

Planning Grant Request

The Ask: \$75,000 for a four-month policy design and strategic planning process of a potential \$1-1.5 million/year three-year advocacy campaign to enact a major pan-coronavirus vaccine Advanced Market Commitment (AMC) and significantly advance the long-term use of AMCs through targeted reforms.

Operation Warp Speed 2.0: AMCs hold promise as a market-friendly pull mechanism to develop vaccines and antimicrobials that could save millions of lives. Operation Warp Speed built on the experience of the previous pneumococcus AMC to dramatically demonstrate their potential to rapidly accelerate vaccine development.

As new strains of COVID prolong the pandemic and immunity wanes, annual boosters remain non-viable for developing countries. A pan-coronavirus vaccine is desperately needed that would provide long-lasting immunity against the sarbecovirus subgenus that includes the viruses that cause SARS and COVID-19. This would help end this current pandemic and potentially prevent the next one. Multiple candidates show promise but there is a lack of urgency in development and their commercial prospects are unclear. What is needed is an Operation Warp Speed 2.0 to develop a permanent vaccine solution available to both rich and poor while also advancing pull-funding mechanisms in the long-term through targeted medium-size reforms developed by Schmidt Futures-funded work at the Center for Global Development and the Day One Project.

Proposed OWS 2.0 Policy Components

- **Pan-Sarbeco AMC:** A roughly ten-billion dollar commitment to develop and purchase effective vaccines, ideally intranasally administered and avoiding cold storage, that provide long-lasting immunity against foreseeable SARS-CoV-2 strains and significant protection against a panel of other sarbecoviruses.
- **A Federal Home for AMCs:** The creation of [a permanent office in the federal government](#) with a mandate to develop and implement AMCs and other pull mechanisms and provide technical guidance to expand the use of existing America Competes Act statutory authority.
- **AMC Scoring Reform:** [Credit-type scoring of AMCs and other pull-funding mechanisms](#), to appropriate funds indefinitely and discount present day scores to reflect both the chance the money is not spent and the lower net present value of future spending.
- **Pull Funding Pilots:** Implementation of three [pilot programs](#) to demonstrate the value of pull-funding mechanisms: a [rapid TB test](#); a [portable point-of-care molecular diagnostic system for rapid genetic sequencing](#); and an [advanced subscription model for antimicrobials](#).

Envisioned Advocacy Campaign: The proposed campaign combines a broad front of legislative lobbying and creative coalition-building with a public-facing Twitter media-mobilizing strategy and opportunistic use of bureaucratic mechanisms to achieve policy components.

- **Public Case:** A twitter-personality focused campaign (like Michael Mina’s for rapid tests) that focuses media attention and exploits the news cycle.

- **Stakeholder Mobilization**: Creative coalition-building of global public health advocates, right-wing groups responsible for PEPFAR, professional societies, and effective altruists.
- **Legislative Lobbying**: A traditional campaign to recruit co-sponsors and empower champions through legislative subsidy of policy design and argumentation.
- **Policy Engineering**: Finding creative sources of statutory authority or attractive vehicles to achieve policy components while also aiming to demonstrate scorable cost-savings of an AMC compared to annual boosters.

Planning Process: The policy design process will involve an expert memo on appropriate AMC design from a respected source like Michael Kremer's group at U Chicago along with drafting of model legislation and exploration of the case for cost-savings that could be used in a CBO score. A legislative feasibility analysis will be conducted to identify well-placed bipartisan, bicameral champions who would be invested in AMCs in the long-term. We could conduct a coalition-building process of stakeholder investigation with pharma, bipartisan public health advocates, and professional societies. Preliminary recruitment of potential staff and outside lobbying firms would be conducted. This is expected to cost \$75K over four months.

What Constitutes Success?

- **Planning Process**: The planning goals are: (1) vet goals: stakeholder-supported and expert-developed model legislation; (2) identify champions: strong prospects for legislative champions and leading staff to implement the project; and (3) create a roadmap: a clear advocacy plan and timeline capable of persuading currently interested funders like Open Philanthropy and Founders Pledge.
- **Advocacy Campaign**: A realistic expectation for the envisioned advocacy campaign would be: (1) the successful achievement of two of the four policy components above (sarbeco AMC, dedicated federal department, scoring reform, and pilot projects) and (2) a strong path laid for future AMC advocacy.

Long-Term Goal: The creation of permanent successful AMC/pull funding advocacy capacity commensurate with the millions of lives that can be saved by developing antimicrobials and vaccines against targets like tuberculosis, malaria, influenza, diarrheal disease, and group A strep.

Who Are IFP and 1Day Sooner

- **Institute for Progress** is a non-partisan research and advocacy organization dedicated to accelerating scientific, technological, and industrial progress while safeguarding humanity's future.
- **1Day Sooner** advocates on behalf of challenge trial volunteers. We generated global positive news coverage for COVID-19 challenge trials, and our work helped lead to challenge studies in the UK. We have led innovative Vaccine Day campaigns in Boston and El Paso, have fought for research transparency and participant agency, and empowered the voices of West African countries on pandemic preparedness issues.