



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



VENTURE
CENTER

Online Lectures/Webinar Series

Essentials of Technology Transfer

- Organized by Venture Center under the FLCTD project of UNIDO – BEE - GEF -

<p>ABOUT THE COURSE</p>	<p>This online workshop serves as a precursor to the more detailed in-person Certificate Course, “Technology Transfer in Practice.” The session will feature international and national experts, focusing on the essentials of technology transfer. The interactive session will involve discussions and the sharing of experiences with the faculty and a select group of participants. Participants will receive a certificate of completion upon successful attendance and completion of the webinar series.</p>
<p>COURSE DIRECTOR</p>	<p>Ashley Stevens, PhD, Certified Licensing Professional (CLP), Registered Technology Transfer Professional (RTTP) Past President of Association of University Technology Managers, USA President Focus IP Group LLC, Boston, USA</p>
<p>FOR WHOM</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managers of technology transfer and IP in Universities and Research Organizations • Faculty in charge and Deans responsible for Technology Transfer operations in Universities and Research Organizations • Other innovation managers in non-profit research/ academic organizations
<p>DATE AND TIME</p>	<p>Mon 21 – 25 April 2025 5.30 PM to 7.30 PM IST</p>
<p>WHERE</p>	<p>Online via Zoom platform broadcast from Venture Center, Pune</p>
<p>CONTACT</p>	<p>Technical queries: Mugdha Lele ttonline@venturecenter.co.in 7410045652 Registration queries: Niruta Killedar niruta.killedar@venturecenter.co.in 8956226080</p>
<p>REGISTRATION</p>	<p>No registration charges apply. Registration is mandatory. Registration period: 1 April – 15 April 2025</p> <p><i>Organizers reserve the right to select participants to optimize the group for better interaction and ensure benefits to as many relevant participants as possible.</i></p> <p>Registration Process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Step 1: Interested participants need to fill in the registration form at Register online at: https://tinyurl.com/TTOOnline-Webinar-Series • Step 2: Selected candidates will receive invitation emails 2 weeks after the registration period closes, with a request for confirmation of attendance. • Step 3: Course details will be shared via email to confirmed participants.



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



gef
global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



VENTURE
CENTER

Introduction

Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), the Government of India and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) are jointly implementing a project titled “Facility for Low Carbon Technology Deployment” (FLCTD - <https://www.low-carbon-innovation.org/>).

The FLCTD project supports the identification, validation and commercialization of high-impact innovations that have the potential to reduce greenhouse emissions and thus assist in India’s energy transition. It endeavours to strengthen the Technology Transfer function in India by building the capacity of Technology Transfer Offices (TTO). Based on the findings of the background study on the Technology Transfer ecosystem in the country, FLCTD is assisting in the development of reference materials and training to address critical skill gaps in planning, establishing, and functioning technology transfer offices. The course participants will benefit from the hands-on training, learning within a peer group and direct access to deep insights from widely recognized experts.

A series of online and in-person lectures/ webinars will aim to introduce key aspects of technology transfer. Professionals in India’s innovation ecosystem will benefit from the following training courses, developed and delivered by Venture Center under the FLCTD project.

- Foundation Course: “Essentials of Technology Transfer”. Mode of delivery: Online
- In-person Certificate Course: “Technology Transfer in Practice”. Mode of delivery: In-person

The foundation course will serve as a precursor to the more detailed In-person Certificate Course, “Technology Transfer in Practice.” **(Please note: Participants completing the online course will be given first preference to participate in the in-person certificate course)**

A series of online and in-person lectures/ webinars will aim to introduce key aspects of technology transfer. The course will be led by Course Director Dr Ashley Stevens, a Certified Licensing Professional (CLP) and Registered Technology Transfer Professional (RTTP), and joined by Co-Directors Dr Richard Cahoon and John Fraser, both Certified Licensing Professionals (CLP) and Registered Technology Transfer Professionals (RTTP).

Topics to be covered shall include

- Invention assessment and selection for viability
- Taking technology to market: Various routes and mechanisms
- Overview of functions and activities of a TTO
- Launching, building and operating an effective technology transfer office
- Intellectual Property Management for Tech Transfer Professionals
- Establishing and communicating the Value Proposition of Technology/ IP Assets
- Introduction to Technology Licensing and Assignment

Benefits to the Participants:

- Certificate of Completion shall be given to all participants who complete an Evaluation Quiz successfully
- Participants will join an Online Community of Indian technology transfer professionals, organized by Venture Center. The online platform will not only facilitate information sharing but also enable professional discussions and experience sharing.
- Participants will get access to reference materials related to Technology Transfer.



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



VENTURE
CENTER

- Participants will have online access (for 1 year) to the resources being created and published at <http://www.techtransfer.online/>



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



VENTURE
CENTER

Course schedule

Day & Date	Time	Session title	Lead
Monday, 21 Apr 2025	1730-1810 India Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome and Introduction to the Foundation Course (5 mins) About UNIDO (5 mins) About the FLCTD Project and its partners - UNIDO, BEE and GEF (10 mins) Motivation & Background behind the Course. Lessons from the UNIDO study of TTOs in India (10 mins) Keynote Talk by Chief Guest (10 mins) 	Premnath V Gerswynn Mckuur Sandeep Tandon Nitesh Kaushik Praveen Roy (H/TTI, DST)
		Session 01: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion with Experts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Technology Transfer Origins of the Tech Transfer Profession and TTOs What has been the US experience? How successful have Tech Transfer Offices been globally? What have been the key factors that have determined the success of TTOs? How has India done in Tech Transfer? Practical issues in Tech Transfer faced in India. Lessons from the UNIDO study of TTOs. Perspectives on the Tech Transfer Profession – its role, standing and prospects 	Moderator: Premnath V Experts: Ashley Stevens Richard Cahoon John Fraser Raj Hirwani Nitesh Kaushik
Tuesday, 22 Apr 2025	1730-1930 India Time	Day 1 Poll (5 mins)	Ashley Stevens
		Session 02: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An introduction to Technology Licensing (55 mins) 	
		Day 2 Quiz 1 (5 mins)	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An introduction to Technology Licensing (30 mins) Taking technology to market: Various routes and mechanisms (25 mins) 	
Wednesday, 23 Apr 2025	1730-1930 India Time	Session 03: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An overview of Tech Transfer Offices. Overview of functions and activities of a TTO (55 mins) 	Richard Cahoon
		Day 3 Quiz 1 (5 mins)	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building and operating an effective technology transfer office (55 mins) 	
		Day 3 Quiz 2 (5 mins)	
Thursday,	1730-1930	Session 04:	



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



gef
global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



VENTURE
CENTER

24 Apr 2025	India Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding and communicating the impact of TTOs (55 mins) 	John Fraser
		Day 4 Quiz 1 (5 mins)	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training and excelling as Tech Transfer Professionals Intellectual Property Management for Tech Transfer Professionals 	
		Day 4 Quiz 2 (5 mins)	
Friday, 25 Apr 2025	1730-1930 India Time	Session 05: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicating Value Proposition of Technology/IP Assets. Introduction to technology marketing (55 mins) 	Anu Narasimhan & Premnath V
		Day 5 Quiz 1 (5 mins)	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to enabling policies (55 mins) 	Aravind Chinchure
		Day 5 Quiz 2 (5 mins)	



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



gef
global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



VENTURE
CENTER

Session Outlines

Session 01:

- Discussion with Experts
 - Introduction to Technology Transfer
 - Origins of the Tech Transfer Profession and TTOs
 - What has been the US experience?
 - How successful have Tech Transfer Offices been globally?
 - What have been the key factors determining the success of TTOs?
 - How has India done in Tech Transfer?
 - Practical issues in Tech Transfer faced in India. Lessons from the UNIDO study of TTOs.
 - Perspectives on the Tech Transfer Profession – its role, standing and prospects

Session 02:

- An introduction to Technology Licensing
 - The process of technology out-licensing by academia
 - Overview of a licensing agreement
 - Best practices in licensing. Some examples.
- Taking technology to market: Various routes and mechanisms
 - Concept of Knowledge Exchange
 - Technology transfer, joint development/ collaborations, sponsored R&D, consortia mode tech development etc

Session 03:

- An overview of Tech Transfer Offices.
- Overview of functions and activities of a TTO.
- Building and operating an effective technology transfer office.

Session 04:

- Understanding and communicating the impact of TTOs: How do leading TTOs and professional bodies, such as AUTM, effectively communicate the impact of TTOs? The importance of tracking metrics and case studies that illustrate the value creation for stakeholders. Examples and case studies.
- Training and excelling as Tech Transfer Professionals (TTPs): What skills and capabilities should TTPs focus on strengthening? What are the formal mechanisms for building credentials? What are the ways to gain experiential learning?
- Intellectual Property Management for Tech Transfer Professionals: A quick overview of the basics, followed by a discussion on key issues in IP portfolio management and strategic management for optimal outcomes.

Session 05:

- Communicating the Value Proposition of Technology/IP Assets. The importance of value proposition analysis for alternative solutions lies in effectively communicating the unique differentiators of the technology.
- Introduction to technology marketing. The process of outreach, lead creation and advancement until closure. Various methods and channels of marketing.
- Introduction to Enabling Policies: Overview of key policies related to intellectual property, technology commercialization, new venture creation, and associated policies.



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



gef
global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



VENTURE
CENTER

Course Director



Ashley Stevens, CLP, RTTP

President Focus IP Group, LLC | Guest Professor Osaka University | Past President Association of University Technology Managers

Dr. Stevens has worked in the entrepreneurial world since 1982, when he joined one of the first-generation biotechnology companies, BioTechnica International, Inc. in Cambridge, MA. He subsequently co-founded two biotechnology companies: Genmap, Inc., the first company founded to work on the human genome, out of which emerged Myriad Genetics, Inc. and Kytogenics, Inc. a company that developed novel medical products based on modified chitosans. All three of these companies took academic technologies on their first steps into the marketplace and in 1991, he moved one step up the value chain and entered the then fledgling world of technology transfer. From 1991 to 1995, he was Director of Technology Transfer at the Dana-Farber Cancer Center, a teaching affiliate of the Harvard Medical Center and one of the US' Comprehensive Cancer Centers.

In 1995, he moved to Boston University, where, until 2007, he was Director of the Office of Technology Transfer in the Community Technology Fund (which became the Office of Technology Development in 2005) and subsequently was Executive Director, Technology Transfer until his retirement in July 2011. Under his leadership, some 55 new companies were spun out of BU. For ten years he held an adjunct appointment in BU's Questrom School of Management, where he taught two graduate level courses on the commercialization of early-stage technologies, "Bench-to-Bedside" and Technology Entrepreneurship and Commercialization.

Each summer he is a Guest Professor at Osaka University, Japan, where he teaches a technology commercialization course called G-TEC and he was previously an Adjunct Principal Investigator at the National University of Singapore (NUS) Suzhou Research Institute. Since retiring from Boston University, he has chaired the Patent Committee of the Forsyth Institute, a leading research institute focused on oral health.

He was President of AUTM (formerly the Association of University Technology Managers) in 2010 / 11 and received AUTM's Bayh-Dole Award in 2007 (from the hands of Senator Bayh himself!) He is both a Certified Licensing Professional ("CLP") and a Registered Technology Transfer Professional ("RTTP").

Relevant link: <https://www.fipglc.com/focusip>

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/ashleystevensbu/>

Chief Guest



Praveen Roy

Head, Technology, Translation and Innovation Division, Department of Science and Technology, Government of India

With over 18 years of service within the Department of Science and Technology, Sh. Praveen Roy has been nurturing innovation and entrepreneurship throughout India's Science and Technology sectors. As the head of the Technology Translation, and Innovation (TTI) Division, his leadership has been instrumental in the management and promotion of Government of India's initiatives targeting startups, innovation, and incubation in the technology sector. Under the auspices of the Startup India Standup India initiative, he has played a crucial role in the conception and growth of over 100 technology business incubators within prestigious institutions like IITs, IIMs, NITs, and various leading universities and institutions nationwide with Department of Science and Technology's flagship National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations (NIDHI) Program. The NIDHI Program has successfully supported the establishment of over 175+ Technology Business Incubators ,empowered over 12,000 startups.

His tenure at DST since 2005 has been marked by significant contributions to both national and international projects with a commitment to advancing India's innovation ecosystem and to strengthening international collaborations. Sh. Roy's efforts have been instrumental in initiating and nurturing public-private partnerships with global giants such as Intel, Lockheed Martin, Boeing, Texas Instruments, Tatas, and Microsoft amongst others. Sh. Roy provides strategic insights and recommendations to Ministries and Departments on matters related to innovation, entrepreneurship, and startups, shaping policy and strategic direction in these critical areas.

Before his distinguished service in the government sector, Sh. Praveen Roy garnered experience in the private sector, working with MNCs and corporate units in instrumentation and telecom services. His rich background in telecom and IT technologies serves as a foundation for his ongoing efforts to encourage and promote entrepreneurship in cutting-edge technologies.

More: <https://nidhi.dst.gov.in/>



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



gef
global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



VENTURE
CENTER

International Experts (in ascending order of last names)



Richard Cahoon, PhD

**President, BioProperty Strategy Group, Inc. | Adjunct Professor, Cornell University |
Past AUTM Board of Director**

Richard Cahoon is an Adjunct Professor in Global Development at Cornell University. He is a practitioner with over three decades of experience in the areas of invention, intellectual property (IP), new technology development and implementation, entrepreneurship/intrapreneurship, and innovation. He has significant experience in management of R&D, invention and IP, partnerships, technology commercialization, venture creation, licensing, business development, negotiation, and mediation.

He has worked on a variety of new technology projects with universities, government agencies, and companies in various countries. His work has included project design and management and high-level advisory and mentoring roles for institutions, ministries, and companies in over twenty-five countries, and the United Nations. He has been an advisor to World Bank, the governments of Qatar, Canada, Thailand, Philippines, Serbia, the State of Michigan, USAID, and the U.S. Department of Commerce, as well as universities, companies, and NGOs in Turkey, Argentina, Chile, Japan, Jamaica, Philippines, South Africa, India, Korea, Bahrain, Mexico, Sri Lanka, Iran, Colombia, Brazil, the US, and the European Union.

Richard has served as an expert in numerous IP litigations and has conducted many IP/technology valuations. His emphasis includes the implications of invention and IP assets for individuals, public sector institutions, and private sector actors that comprise the innovation ecosystem. He is an inventor and a U.S. patentee. He has founded or participated in the creation and launch of numerous start-up companies. He was a Director of Cornell's IP management/technology transfer office for twenty years. He teaches these several subjects at Cornell, and in numerous webinars and workshops for various institutions around the world.

Professor Cahoon is particularly interested in the study of inventiveness, its consequences for creation of IP assets, and the use of those assets for economic development and the greater public good. His specific technical interests include applied biology and bioprocess engineering systems, and agricultural technologies, including plant breeding. He is active in projects in which inventions and IP are tools to facilitate economic development in developing countries.

He designed and implemented a large, multi-country, multi-year project for the World Intellectual Property Organization that has the goal of fostering economic development in Asian countries by building professional and institutional capacity for invention/IP management and entrepreneurship. He is currently interested in expanding his scope of work to the creative arts and social entrepreneurship. He has recently focused on mechanisms that facilitate invention and IP management and financial investment for global social impact.

Relevant link: <https://cals.cornell.edu/richard-cahoon>

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/richard-cahoon-05031b1/>



John Fraser, CLP, RTTP

**President, Burnside Development & Associates LLC | Advisor, Senior Lecturer, WIPO |
Entrepreneur-in-Residence, National Institute for Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg**

John is a globally recognized expert in technology transfer & knowledge exchange with extensive experience working with governments, universities, research institutions and companies large and small to maximize their innovation impact. After serving in leadership roles in four technology transfer offices in two countries, co-founding several startup companies, and as an officer and member of professional organizations involved in all aspects of technology commercialization, he understands the many complex, and daunting challenges of moving research discoveries from the idea stage to successful products in the market. And then measuring and communicating the Value and Impact of those activities in a national economy. See <https://burnsidedev.com/>.

Because of John's reputation, he was elected by his peers to serve as President of AUTM, the international association of technology transfer professionals. During his time on the AUTM Board, he interacted with technology transfer professionals around the globe helping them address the unique challenges of their country and their culture. He founded Burnside Development in 1990 to utilize his experiences to help others achieve optimal impact from their innovation potential. He has consulting Clients including the Government of Serbia Innovation Foundation, the UN World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) for programs in S.E. Asia (Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines and Fiji and Samoa), the Pontifical University of Chile, Santiago, the Chilean Patent Office and HubTech Chile, a national center of knowledge transfer expertise and for the Department of Biotechnology, India. He has also keynoted conferences and conducted numerous training workshops globally on all aspects of technology commercialization. (As well as continuing to help friends in Australia, Brazil, Canada, South Africa and Tunisia). He was appointed to the Board



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



VENTURE
CENTER

of the George Mason University Research Foundation in 2023.

See <https://burnsidedev.com/>

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/john-a-fraser-6b78884/>



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



gef
global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



VENTURE
CENTER

Indian Experts (in ascending order of last names)



Aravind Chinchure, PhD

Founder, QLeap Academy | Ex-CEO, Deshpande Startups | Ex-Assistant Vice President – Innovation, Reliance Innovation Leadership Center, Reliance Industries

Aravind Chinchure holds a PhD in Physics and brings a rich 30-year background spanning R&D, technology, innovation, intellectual property, startups, business strategy, and policy. He is currently a Visiting Faculty at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune, and serves on the Board of Management of Manipal University, Jaipur. He is also the Founder & CEO of QLeap Academy, an institution focused on cultivating 21st-century professionals and leaders specialized in Industry 4.0 and innovation.

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/aravindchinchure/>



Rajkumar Hirwani, PhD

Former Head-CSIR IP Directorate | Scientist H (Outstanding Scientist) and Head, CSIR Unit for Research and Development of Information Products (URDIP)

Raj Hirwani has nearly 45 years of techno-commercial experience in Research and Industry. He is Distinguished Alumnus of Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai and holds a Ph.D. in Technology Management from IIT, Mumbai. He is a Fulbright Scholar and was recipient of Hubert Humphrey Fellowship in Technology Policy and Management. His focus is on IP Management in Academic and publicly funded R&D Institutions. He retired from CSIR as Head of Intellectual Property Directorate and Director of CSIR's Unit for Research and Development of Information Products (URDIP) at Pune. URDIP is responsible for Knowledge and IPR Management of major national CSIR programmes and provides services to clients in public and private sector. He has been actively involved in the research, training and practice of IP Management activities in the public and private sector. He pioneered the Patent Analytics services in the country. He created for the first time in the publicly funded system an R&D Service unit that recovers its full revenue budget by providing services to external clients. Before this he was Head of Research Planning and Business Development Division at National Chemical Laboratory, Pune where he was involved with pre-research appraisal and techno-economic evaluation of projects, IPR Management, technology transfer and business development. He coordinated World Bank funded Technology Institutions Support Services programme at NCL. Was a member of World Bank Consultancy Team for Strengthening of R & D Institutions in China and Indonesia. He was Chairman of Licensing Executives Society India. He has won many national awards and honours. He is also member of number of CSIR and Government committees. He has held numerous positions in academic institutions including Member of Senate and Academic Council, Adjunct Professorships and is recognized Ph.D. guide. He has travelled world over in a number of countries on official assignments. Currently he is Emeritus Professor of AcSIR and Adjunct Professor, IIT, Mumbai at DS Center for Entrepreneurship where he teaches and mentors student start-ups. He was also Visiting Professor at IIT, Dharwad and Mentors at Deshpande Start-ups, Hubli.

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/raj-hirwani-6b46926/>



Anu Narasimhan, PhD

**Professor-of-Practice and Head of the Desai Sethi School of Entrepreneurship (DSSE) at IIT Bombay | Board Member: Africa Improved Foods Rwanda Ltd, Infocold, Frontier Nutrition Inc
Ex-VP Marketing, Britannia Industries Ltd**

Anu Narasimhan is Professor-of-Practice and Head of the Desai Sethi School of Entrepreneurship (DSSE) at IIT Bombay. She joined her alma-mater after 24 years of corporate experience as a Strategy and Marketing professional. She worked with Titan Industries part of the Tata group, Hutchison Telecom, Unilever and Britannia. In her current academic role, Anu teaches the popular course 'Introduction to Entrepreneurship', leads pre-incubation programs (IDEAS and Women in Entrepreneurship) as well as outreach programs and partnerships. She serves on the Boards of Africa Improved Foods Rwanda, Frontier Nutrition Bangladesh and Infocold Solar Cold Storage India. Anu has won marketing awards like the Effies and a prestigious Cannes one. She has been featured as a leading woman professional in corporate India. She was awarded the Distinguished Service Alum award in 2016 by IITB and felicitated as one of IITB's Gen Zero women in 2022. She received her education at IIT Bombay and IIM Bangalore, and recently her Doctorate from Singapore Management University. She counts as her notable contributions mentoring entrepreneurs, women leaders, and brand custodians. She is happiest meeting people, solving problems, and volunteering for causes.

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/anuradha-narasimhan/?originalSubdomain=in>



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



gef
global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



VENTURE
CENTER



Hiran Vedam, PhD

Co-founder, Ashwatta | Ex-Business Fellow, Breakthrough Energy Foundation | Ex-Managing Director - Asia for Nanoholdings LLC

Hiran is the co-founder of Ashwatta, a venture studio building high-impact climate tech start-ups in India. Prior to this, she was a business fellow with the Breakthrough Energy Fellows Program. As part of the program, she supported the progression of early-stage industry-transforming climate solutions of the BE innovator fellows towards global markets. Specifically, she supported them with their technology de-risking, piloting and demonstration, supply chain mapping, IP strategy and startup financing.

Earlier in her career, she was the managing director - Asia for Nanoholdings LLC investing in early-stage advanced material-based solutions for energy efficiency, environmental sustainability and water. She has considerable experience in different areas of the lab-to-market journey in the US, Canada, UK, Singapore and India. She was the chief editor of "AIM Prime Playbook: A Practical Guide to science-based entrepreneurship". Hiran has a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from Purdue University, MBA from INSEAD, M.S. from Washington University and a B.Tech from IIT-M.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/hiranvedam/>



Premnath Venugopalan

PhD, RTTP, FSTEM

Innovation Manager, Tech Transfer Professional, Technologist, Inventor, Business Incubation Manager, Startup Mentor, Scientist Entrepreneur

Premnath is Director, Venture Center, Head, NCL Innovations, CSIR-NCL and Scientist, Polymer Science & Engineering Division at NCL. He is recognized in India as an expert in technology commercialization and new scientific venture creation. In particular, he is one of the few people in India with in-depth experience and track record in all of the following -- technology development, IP management, technology commercialization and new venture creation.

At CSIR-NCL, he set up and provided leadership for a new department focused on innovation management including IP management, tech marketing and new venture creation. These efforts won the CII Industrial IP Award for the Best Patent Portfolio amongst R&D Organisations, 2022 and CSIR Technology Award for Technology Marketing and Business Development, 2013.

Premnath has helped shape the National policy on innovation and technology commercialization by serving on committees shaping the Science, Technology and Innovation Policy 2020, Technology-Led Innovation Policy 2017 and CSIR-Tech (a pioneering effort to build a for-profit tech transfer entity for India). Most recently, he was invited to provide confidential comments for the proposed National Deep Tech Start-up Policy.

Premnath founded and built-up the Venture Center from inception to the largest inventive enterprises incubator in the country. Venture Center has been recognized with the National Award for Best Incubator nurturing IP, 2021-22, No 1 Bioincubator in India for 2021-22 by Biospectrum, National Entrepreneurship Award under Ecosystems Builder Category, 2019, AABI (Asian) Incubator of the Year, 2018 and the National Award for TBIs, 2015 – received from the President of India.

He holds a B.Tech from the IIT Bombay (Distinguished Alumnus, 2022) and a Ph.D. from the MIT, USA. He has also been a Chevening Technology Enterprise Fellow with the Centre for Scientific Enterprises, London Business School and Cambridge University, UK. He brings with him considerable experience in technology development and commercialization (two successfully commercialized families of products), working with start-up companies (in Cambridge-UK and India) and engaging with large corporations on research and consulting projects as project leader.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/premnathv/>



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



gef
global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



VENTURE
CENTER

Venture Center team members (in alphabetical order of last name)



Pradnya Aradhya
RTTP

Manager-Innovation Management
at Venture Center

Pradnya is responsible for Technology Marketing, establishing Industry connects, lead management and deal structuring activities as part of TechEx.in (Regional Technology Transfer Office) at Venture Center. She is a Registered Technology Transfer Professional (RTTP), an international accreditation which distinguishes individuals who have demonstrated competence in the profession of Technology Management. Prior to her role in Tech Transfer, she was handling the profile of Bioincubation Manager at Venture Center. She has close to 5 years of experience in Bioincubation. She played a role in setting up BioIncubator at Venture Center. Bioincubation also involved active mentoring of Bio-entrepreneurs. She has mentored and worked closely with the start-up's working in medical devices and diagnostics to secure various government grants and funding. Pradnya has a M.Tech in Biological Sciences and Bioengineering from IIT Kanpur.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/pradnya-aradhya/>

Tech transfer related expertise: Technology scouting; technology marketing; technology assessment; deal structuring; venturing



Meghana Bhandari
Senior Associate Incubation
at Venture Center

Meghana is responsible for planning & co-coordinating activities of BRBC. She is actively involved in curating the content for all BRBC activities. She is an in-house startup mentor for healthcare & biotech startups. She has completed her M.Tech in Biomedical engineering from IIT Ropar. During her Masters she did her project work on intranasal drug delivery system for treating Alzheimer's Disease. Previously she has worked as a medical writer for a biopharma company.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/meghana-bhandari-97834a188/?originalSubdomain=in>



Neha Jacob
CA, CS
Head-Operations at Venture Center

Neha Jacob is Head-Operations at Venture Center responsible for general management and strategic initiatives, amongst other things. Primarily, her role involves developing, building and managing institutional infra, resources and processes, and setting up platforms to support scale up of activities at Venture Center, thereby giving momentum to the startup ecosystem.

At Venture Center, she has contributed to the production of the AIM-PRIME playbook (<https://playbook.primeprogram.in/>), meant as a practical guide for deep tech entrepreneurs - this book is also available on Amazon, globally. She has worked on technology and company valuation exercises. She is also involved in the fundraising efforts and developing partnerships and collaborations for the organisation. Neha is a Chartered Accountant and a Company Secretary by qualification.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/neha-jacob-a9063519b/?originalSubdomain=in>

Tech transfer related expertise: Valuation; deal making/ closure; developing handbooks/ playbooks and online content



Niruta Killedar
Senior Associate-Social Innovations
at Venture Center

Niruta is Senior Associate for Social Innovations at Venture Center. She is primarily responsible for assisting in the implementation of the Social Innovation Immersion Program at Venture Center. Overall, she assists in driving the Social Innovations portfolio at Venture Center and coordinates events and related mentoring activities. She is a Microbiologist by training and has more than 7 years of experience in interdisciplinary areas of science. She has been passionately working in border areas for the last 15 years as a volunteer through the NGO Aseem Foundation, which adds value to the Social Innovations portfolio at Venture Center.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/niruta-killedar-b9874761/?originalSubdomain=in>

Mugdha is currently Head – Social Innovations at Venture Center, Pune. She has done Ph.D from School of Health Sciences, University of Pune and has teaching and research experience in a State Government medical university. At Venture Center, she is responsible for driving the Social Innovations activities and providing technical mentoring for startups at Venture Center. She has been a Fellow of the Chevening Rolls Royce Science, Innovation, Policy and



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



VENTURE
CENTER



Mugdha Lele, PhD
Head – Social Innovations
at Venture Center

Leadership Programme (CRISP) at the Said Business School, University of Oxford, UK in 2016. In 2018 she was also part of the Aritra Accelerator Program for Leadership in the Social Sector at IIM Bangalore with Phicus Solutions and Dr. Reddy's Foundation. She serves as the nominee director on the boards of Synthera Biomedical Pvt Ltd (a dental biomaterials startup), Pragmatech Healthcare Solutions Pvt Ltd (a medical diagnostics startup) and Spot Healthcare Solutions Pvt Ltd (a medtech startup).

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/dr-mugdha-potnis-lele/>

Tech transfer related expertise: Innovation management; venturing; online education and continuing education; technology transfer for social impact



Manisha Premnath, PhD
Executive Director and Chief
Operating Officer, Venture Center

Dr Manisha Premnath is a specialist in incubation of science-led enterprises and accelerating scientific innovations especially in the life sciences. She is currently the Chief Operating Officer of Venture Center – India's leading science-based business and inventive enterprise incubator. In this role, she provides leadership to a 60+ member team focused on nurturing innovative startups, building a rich, open-access innovation ecosystem and helping academic forge mutually productive partnerships with industry.

Manisha brings with her considerable experience in general management, operations management, project management, financial management, non-profit management and incubation management. In her last 15+ years of association with Venture Center, she has helped build some key specialized technology development facilities, develop a biocubator, set up a national bioinnovation mentoring program, set up a GLP facility for supporting biopharma innovations, set up a regional tech transfer office, led several grant projects successfully and mentored hundreds of early-stage startups. In this period, Venture Center has won several National Awards (for technology business incubation, for bioincubation, for entrepreneurship ecosystem development, for nurturing IP as an incubator) and an Asian Award for incubators.

Manisha is also an experienced and long-standing board member of companies including a few health technology startups (devices and therapeutics) and one major pharmaceutical company listed in the Bombay Stock Exchange.

Manisha is a microbiologist and biotechnologist by training. She holds a PhD from Pune University while carrying out research at the CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory, Pune, India and University of Aberdeen, UK supported by prestigious fellowships from CSIR, India and the British Council. She is also an alumna of Ruia College, University of Bombay. Manisha has also served as postdoctoral fellow at the University of Cambridge, UK. Manisha has also undergone training in technology transfer with mentors such as Dr Ashley Stevens, RTTP, CLP (ex President, AUTM, USA). Manisha has also been the recipient of the British Government's Chevening Rolls Royce Science, Innovation, Policy and Leadership Programme (CRISP) Fellowship at Said Business School, University of Oxford, UK.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/manisha-premnath-a92215bb/>

Tech transfer related expertise: Innovation management; venturing; technology assessment; tech transfer esp joint development arrangements; Deal structuring and agreements; Deal making; Negotiations



Vidula Walimbe is a Technology Transfer and IP professional with an experience in Technology Assessment and Patent analytics. As an IP professional, she is responsible for IP-related search and analytical reports. As a technology transfer professional, she has served as the single point of contact (SPOC) for several organizations' and supported them with innovation management services. She assisted academic organizations in developing technology transfer and intellectual property policies, as well as in encouraging the development of spin-offs.

She has also worked on techno-commercial evaluation of several innovative technologies with the goal of facilitating commercialization. This involved assessing several aspects of the technology such as its innovative features, impact,



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



VENTURE
CENTER

Vidula Walimbe, PhD, RTTP

Associate Manager-Innovation
Management at Venture Center

market value, commercial readiness, competition, technical know-how etc.

She holds a PhD in Law and is accredited as Registered Technology Transfer Professional (RTTP). The Alliance of Technology Transfer Professionals (ATTP) provides the globally recognized RTTP accreditation, which distinguishes individuals who have demonstrated competence in the profession of Technology Management.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/vidula-walimbe-ph-d-rttp-2840673b/>

Tech transfer related expertise: IP and Innovation management; institutional IP/ TT policies; analytics for IP / technology strategy; data management and analytics for TTOs



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



gef
global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



VENTURE
CENTER

UNIDO FLCTD Team members (in alphabetical order of last name)



Nitesh Kaushik
Expert Technology Transfer

Nitesh is the National Expert for Technology Transfer at UNIDO.

Nitesh Kaushik has 13 years of experience in technology, innovation and entrepreneurship development. He leads the activities focusing on strengthening the technology transfer ecosystem in the country.

Nitesh is an accomplished intrapreneurial SDGs professional with a diverse background of state level policy and planning, ecosystem level interventions, innovation, optimized technology leverage and consulting in good governance, entrepreneurship development, skilling, livelihoods promotion, Startup support and transforming public and private organizations.

Nitesh has worked previously with UNDP, UPES, PHDCCI, TNO and research based startup companies. Nitesh is trained in sciences and bioengineering with a Masters from Tampere University of Technology.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/nitesh-kaushik/>



Gerswynn Mckuur
Global Coordinator - Global
Cleantech Innovation Programme
(GCIP)

Gerswynn is the Global Coordinator for Global Cleantech Innovation Programme at UNIDO

Mr Gerswynn Mckuur is currently the Global Coordinator of the Global Cleantech Innovation Programme (GCIP) at UNIDO.

Mr Gerswynn Mckuur is a mechanical engineer by training with many years of experience in the area of Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy Technologies. He has more than 25 years of experience working in the Clean Energy sector as an educator, researcher, consultant and innovation program manager.

He has previously worked at the Energy Research Centre at the University of CapeTown, National Cleaner Production Centre with CSIR South Africa and the Technology Innovation Agency in South Africa.

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/gerswynn-mckuur-04735b2a/?originalSubdomain=at>



Sandeep Tandon, PhD
National Project Manager

Sandeep Tandon is National Project Manager of UNIDO project "Facility for Low Carbon Technology Deployment" which is providing support to validate innovative low carbon technologies for application in industrial and commercial sectors. He is associated with the UN for over eight years and has worked in an advisory capacity on energy efficiency and renewable energy projects in India and other Asian countries.

With over 32 years of professional experience, Mr. Tandon has worked in international consulting firms and bi-lateral and multi-lateral agencies and he leads the teams on energy efficiency and climate change projects. He had a long and successful association with the United States Agency for International Development where he led the Climate Change Mitigation project for India and engaged the US Department of Energy to demonstrate several first-of-a-kind projects in India which helped to avoid more than 100 million tons of CO2 emissions from energy activities in India.

Leading the programme on Innovations in Clean Technology and Low Carbon Technology development in India to help industry, entrepreneurs, investors and government move closer to the goals of SDG 7 and SDG 9. The ongoing programme is also working towards strengthening Industry-Academia collaboration to commercialize innovation.

Sandeep Tandon has worked previously with UNDP, ICF, SAIC, USAID, Triune Projects and Punj Lloyd. He holds a Masters degree from IIT Delhi and is trained in Electrical Engineering and Energy Studies.

Linkedin : <https://www.linkedin.com/in/sandeep-tdandon-470911/>



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



gef
global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



VENTURE
CENTER

Supported by



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

UNIDO is a specialized agency of the United Nations with a unique mandate to promote, dynamize and accelerate industrial development. Our mandate is reflected in Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 9: "Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation", but UNIDO's activities contribute to all the SDGs.

Facility for Low Carbon Technology Deployment (FLCTD) is a project funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF). It is implemented by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in collaboration with the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), Government of India.

The goal of the project is to identify low-carbon technology innovations and support their deployment in industrial and other related sectors to validate efficacy. To facilitate this deployment and scale-up of technologies, the project offers capacity building through an Accelerator program, validation support through an annual competitive "Innovation challenge", and financial due diligence and fundraising support to accelerate the commercialization of innovative solutions.

Component 2 of the FLCTD project aims to strengthen the low-carbon technology innovation ecosystem by providing Technical assistance to strengthen the technology transfer function and increase commercialization of innovation. To identify specific technical assistance required to strengthen the technology transfer centres, the FLCTD project has conducted a training need assessment (TNA) covering 25 technology transfer offices (TTO) and centres - a representative of the National ecosystem. The report titled "Study of Indian Technology Transfer Ecosystem to Increase Commercialization of Innovation" presents the findings of the study. A foundational training and capacity-building program is being developed to enhance the technology transfer function.

Component 2 of the FLCTD project aims to strengthen the low-carbon technology innovation ecosystem by providing Technical assistance to strengthen the technology transfer function and increase commercialization of innovation. For more information on FLCTD: <https://www.low-carbon-innovation.org/>



Venture Center is a national award winning deep tech and science-based business incubator approved by the Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt of India. It aims to nucleate and nurture knowledge based enterprises. It does this by creating and maintaining a rich and supportive ecosystem for inventive enterprises that includes a large mentor network, funding options including 4 seed funds, scientific/ analytical/ prototyping facilities, specialized advisory capabilities, numerous events etc. It empowers scientists, engineers, clinicians and other knowledge workers to take their ideas from lab to market. It is structured as an independent, non-profit company and charitable organization that is hosted by CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory, Pune. The Venture Center was founded in 2007. Venture Center has been recognized with the National Award for Technology Business Incubators (2015), AABI (Asian) Incubator of the Year Award (2018), National Entrepreneurship Award under Ecosystem Builder Category (2019), Biospectrum No 1 Biocubator of India (2022) and National Award for Incubators for Nurturing IP (2021 & 2022).

Venture Center operates a Regional Technology Transfer Office, TechEx.in. TECHEX.IN is a Technology Transfer Hub operated by Venture Center, Pune, India and supported by the National Biopharma Mission, BIRAC (Govt of India). TECHEX.IN aims to help technology developers and technology commercialization entities find each other's, forge partnerships and advance the technology closer to the market in a win-win partnership. In this mission, TECHEX.IN will build upon learnings, methods and experiences of NCL Innovations (department of CSIR-NCL championing innovations), IPFACE (IP Facilitation Center) and Venture Center (technology business incubator). For more information please visit: <http://www.techex.in>

For more information, visit: <http://www.venturecenter.co.in/>