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Abstract –

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***Washington State's Approach to Technology-Based Economic Development  
(abbreviated) WA's Approach to TBED***

Washington's bottoms-up, organic approach to TBED is to "start with the companies". We intend to address a broader spectrum of the economy across the full value-chain: existing industries as well as entrepreneurial start-ups; diverse finance, not only the venture capital and IPO model; and applied solutions in Washington State's major industries. Fundamentally, it holds that TBED is an endeavor as much social as science. The strong economies of the world are known for energized human networks creating practical solutions to end-users' problems, often at some remove from hubs of patent registrations.

The recently launched Washington Nanotechnology Initiative [WNI] is an example of this approach. WNI seeks to foster nano-preparedness across all of Washington's core sectors from agriculture and manufacturing to biomedical and advanced-energy with a work plan running the gamut from research expansion and recruiting talent to cultivating commercial infrastructure and training labor.

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