✹

| THE OPPORTUNITY PROJECT 2024 SPRINTS |
| --- |
| Problem Statement Proposal Template |
| Part I : The Problem Statement |
| 1. **Challenge:** *Provide a 1-2 sentence description of the key challenge that you’re putting forward to tech teams and other stakeholders. Here’s an example from a past problem statement: “Create digital tools that use data to help individuals and community leaders gain a better understanding of national and community hazards and threats and enable the public to take appropriate preparedness actions.” Remember not to prescribe what the solutions should look like, and instead focus on describing a broad public-facing challenge.*   For example:   * “We’d like companies to build a mapping tools for veterans that shows our data alongside job listings” * “Veterans and their families need tech tools that help them to find quality jobs near resources that matter to them.” |
| 1. **Describe your problem statement in plain language, including the problem or challenge, why it is important, and your vision for the sprint outcomes. View several excellent examples from previous years** [**here**](https://opportunity.census.gov/sprints/)**.**   **The Big Picture:** *In one to two paragraphs, paint a picture of the big problem at hand. What is the overall problem space this challenge focuses on, and why is it important to the nation, world, or specific communities? For example, describe the big picture landscape such as the global threats that climate change poses. We encourage you to use one or two statistics or facts, and compelling, human stories to help make the case that this problem is timely and significant. This will help to motivate potential tech teams and other stakeholders to get involved in the sprint.*  **Narrow In:**  *In one to two paragraphs, narrow in on the specific problem you’re trying to solve in this sprint. This should be a problem facing the public. Avoid using jargon, acronyms, and technical terms, and instead use plain language. In this section, focus on the specific component of the big problem that you’re encouraging sprint participants to take on (e.g. narrowing down from climate change to helping the public understand the scale of transportation based emissions). This will help potential sprint participants understand what they’ll be working on if they join the sprint.*  **Overall goal or vision for sprint outcomes:** *Add a one sentence vision of what the world looks like with tech solutions to your problem.*  *For example: “Through access to data and user friendly digital tools, more Americans are aware of the natural hazards they face, what they can do to protect themselves and their families, and take action to get prepared.”*  *This can be a qualitative statement, but please feel free to list any target quantitative impacts you’ve identified for this issue overall: e.g. “By improving access to information on how to prepare for disasters, we hope to increase the percentage of young people who report being prepared for disasters by 20%”* |
| 1. **Target audience/end user**: *In a few words, describe the target audience for resulting products. Examples include: youth experiencing homelessness; veterans; engaged citizens; individuals and families under age 35; local officials or other local decision makers.* |
| 1. **Potential data sets**: *List any potential open data sets (e.g. open data from state, local, federal government or non-governmental sources) that are relevant to the problem; if possible/available, share where these data can be found online (e.g., websites or API links, file downloads, etc.). This can just be an initial scan of data sets that you’re aware of.* ***This does not need to be an exhaustive list, and it’s not required to submit a problem statement.*** |
| 1. **Does your problem statement align with one or more of the following themes? (Note: this is not required!)**   \_\_\_\_ Increasing Data AI Readiness & Integration  \_\_\_\_ Developing a Workforce for the Future  \_\_\_\_ Advancing American Manufacturing & Entrepreneurship Infrastructure  \_\_\_\_ Other topic, unrelated to these themes (please describe) |
| **Collaborator wish list:** *Who do you hope to collaborate with on this challenge, in the nonprofit sector and technology industry? These can be existing partners, or organizations on your “wish list” of potential contributors, even if you don’t yet have any connections to them.* |

### 

### 

| Part II : Your Organization |
| --- |
| 1. **Agency/Organization Name:** |
| 1. **POC name(s), title(s), email(s), and phone number(s):** *Please list 1-2 primary points of contact for your organization, these individuals will be engaging with participating teams throughout the sprint and joining sprint milestones (every two weeks for 12 weeks). If you haven’t identified a team or individual to represent your organization in the upcoming sprint(s), please provide the name, title and email of the submitter.* |
| 1. **Do you have manager support to spend 2-8 hours per week of your time on the project through December 2024 (Typically 2-3 hours/week but up to 6-8 during busier phases of the sprint**  (YES/NO) |
| 1. **Are you submitting this problem statement in collaboration with any additional federal, state or local agencies, NGOs or partner organizations?** *If so, list them here.* |
| 1. **Have you worked with The Opportunity Project before?** (YES/NO)   *If you have not directly worked on The Opportunity Project, how did you hear about us? Please provide a short statement of interest (2-3 sentences) and mission alignment to your scope of work.* |

Email us directly at [census.opportunityproject@census.gov](mailto:census.opportunityproject@census.gov)