

Roles of Citizen Developer

Paul G. Soliman,
Co-Founder, Raven Global Ventures Inc
PH Community Leader
D365 Champs
BizAppChamps APAC



An aerial night view of a city skyline, featuring numerous illuminated skyscrapers and buildings. The title 'Roles of Citizen Developers' is centered in the upper half of the image in a purple serif font.

Roles of Citizen Developers

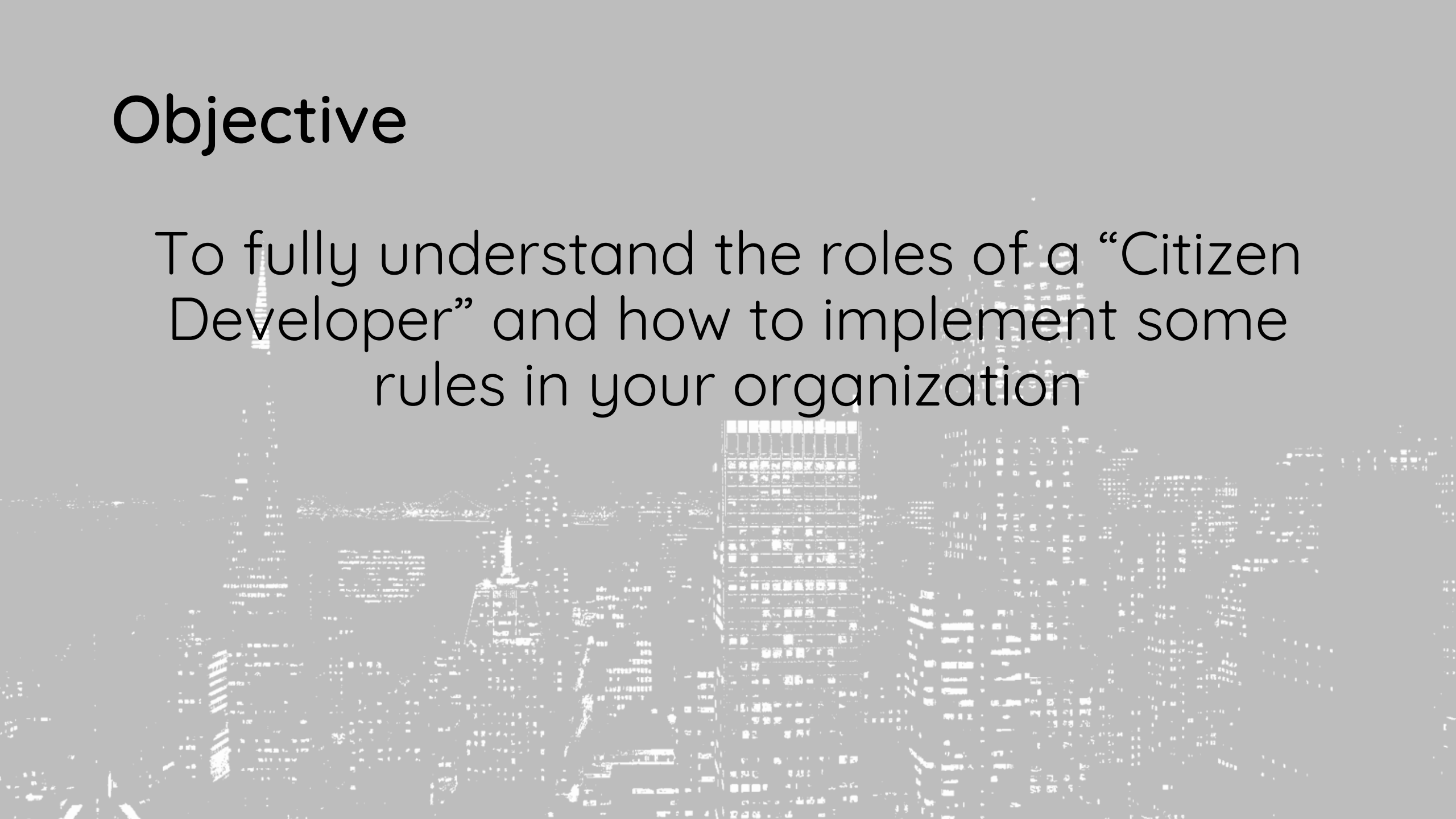
Why



Citizen Developer is
the future work

Objective

To fully understand the roles of a “Citizen Developer” and how to implement some rules in your organization



Paul Soliman posted this



The Roles of a "Citizen Developer"

Paul Soliman on LinkedIn
August 29, 2019

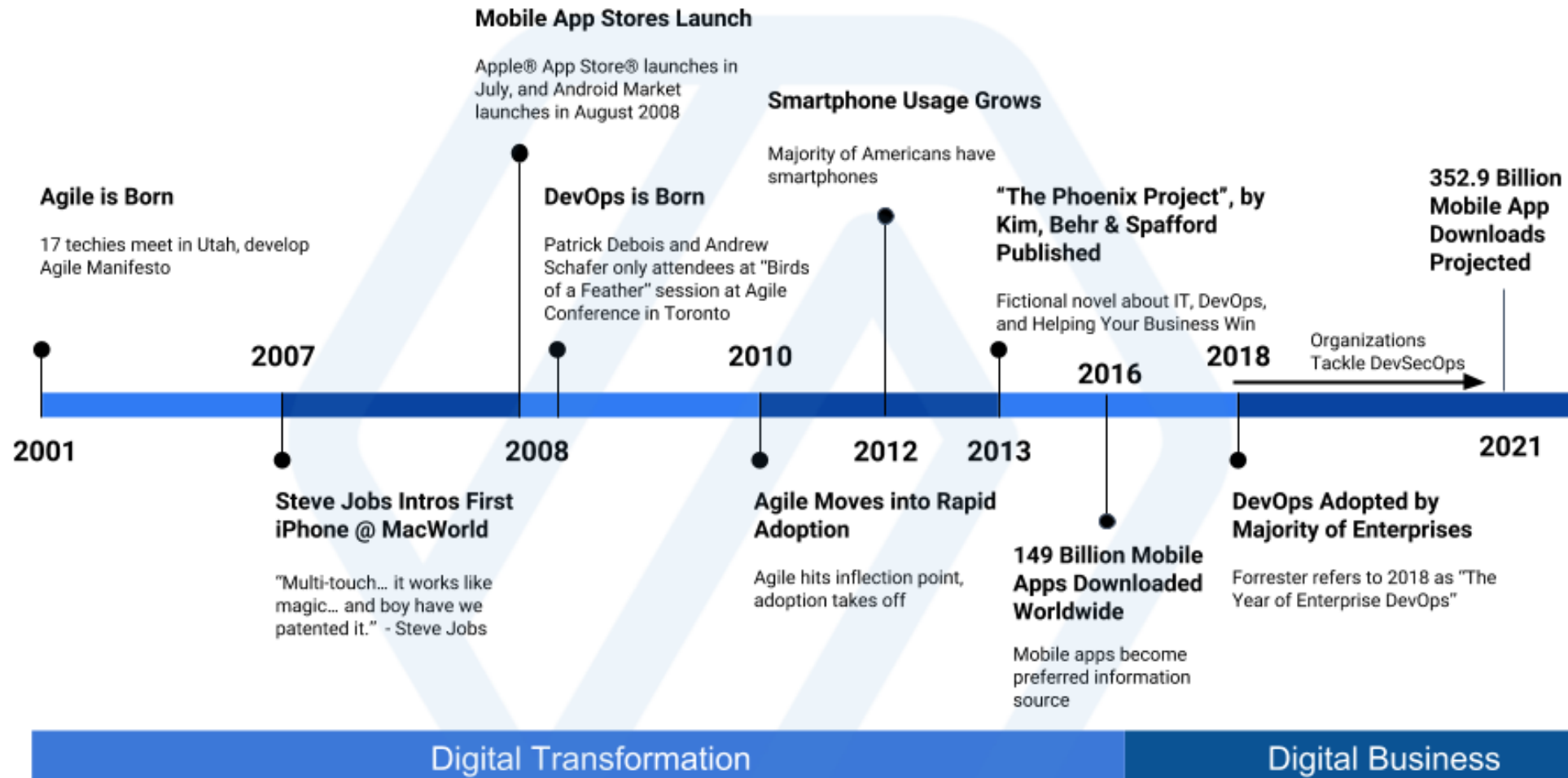
Paul Soliman posted this



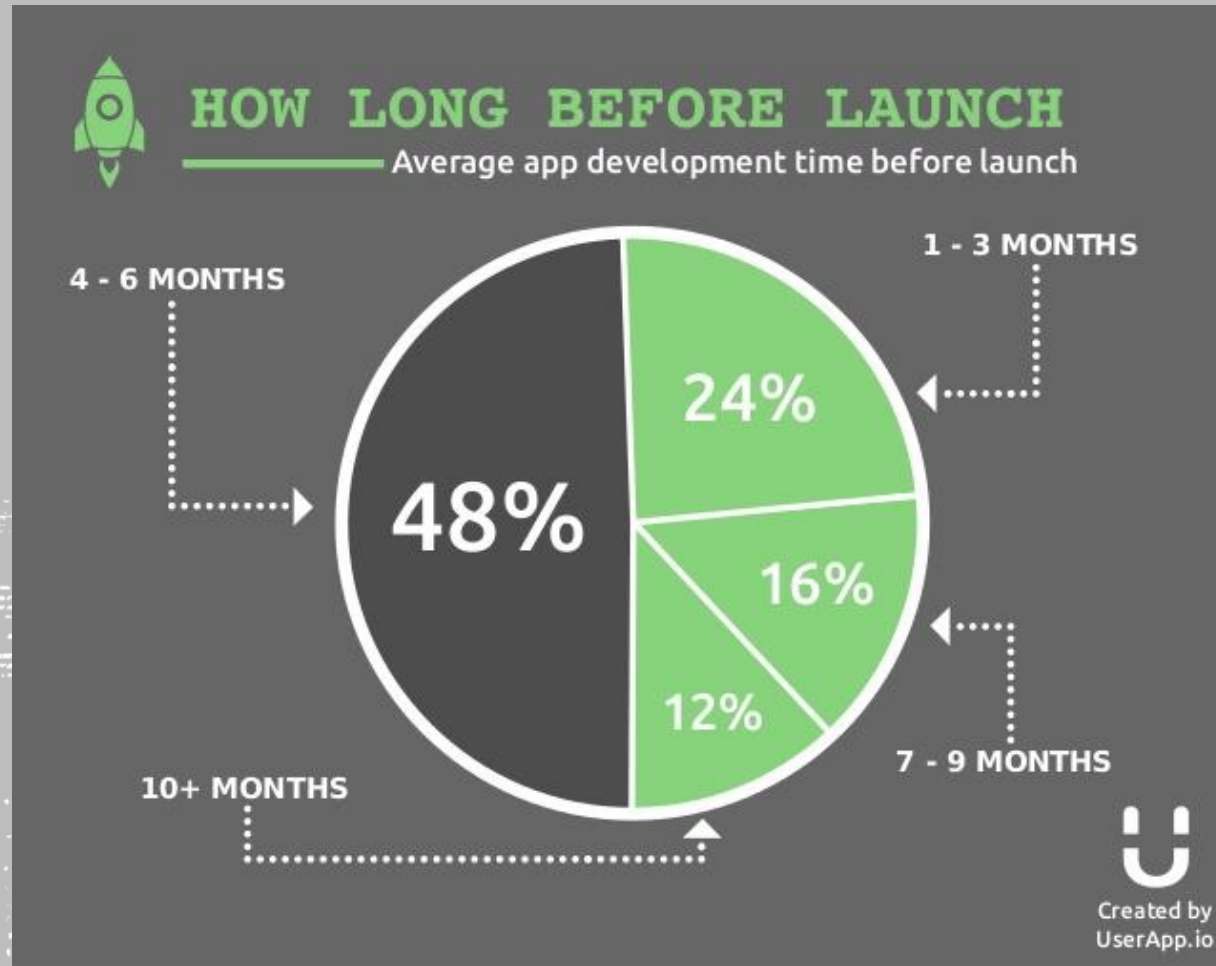
Empowering Citizen Developers

Paul Soliman on LinkedIn
August 21, 2019

The Timeline



A typical mobile app development

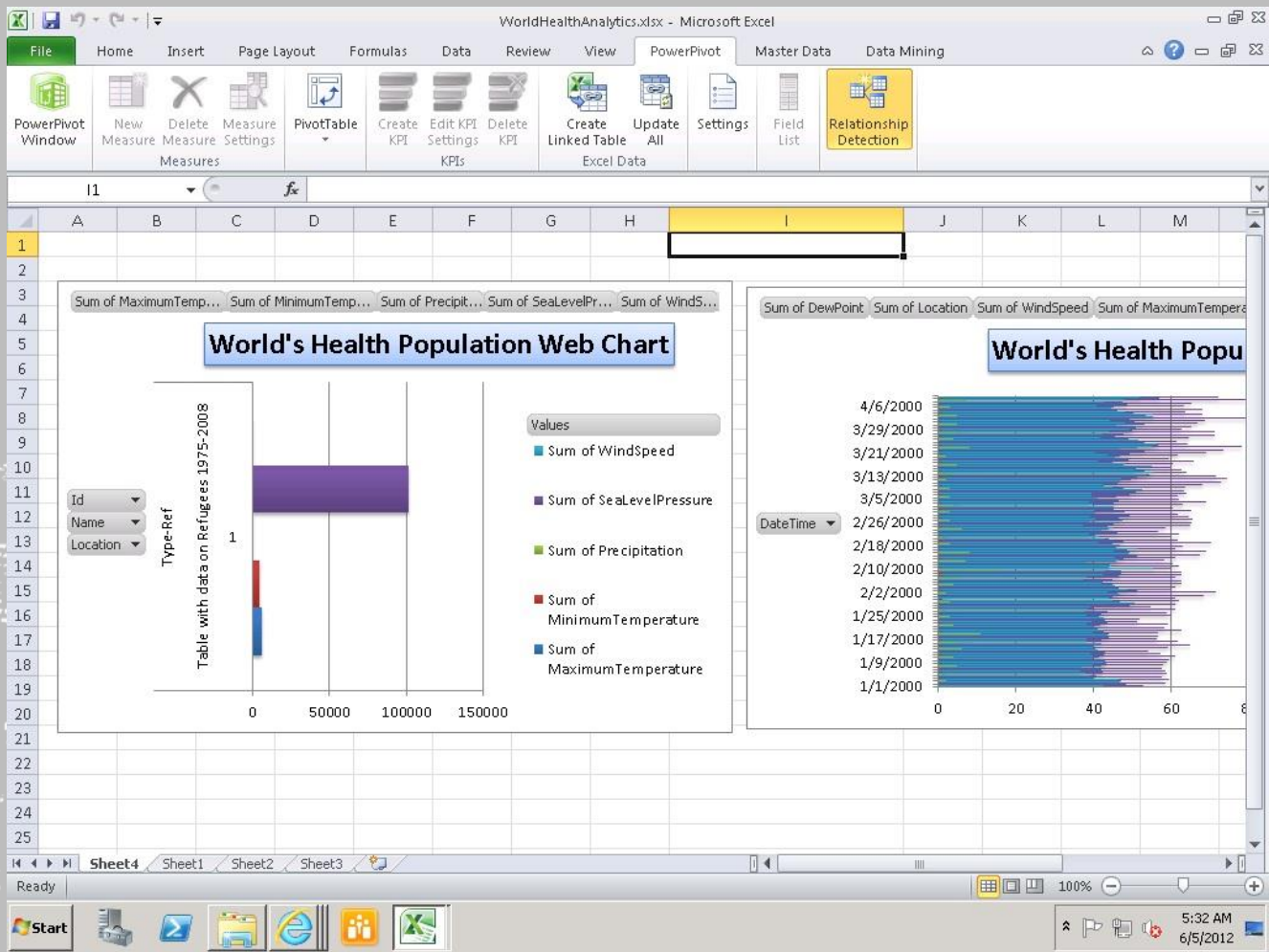


Citizen Developers

A citizen developer refers to an **end user** who **creates new applications** or programs from a corporate or **collective code base**, system or structure. In a general sense, this developer is not a professional developer who is paid to code applications, but an "amateur," someone who uses the tools available to him/her for building applications that his/her team can or will use during the course of their work.

History

Excel PowerPivot is one of the first tools that empowers a citizen developer or a user to create visualizations of a transformed data sets coming from a data warehouse or an ERP system.



The low code and no code

No-code products - primarily serve line-of-business people who, with some exceptions, cannot code and do not want to code. No-code products are **NOT** a fit for developers who want to increase productivity, but retain the ability to add code for complex requirements like security, data integration and more.

low-code products primarily serve developers with the primary objective being **speed of development** without having to compromise on power and control. Low-code products are NOT a fit for line-of-business people who cannot code. these products usually require coding at some point and could bring a line-of-business app project to a grinding halt when that becomes the case.

Sample No Code and Low Code Platform

Zoho Creator

Appian

Microsoft
PowerApps

Mendix

OutSystems

Google App
Maker

Quick Base

TrackVia

Salesforce
App Cloud

Nintex
Workflow
Cloud

 Zoho Creator

 Appian

 PowerApps

 mendix

 outsystems

 App Maker

 QUICK
BASE

 TRACKVIA

 salesforce app cloud

 NINTEX

<https://sea.pcmag.com/cloud-services/16056/the-best-low-code-development-platforms>

Business Apps and Power Platform

Dynamics 365

Office 365

Standalone Apps

Common Data Service
for Apps (CDS for Apps)



Microsoft Flow



PowerApps

Power BI

Common Data Service for
Analytics (CDS for Analytics)



Common Data
Model (CDM)

Data
connectors

Azure

Developers vs Citizen Developers

Activities	Developers , Tech Guys	Citizen Developers
Data Sets Creation	Yes	No
SQL Tables Management	Yes	No
Dashboard Creation	No	Yes
ERP Configuration	Yes	No
ERP Forms & Reports	No	Yes
CRM Coniguration	No	Yes
UI / UX	Yes	Yes
Prototype Creation	Yes	Yes

Ideal Process

Developers
/ Tech

Citizen
Developers

Users

Roles

UX and UI Designer

Because of Low Code / No Code platform like PowerApps, citizen developers can now experiment and translate user stories to a prototype or a working app. This role can boost the development of projects because iterations can be shorter. Users will not wait for months just to test the product "Usability" because a citizen developer can do an agile approach of engagement with the users.

Roles


R&D Lead

One of the integral parts of an innovative organization is their R&D department. To be able to create and test a new discovery or invention, this department needs to have data and that data can be captured by letting users use the prototype app. When a citizen developer is equipped and have a knowledge working with big data sets by using an analytical tool like PowerBI or PowerPivot, the data modeling part can be done with a minimal supervision of a more technical person. This will accelerate the development, especially the testing activities of the new R&D project.

Roles

System Admin for a specific group

In the past, most users need to call their system administrator to add a specific function, add access to a particular data and other stuff that needed a technical intervention to be executed. Now, because of tools like Flow and PowerApps, The IT department can just create a restricted or a controlled environment with a minimal supervision. For instance, a citizen developer will be able to create an automated workflow system that can be an additional function to an existing app. Microsoft Flow is one of the tools I know that has a large number of connectors that integrates a complex system to a simple end user application. Without coding, Flow can be used by a citizen developer to create data integrations for different systems.



“There are many roles that a **citizen developer** can wear, it is up to an organization if they will embrace these technological advancements and democratize other functions inside their IT department. **At the end of the day, even a CEO can be a citizen developer and just create an app or a dashboard for his/her consumption.**” – Paul Soliman