

## Requirements Gathering and Initial Design

### Requirement Gathering

**Description:** Conduct interviews with small business stakeholders to understand their needs and pain points regarding succession planning.

Customer Pain Points:

- Language Barrier: Difficulty in understanding AI responses due to complex language.
- Technical Jargon: Overuse of technical terms that are not easily understood by users.
- Lack of Knowledge: Insufficient domain knowledge affecting the quality of advice.
- Lack of Planning: Inability to provide structured and actionable plans.
- Lack of Action: Difficulty in executing suggested actions or follow-ups.

BizBridge Needs:

- Human-Like Interaction: Agents should interact in a natural and human-like manner.
- Natural User Engagement: Engaging users effectively to maintain interest and provide value.
- Expertise Delivery: Ensuring Agents deliver expert advice accurately and efficiently.

Data Gathering on Skills, Roles, and Readiness Criteria for Potential Successors:

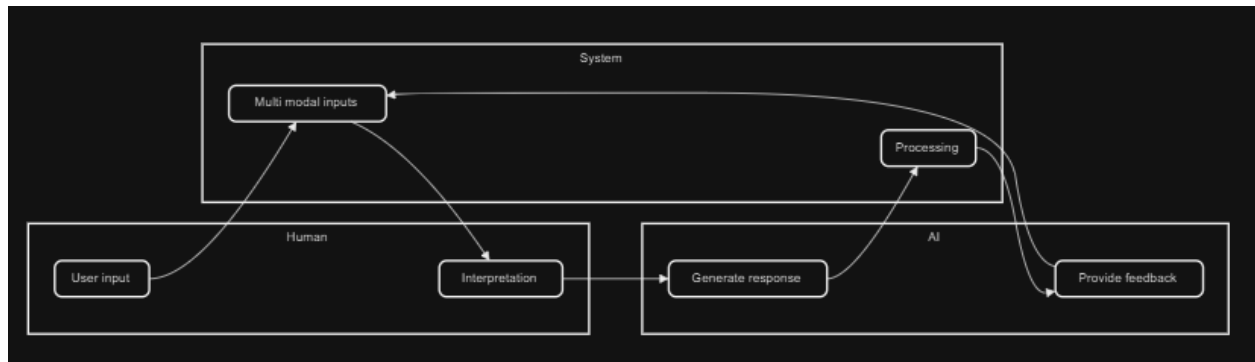
- Roles:
  - Inside the Business:
    - Hierarchy of Operations
  - Outside the Business:
    - Investors
    - Banks
    - Friends/Family
- Criteria:
  - Adaptability
  - Leadership
  - Relatability
  - Trust

Prompt Engineering:

- Upgrade Existing Prompts: Enhance current prompts to be more natural and user-friendly.
- Build New Prompts: Develop new prompts tailored to the succession planning flow and user needs.

### Initial Design and Prototyping

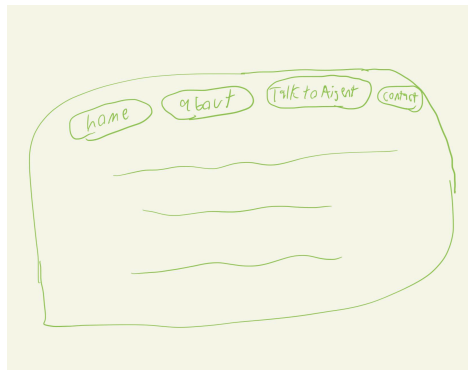
**Description:** Develop initial wireframes and prototypes for the succession planning tool. Focus on ease of use and accessibility in the UI design.



Ease and Accessibility Practices:

### 1. Intuitive Navigation

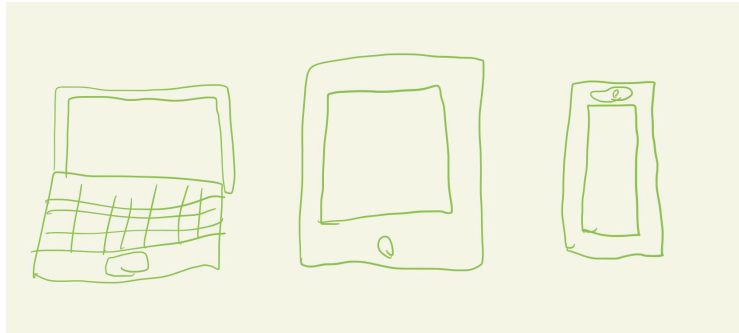
- **Clear Hierarchy:** Organize content logically with a clear visual hierarchy to guide users through the interface seamlessly.
- **Consistent Layout:** Maintain consistent layouts and navigation elements across the platform to reduce the learning curve for users.
- **Breadcrumbs:** Use breadcrumb navigation to help users understand their location within the platform and easily navigate back to previous sections.



### 2. Responsive Design

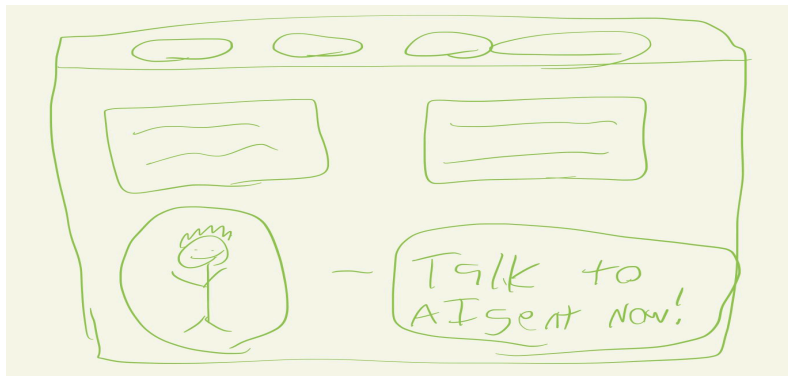
- **Device Adaptability:** Ensure the UI adapts smoothly to different screen sizes and devices, from desktops to mobile phones.

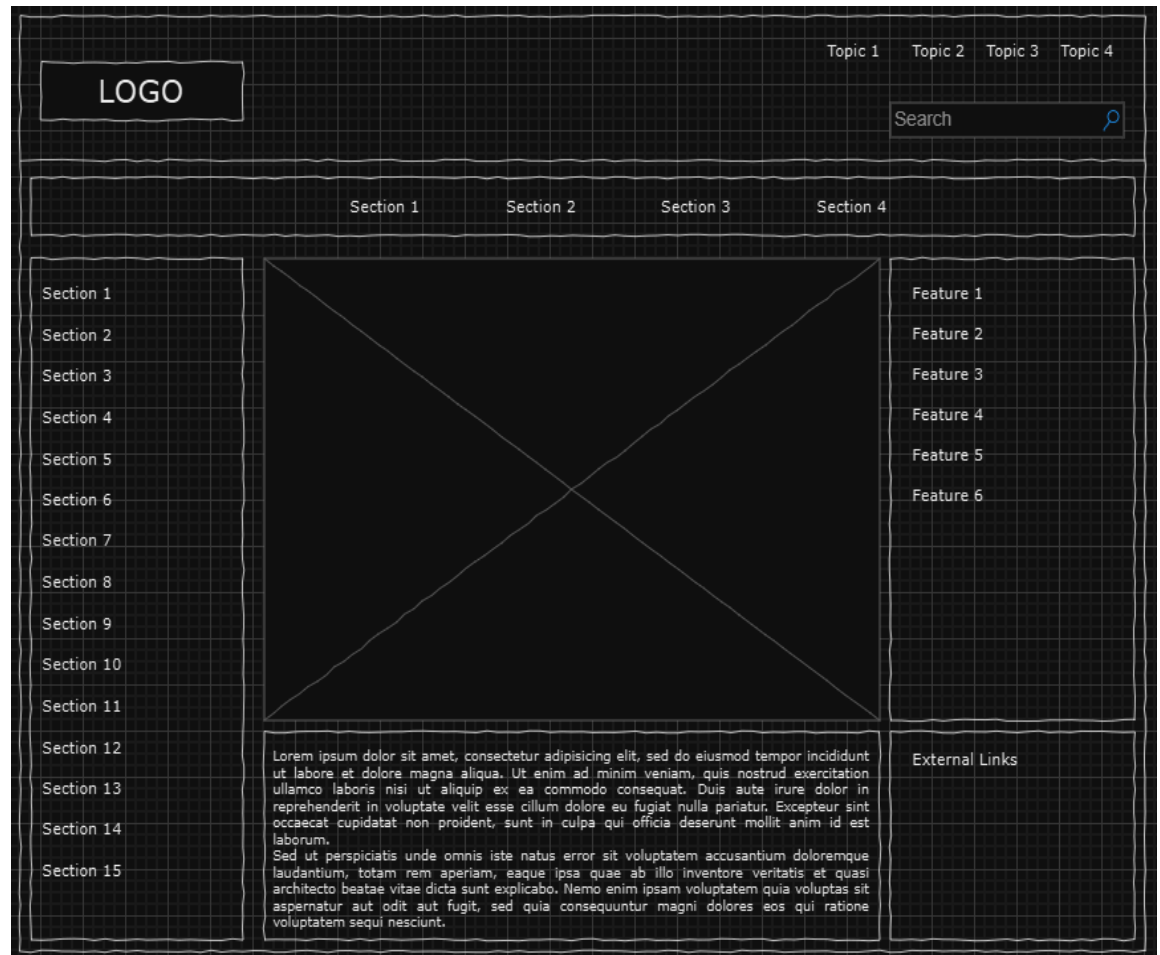
- **Touch-Friendly Elements:** Design touch-friendly elements, such as larger buttons and interactive areas, for ease of use on mobile devices.



### 3. Simplified User Interface

- **Minimalist Design:** Keep the design clean and uncluttered, focusing on essential elements to avoid overwhelming users.
- **Whitespace Utilization:** Use whitespace effectively to separate content and make the interface more readable and visually appealing.
- **Direct Pathways:** Provide direct pathways to key actions, minimizing the number of steps required to complete tasks.

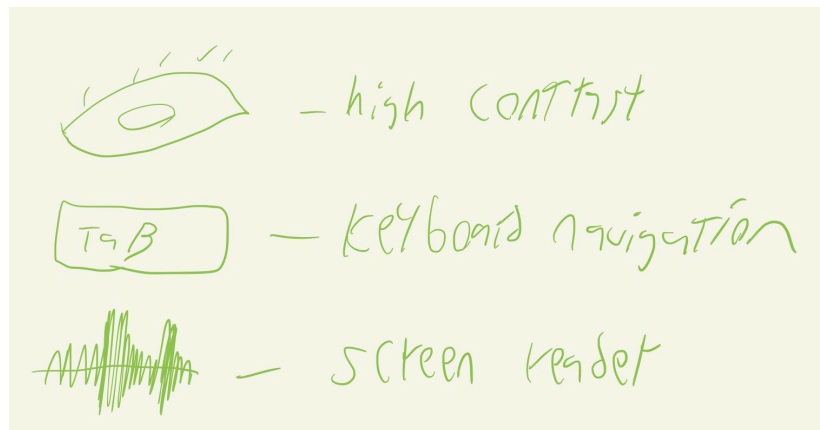




#### 4. Accessibility Considerations

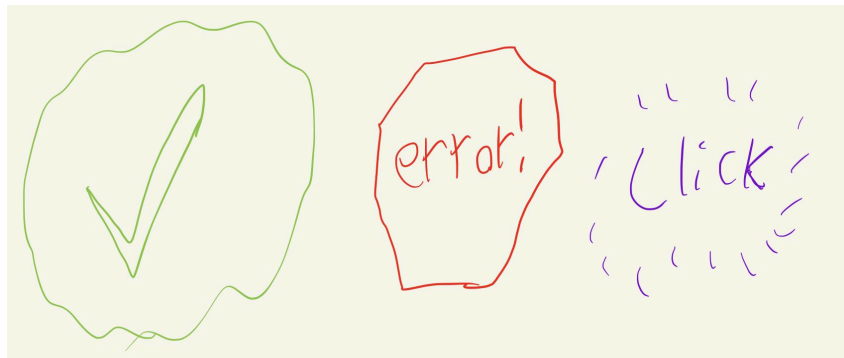
- **Color Contrast:** Ensure high color contrast between text and background to make content easily readable for users with visual impairments.
- **Keyboard Navigation:** Design the interface to be fully navigable using a keyboard, catering to users with motor impairments.
- **Screen Reader Compatibility:** Ensure the UI is compatible with screen readers by using appropriate semantic HTML elements and ARIA (Accessible Rich Internet

Applications) labels.



#### 5. User Feedback and Error Handling

- Instant Feedback: Provide instant feedback for user actions, such as form submissions and button clicks, to reassure users that their actions have been registered.
- Error Messages: Display clear and concise error messages near the relevant input fields, explaining what went wrong and how to correct it.
- Success Confirmation: Show confirmation messages for successful actions to inform users that their tasks have been completed.



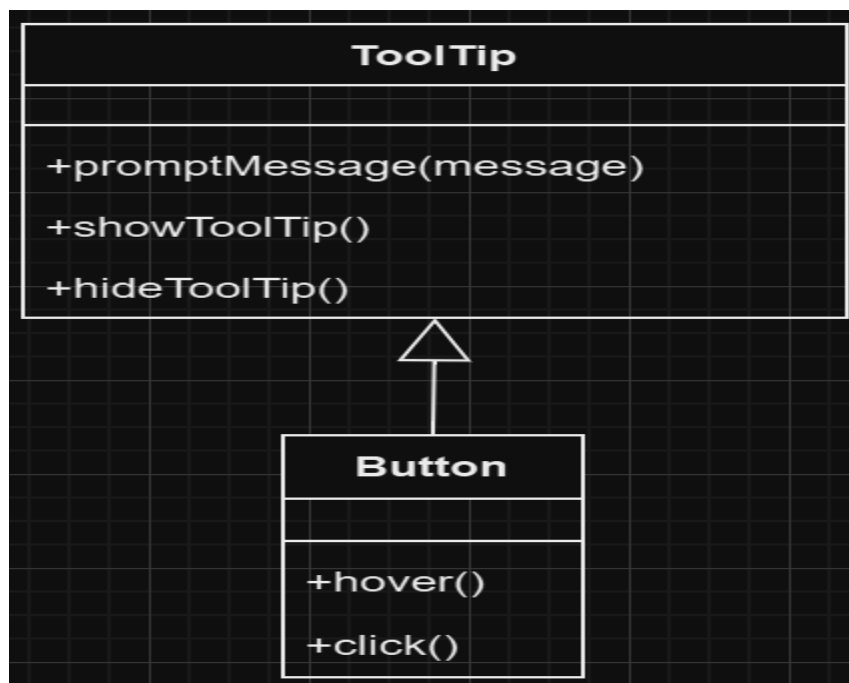
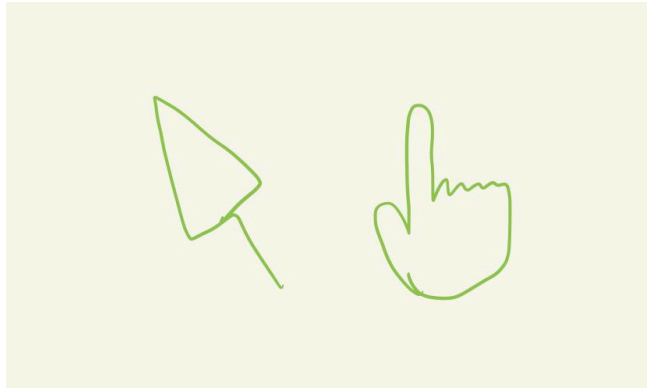
#### 6. Clear and Consistent Language

- Plain Language: Use plain language and avoid technical jargon to make the interface understandable for all users.
- Consistent Terminology: Maintain consistent terminology throughout the platform to prevent confusion.

#### 7. Visual Aids and Tooltips

- Icons and Labels: Use intuitive icons paired with labels to help users quickly understand the function of different elements.

- Tooltips: Provide tooltips with additional information or explanations for complex features, enhancing user understanding without cluttering the interface.



## 8. Loading Indicators and Progress Bars

- Visual Feedback for Loading: Use loading indicators or progress bars to inform users that the system is processing their requests.

