Citizen AI – Intelligent Citizen Engagement Platform

Project Documentation

1. Introduction

• Project Title: CitizenAI – Intelligent Citizen Engagement Platform

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This project is designed to bridge the communication gap between citizens and government bodies using Artificial Intelligence. It ensures fast query resolution, structured feedback collection, and intelligent dashboards for administrators. By integrating AI-driven natural language processing and sentiment analysis, the platform improves governance, transparency, and citizen satisfaction.

2. Project Overview

Purpose:

The purpose of CitizenAI is to provide a smart, AI-driven engagement platform for citizens. It enables smooth interaction with authorities through chatbots, ensures feedback is classified with sentiment analysis, and provides dashboards to officials for decision-making. The platform improves governance by ensuring transparent, data-driven, and accessible citizen services.

Features:

Conversational Chatbot

- **Key Point**: Natural language interaction
- **Functionality**: Citizens can ask queries and receive meaningful answers through the chatbot interface.

Sentiment Analysis

• Key Point: Feedback understanding

• Functionality: Classifies citizen feedback as Positive, Neutral, or Negative, helping officials measure public mood.

Issue Reporting

• Key Point: Concern logging

• **Functionality**: Citizens can submit issues directly into the system, which are stored and tracked for resolution.

Analytics Dashboard

• **Key Point**: Data visualization

• **Functionality**: Provides insights into citizen engagement by displaying reported issues and sentiment distributions.

User Authentication

• Key Point: Secure Access

• **Functionality**: Allows login/logout for citizens and officials to ensure safe and authorized usage.

3. Architecture

Frontend (Flask Templates):

The frontend is built using HTML, CSS, and Bootstrap integrated with Flask templates. It provides user-friendly interfaces for citizens to chat, submit feedback, and view updates.

Backend (Flask Application):

Flask handles routing, integration with AI, and managing database operations. It ensures smooth communication between the user interface and AI services.

AI Layer (IBM Granite NLP):

IBM Granite model is used for Natural Language Processing, enabling intent recognition and sentiment analysis to classify queries and feedback.

Database (SQLite/MySQL):

Citizen profiles, feedback, and issues are stored securely for analysis. This layer also powers the analytics dashboard.

Analytics Layer:

Provides dashboard views for officials to track citizen engagement, sentiment trends, and issue reports.

4. Setup Instructions

Prerequisites:

- Python 3.9 or later
- pip and virtual environment
- Flask and required libraries from requirements.txt
- IBM Granite API key (if using AI mode)

Installation Process:

- 1. Download the project files into your local system and place them in a working directory.
- 2. Create and activate a virtual environment.
- 3. Install dependencies from **requirements.txt**.
- 4. Create a .env file and configure credentials (API keys, database settings).
- 5. Run the Flask app (app.py or app demo.py).
- 6. Open your browser and navigate to http://127.0.0.1:5000.

5. Folder Structure



— app.py – Main Flask application

app demo.py – Demo version

requirements.txt – Dependencies

templates/ – HTML files

static/ – CSS, JS, Images

screenshots/ – Screenshots

README.md – Documentation

6. Running the Application

To start the project:

- ➤ Activate the virtual environment.
- ➤ Install dependencies using pip.
- ➤ Run python app.py or python app demo.py.
- ➤ Access via browser at http://127.0.0.1:5000.
- Navigate across Home, Chatbot, Feedback, and Dashboard pages.

7. API Documentation

Available endpoints include:

- **POST** /chat Processes citizen query and returns an AI-generated answer.
- **POST** /**submit-feedback** Stores feedback and analyzes sentiment.
- **POST** /report-concern Logs citizen concerns for administrative review.
- **GET** /**dashboard** Fetches analytics for officials.

Each endpoint can be tested using Postman or Flask's built-in test server.

8. Authentication

CitizenAI currently runs with a simple login/logout system managed by Flask sessions.

For secure deployment, it can be extended with:

- Token-based authentication (JWT)
- OAuth2 integration with IBM Cloud credentials
- Role-based access (admin, citizen)
- Session history tracking

9. User Interface

The user interface is designed to be simple and accessible for all citizens. It includes:

- Sidebar navigation for quick access
- Chatbot interface for queries
- Feedback forms for user input
- Dashboard with charts and issue reports

The design is lightweight, responsive, and ensures accessibility across devices.

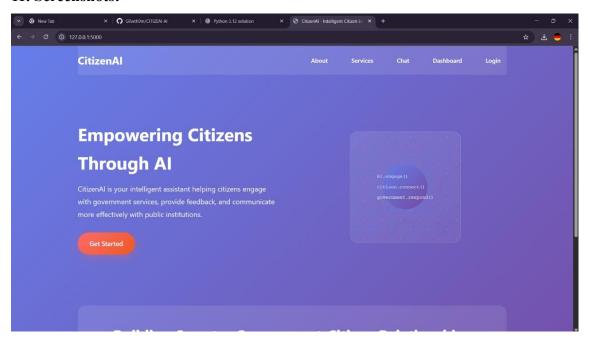
10. Testing

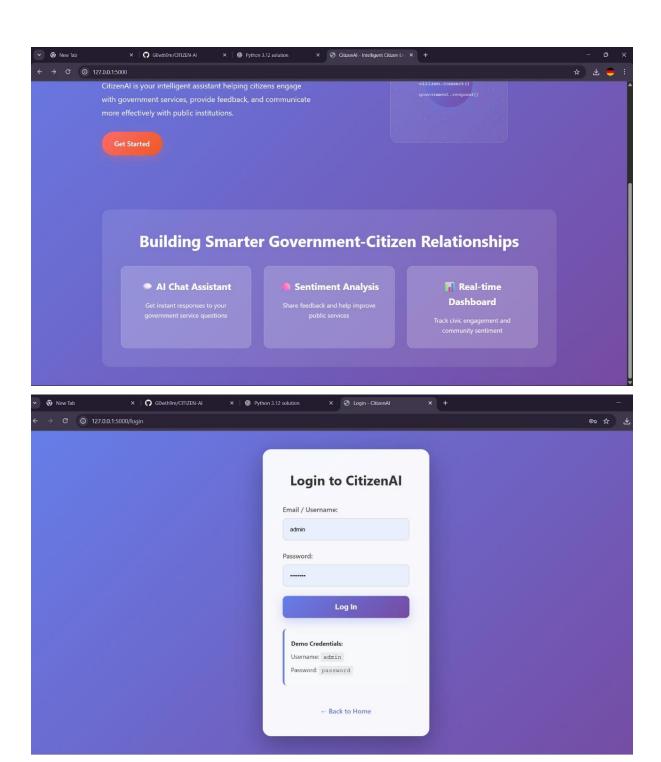
Testing was performed in multiple phases:

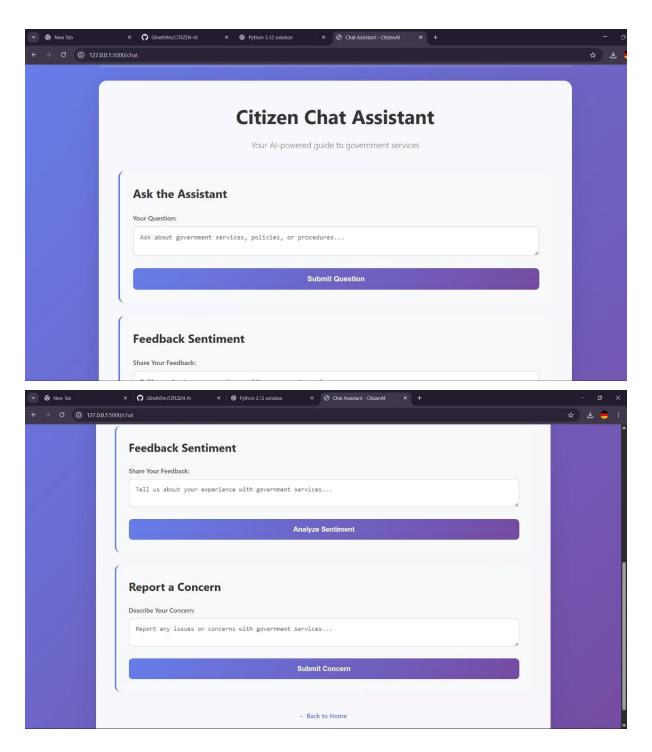
- Unit Testing: For chatbot response functions and utilities.
- API Testing: Using Postman to validate each endpoint.
- Manual Testing: Verified end-to-end flows like citizen queries and feedback logging.
- Edge Cases: Tested with empty queries, invalid inputs, and large feedback.

All functions performed reliably under these scenarios.

11. Screenshots:







12. Known Issues

- Large AI models may impact performance on low-end systems.
- Demo version currently uses an in-memory database.
- Limited to text-based input (no voice or multilingual support yet).

13. Future Enhancements

Planned improvements for CitizenAI include:

- Voice-enabled chatbot for accessibility.
- Multilingual support for wider reach.
- Advanced role-based admin panel.
- Mobile app integration for real-time use.
- Cloud deployment for scalability and reliability.