Corporate Travel & Expense Management System Project

Phase 1: Problem Understanding & Industry Analysis

♦ Project Overview: This project aims to build a Salesforce solution that simplifies corporate travel and expense management by replacing manual emails and spreadsheets with automated workflows, ensuring faster approvals, policy compliance, and real-time expense insights.

1. Requirement Gathering

- o Talk to stakeholders (employees, line managers, finance officers, HR).
- o Example requirements:
 - Allow employees to submit travel requests (e.g., flight booking, hotel stay).
 - Track expense claims with receipt uploads.
 - Managers should be able to approve/reject requests.
 - Prevent claims from exceeding company budget policies.
 - Generate monthly reimbursement reports per department.

2. Stakeholder Analysis

- Admin (you, managing system setup): Configure Salesforce org, manage user roles, and maintain workflows.
- o **Employees** (submitters): Create and submit travel requests and expense claims.
- Managers (approvers): Approve/reject high-value travel requests and monitor expense reports.
- Finance Team (processors): Verify claims, process reimbursements, and ensure compliance.

 HR/Support (issue handlers): Resolve employee travel-related queries and manage travel policy adherence.

3. Business Process Mapping

o Draw a flow:

Employee submits travel/expense request → Automated workflow routes to Manager → Manager approves/rejects → Finance verifies and processes reimbursement → HR tracks compliance → Dashboard auto-updates for management.

4. Industry-specific Use Case Analysis

- In the corporate world, travel and expenses impact budgets, compliance, and employee satisfaction.
- o So, we need to:
 - Track all travel requests and expense claims centrally.
 - Automate approval flows to prevent policy violations.
 - Ensure **finance compliance** with audit-ready records.
 - Notify employees and managers about status updates (approved, rejected, reimbursed).
 - Provide management with **real-time dashboards** for better cost control.

5. AppExchange Exploration

 Look for "Travel & Expense Management" apps. Some exist (like Concur, Expensify, FinancialForce), but we'll build a simpler custom solution in Salesforce to learn the end-to-end implementation process.