Creating a User Pool in AWS Cognito

Lab Tasks

1. Log into AWS Management Console.
2. **Create a User Pool**in AWS Cognito.
3. We will navigate to **Steps through each setting to make your choices** to understand the settings in a detailed manner.
4. We will go through the **Attributes**.
5. We will walk through the **Policies, MFA and Verification**.
6. We will go through the **Message Customizations**, finally Review and create a User Pool.

Steps

Creating a User Pool

1. Navigate to Cognito by clicking on the  menu at the top, click on Cognito under the section.
2. Make sure you are in the**US East (N. Virginia) us-east-1**Region. Click on **Manage User Pools.**
3. Click on **Create a User Pool**.

Name and Attributes

1. Give your User Pool a descriptive name, (which is required for the identitiy).
2. We choose **Step through settings** to make each setting our own choice as shown below.
3. In the Attributes page, we can mention how a user could perform a sign in.
4. You can choose to have users sign in with an email address, phone number, username or preferred username plus their password.
5. Here we choose **Email address or Phone number**, where Users can use an email address or phone number as their **username** to sign up and sign in. Here, choose **Allow email addresses**.
6. We can choose the **Standard Attributes**, which will be required while performing a sign up. Here, we choose Email, Name, Preferred Username, Phone Number which are required to perform a signup.
7. We can also customize our attributes that are required while signup by clicking **Add another attribute**.
8. Click on

Policies

1. We give the **Minimum Password Strength**and can add the required parameters like numbers, lowercase, uppercase and special characters. Here, we select all the parameters.
2. You can choose to **only allow administrators to create users or allow users to sign themselves up**.
3. We choose the **allow users to sign themselves up**where the users can sign up themselves without administrator interference.
4. As as admin, you can configure when temporary passwords should expire. This includes accounts created by administrators i.e if you choose **only allow administrators to create users**. Here, we can leave the option as we don’t select it.
5. Click on

MFA and Verifications

1. **Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)** increases security for your end users. Phone numbers must be verified if MFA is enabled. We choose **off** for this lab.
2. **Account Recovery:**When a user forgets their password, they can have a code sent to their verified email or verified phone to recover their account. You can choose the preferred way to send codes below. Here, we choose **Email**only.
3. **Verification**requires users to retrieve a code from their email or phone to confirm ownership. Verification of a phone or email is necessary to automatically confirm users and enable recovery from forgotten passwords. In this case, we choose **Email**.
4. **Define Role:** Amazon Cognito needs your permission to send SMS messages to your users on your behalf. We do not create any Role as we are marking MFA **off**. We will leave it as is.
5. Click on

Message Customizations

1. You can send emails from an SES verified identity. Before you can send an email using Amazon SES, you must verify each identity that you're going to use as a From, Source, Sender, or Return-Path address to prove that you own it. For now, we leave it blank.
2. **Amazon SES Configuration:** Cognito will send emails through your Amazon SES configuration. Select Yes if you require higher daily email limits otherwise select No. Here, we select **No - Use Cognito (Default)**.
3. Verification Type: You can choose to send a code or a clickable link and customize the message to verify email addresses. We keep it default as code.
4. User Invitation messages: We can customize the SMS message, Email subject and Email message as how you want the text to be delivered to the user.
5. Click on

Tags:

1. You can create new tags by entering tag keys and tag values.

* Tag Key:     Enter **Name**
* Tag Value:  Enter **MyUserPool**

1. Click on

Devices

* We can choose to remember our User’s devices. Here, we choose **No** and click on

App Client

1. The app clients that we add will be given a unique ID and an optional secret key to access this user pool. We are not using any App Client here, so we proceed to the

Customize Workflows

1. You can make advanced customizations with AWS Lambda functions. Pick AWS Lambda functions to trigger with different events if you want to customize workflows and user experience.
2. You can go through all the Events. We skip this and proceed to

Review:

* Review all the settings and click on Create Pool as shown below.
* You’ll get a message as **Your user pool was created successfully**.
* On the Top left, click on User Pools to see **Your User Pools.**
* Navigate to Cognito, click on **Users and groups** to navigate to the Users page as shown below.
* Here, we can start creating Users and Groups.
* From an Administrative perspective, if we have an application, the application would then invoke the Amazon Cognito to create User itself.

Completion and Conclusion

1. You have successfully used AWS management console to create a User Pool.
2. You learned how to use each setting in a detailed manner.
3. You learned how to do settings for Policies, MFA and Verifications.