

IHCI Project Proposal

Rules

- Submit a Google Doc, NOT a PDF or a Google slide.
- Use the default fonts, line spacing, and font size unless specifically required in the assignment.
- After submission, the Google Doc will get automatically locked, so you won't be able to make any changes.
- Standard plagiarism rules apply.
- Your submission will not be considered for grading and feedback if you do not follow these guidelines.

Names of Group Members: Abhishek, Ansh Goel, Aarehant Jain, Aditya Kak, Akshat Raj, Anamalla Rishith Rohan

Project Group Number: A_G7_P1

HCI Group No.: 7

Problem Statement

MealConnect addresses the challenge of food waste and inefficient food sharing. It streamlines the process for community members, local governments, app developers, food rescue teams, recipients, and food providers who lack an organized platform for effective food donation and distribution, reducing waste and ensuring food reaches those in need.

Background of the Problem and Motivation

In our current society, there's a significant problem with food waste, as tons of perfectly good food goes to waste while many people struggle to put food on the table. The issue lies in the inefficiency of traditional food recovery methods, which lack real-time coordination. Homeless shelters and NGOs often find it challenging to secure a consistent supply of fresh food donations. Existing solutions are often fragmented and slow to respond to the immediate needs of recipients. We're motivated to create a food-sharing app because we believe in a more efficient and timely solution. Our team is driven by the pressing instances of this problem we've seen firsthand—restaurants discarding edible food, shelters unable to feed everyone, and individuals going hungry. We want to bridge the gap, offering a platform that connects surplus food providers with recipients seamlessly, reducing waste, addressing hunger, and fostering a sense of community and sustainability.

Scope

ASPECTS

1)Core Functionality:

a)User Types: Three primary user types: donors(people with surplus amount of food), recipients (those in need), and volunteers (people who can help with food distribution)

b)Food Listings: Donors can list details like type, quantity, expiration date, and pickup location of the food.

c)Search: The recipient will be able to search and match with what they find the most suitable as per location, type of food etc.

2) Food Quality and Assurance

3) Payment

4) Marketing and Scalability

5) Community awareness

SCOPE: Food Waste Reduction: It addresses the issue of food waste by connecting local businesses and individuals with surplus food to those in need.This app provides a means to redirect this surplus food to people who can use it, reducing food waste.

Battling Hunger: The app helps combat hunger by ensuring that extra food is distributed to individuals and families who may be struggling to access sufficient and nutritious meals.

Awareness and Education: Through features like community forums and blogs, the app raises awareness about the issues of food waste and hunger. It educates users about best practices for food sharing and safety while promoting a culture of conscious consumption.

FEATURES:-

Inventory Management: Some apps may include inventory management features for businesses and households to better track and manage their food supplies, reducing waste through better planning and utilization.

Community Engagement: Building a sense of community and social impact is essential. Features like user reviews, community forums, and social sharing can encourage people to get involved and promote the app's mission.

Integration with Food Banks and Charities: Collaboration with food banks, shelters, and charitable organizations can expand the reach and impact of the app by connecting it to existing networks and resources.

User-Friendly Design: An intuitive and user-friendly interface is essential to encourage

widespread adoption and usage.

Accessibility: Making the app accessible to people with disabilities and available in multiple languages can broaden its reach.

Legal and Ethical Considerations: Address legal and ethical aspects, such as liability for food safety, data privacy, and compliance with local regulations.

LIMITATIONS:-

Access and Technology Barrier: Not everyone has access to smartphones or the internet, limiting the reach of such apps to those who can afford or have the necessary technology.

Food Safety Concerns: Ensuring the safety and quality of donated food can be challenging, and there's a risk of foodborne illnesses if proper precautions are not taken.

Privacy Concerns: Collecting and sharing user data, even for a good cause, can raise privacy concerns and require robust data protection measures.

Fraud and Misuse: There is a risk of misuse, such as false claims of food donations or inappropriate use of funds collected for hunger relief.

Contributions

Problem Statement : Abhishek, Ansh Goel

Background and motivation of the problem : Aditya Kak, Aarehant Jain

Scope : Akshat Raj, Anamalla Rishith Rohan