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Tell us what your idea is.

Many tourists prefer to take guided tourist tours around the locations they visit in order to get a deeper understanding of their present and their history. However, tight schedules, tiredness, different preferences among a group of travellers and other hindrances might prevent this. So we propose an app that works as a local tourist guide and enables the user to tailor their experiences according to their preferences. Users can find interesting locations nearby by enabling GPS on their phones or by entering a location manually, even from the sofa at home. The highlighted tourist destinations on the map will provide an audio story scene. When the user reaches an activity area of a scene, the interface alarms the user via vibration and sound effect. While in the area of the scene, a text box in the bottom gives information about the scene and a play button for entering the scene. All scenes have a dialog in the selected language and relevant photos / videos. The attachments of this proposal include an example what a local audio experience might look and sound like. We hope to cooperate with Google Local Guides and their photos/stories + local residents with stories to tell around the world to include more location-based content in the app for the tourists to explore. Users can choose the type of stories they prefer: informational, artistic, etc.

Tell us how you plan on bringing it to life.

Google App Maker will be used to create the app by May 1, 2020. The initial version will likely be a local implementation, not a global one since the latter requires cooperation between local content creators and the deadline is probably too tight for that; the team is not able to work full-time for the app. Automatic information gathering system can address partly the need for fast content creation but more refined storytelling requires a more organized approach. The app could include a recommender system and utilize Live Transcribe and Live Captions. We could also extend the app to the Google Assistant with a deep link to specific app activities with App Actions.

It is not totally clear what kind of support can be expected from Google but to list the minimum:

- trainings for the Google products that can be used to implement the app
- mentoring (e.g. someone to ask for technical assistance if=when faced with technical challenges during implementation)
- communication to Local Guides to inform them of this option once the implementation is far enough



Tell us about you.

The team includes few computer science students and a professional sound engineer studying Human Computer Interaction. No one has in-depth knowledge about app creation so this is where Google's help would come into play. Team has some experience with machine learning, statistical learning and programming.