**Stimulus Chatbot Project Summary**

**Overview**

I created a custom chatbot for the Stimulus platform to help users explore key services like consulting, recruitment, registration, and contact information. The goal was to make the experience friendly, simple, and on-brand, with a clean design and helpful responses.

**What I Built**

* A front-end interface using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript
* A Node.js + Express backend to handle user messages
* Integration with the OpenAI API to simulate natural-sounding replies
* Quick reply buttons and basic multi-turn conversation handling
* A fallback message for off-topic questions

**Challenges I Faced**

One challenge was figuring out how to recognize user intent without using a real AI assistant like Dialogflow. I had to manually check for keywords, which worked for now but doesn’t cover every way people might phrase things.

Another challenge was handling follow-up messages (like when a user chooses “Services” and then says “consulting”) without losing track of context. I used a simple flag system to handle that.

I also learned how important environment variables are when working with APIs, and how to debug when things don’t respond as expected.

**Ideas for Future Improvements**

* **Connect to a real NLU service** like Dialogflow or Rasa for more accurate understanding of what users mean.
* **Track conversation state** across messages to make the bot feel more interactive and human.
* **Add a database** to store questions, replies, or even log interactions for review.
* **Support more complex flows**, like helping users fill out forms or schedule a consultation.
* **Make it multilingual** so users from different backgrounds can interact in their preferred language.