# Ideation Phase

## Brainstorm & Idea Prioritization Template

**Date:** 02 NOVEMBER 2025
**Team ID:** NM2025TMID07649
**Project Name: Calculating the Family Expenses in ServiceNow**

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## Calculating the Family Expenses in ServiceNow Template:

This guided project demonstrates how to create and manage a structured system in **ServiceNow** to calculate and track family expenses efficiently. It focuses on recording, categorizing, and analyzing household expenditures to support better budgeting and financial planning.

The project begins by designing custom tables and forms to store expense details such as date, category, amount, and payer. Workflows and automation rules are then created to calculate total monthly expenses and generate insights through dashboards and reports.

This ensures transparency in household spending, promotes accountability, and provides an easy way to identify unnecessary expenses. The workflow also includes validation scenarios to ensure accurate data entry. For example, the system checks if expense values are entered correctly and prevents duplicate records.

Finally, reports and visualizations help users understand their spending patterns over time. This project highlights the practical use of ServiceNow for real-life applications beyond enterprise IT — supporting financial awareness and better money management at the family level.

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## Step-1: Team Gathering, Collaboration, and Selecting the Problem Statement:

Team members come together to identify real-life financial management challenges faced in daily household activities. Through collaborative discussions, the team selects the problem statement:
**"How can we efficiently calculate, track, and manage family expenses using ServiceNow?"**

This problem is chosen because many families struggle with maintaining organized expense records and identifying spending trends. The team agrees that ServiceNow's automation and reporting capabilities can be effectively leveraged to solve this issue.

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## Step-2: Brainstorm, Idea Listing, and Grouping:

**Brainstorm:**
Team members freely share ideas related to expense management — such as automated total calculation, monthly budget setting, category-wise expense tracking, and generating visual expense summaries. Every member's input is encouraged to explore creative and user-friendly features.

**Idea Listing:**
All ideas from the brainstorming session are documented to ensure no valuable suggestion is overlooked. This includes potential modules like "Add Expense," "Monthly Summary," "Budget Alerts," and "Category Analysis."

**Grouping:**
Similar ideas are organized into meaningful categories, such as *Data Entry*, *Automation*, *Visualization*, and *Alerts/Notifications*. This grouping helps identify the most impactful components and simplifies prioritization.

**Action Planning:**
Selected ideas are converted into concrete steps. Responsibilities are assigned to each team member, along with timelines for completion. For example, one member focuses on form design, another on business rules, and another on report generation.

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## Step-3: Idea Prioritization:

**Idea Prioritization:**
Idea prioritization helps break down the project into clear and achievable components. In this project, the main goal is to **automate the calculation and analysis of family expenses**.

By prioritizing ideas, the team can separate essential functionalities — such as expense entry and monthly total calculation — from advanced enhancements like visual dashboards and predictive savings suggestions.

This approach ensures that the most valuable and time-sensitive features are developed first. Visual tools like flowcharts and wireframes are used to communicate and refine the workflow.

Overall, this process strengthens project clarity, promotes systematic development, and ensures a smooth execution of the **Family Expense Management System in ServiceNow**.