



Business case

Name:	MAKSIM SHAROIKA
Community & UN SDG(s):	ACADEMICS / ENGINEERS / PROFESSIONALS INTERESTED IN SDG's PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS -> TO SUPPORT 16 OTHER SDG's
Date:	STARTED OCTOBER 5 / 2023

Proposed Project	EngiConnect, a platform to connect Engineers, Professionals, and Academics across the world to share and collaborate on projects that help move the UN SDG's forward.
Date Produced	Oct 5 th 2023
Background	<p>Engineers, Professionals, and Academics are some of the most uniquely skilled and positioned people of our workforce, not only do they have the ability to imagine new projects, ideas, and frameworks but also the ability to plan and execute each and every step of them. This means these Engineers, Professionals and Academics can create real change but, the biggest issue is that there is no where that they can connect with each other and create partnerships or solve problems that others may be experiencing (Which is why EngiConnect is needed), it will bridge that gap and help make meaningful progress in all 17 UN SDGs' - these SDGs' are the issues that are bringing (or will bring) the most harm, pain, and misery to the people living in this world - and must be focused on.</p>
Business Need/ Opportunity	<p>There are two main business needs that EngiConnect will fulfill. The first is that it will be a knowledge sharing and collaboration platform. The UN SDGs' in some cases require some complex solutions - with a very diverse skill set. Therefore having a platform where Engineers and other professionals can come together and work on these problems and also share their expertise is invaluable. EngiConnect will also fulfill the need of continuing learning and development in a meaningful way, those on the learning side will be more likely to inspire others to join or start a project to contribute to the community.</p> <p>The other business need that EngiConnect will fulfill is the need for networking and partnership creation between these professionals. Often times engineers work on teams where they may be only one other engineer, so the exposure to the professional network of that specific job role is very low. EngiConnect will not only help connect engineers to others but it will also help those in specialized roles within their field find others who are doing something similar. EngiConnect will not only help users connect across professions but also passions, since the platform is geared towards the UN SDGs' the users can connect over their shared passions. The bond the users will form over their shared passions will give them a strong base to either share their knowledge further or to take on a project.</p>
Options	<p>Option 1: Do the project (Mobile & Desktop) – Create an MVP for what is required for EngiConnect to function.</p> <p>Option 2: Do the project (Mobile Only) – Create an MVP for what is required for EngiConnect to function.</p> <p>Option 3: Do the project (Desktop Only) – Create an MVP for what is required for EngiConnect to function.</p> <p>Option 4: Do nothing – Not really feasible as the project is required for this class</p>



Cost-Benefit Analysis

Option 1 (Mobile & Desktop):

Costs:

1. Time: The project will take at minimum 4 weeks to develop and then if I wish to continue this project after the class concludes then there will be an extra time cost - will require double the work than mobile or desktop only.
2. Resources: The resources required would be a laptop/computer that is able to support the development and coding of the project; alongside any domains or server if decided to be published.
3. Money: There should be minimal to no cost for this project, I can use server I already own to piggy back off if needed.

Benefits:

1. Collaboration Platform: Will provide a platform where engineers and other professionals can come together and solve problems.
2. Networking: Engineers will be able to connect over professional and personal interests.
3. Completion of UN SDG's: The platform will help to support projects that further the 17 UN SDG's

Option 2 (Mobile Only : Extends Option 1):

Costs:

1. Time: The project will take at minimum 4 weeks to develop and then if I wish to continue this project after the class concludes then there will be an extra time cost - since this is only half the front end work it will be less time commitment weekly.

Benefits:

1. Impact: Since it is Mobile only it will only allow for Mobile only uses, which is currently powerful due to an ever increasing worldwide phone use.

Option 3 (Desktop Only : Extends Option 1):

Costs:

1. Time: The project will take at minimum 4 weeks to develop and then if I wish to continue this project after the class concludes then there will be an extra time cost - since this is only half the front end work it will be less time commitment weekly.

Benefits:

1. Impact: Since it is Desktop only it will only allow for Desktop only uses, which has had a reduction of work over time.

Option 4:

Costs:

1. Time. Resources, Money – none, project will not be done.
2. Lost potential – since project is not being done we are losing on what could have been a potential community.

Benefits:

1. Saves time – time that would have been spent on the project can now be spent on other activities

Overall, we can see that there are minimal cost to option 1, 2, and 3 but the potential benefits are very good. Whereas option 4 has negative costs with opportunity lost, and minimal benefit. Which makes Option 1, 2, 3 the ones with the better cost to benefit ratio.

Recommendation



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I would recommend we go with option 2 – doing the project, because it has the lowest cost benefit ratio and the possible benefits would be of great value to not only the users of EngiConnect but the world at large. The platform will greatly help move the 17 UN SDG's forward and it will fulfill the 17th goal itself. Of “Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development”, we can bring engineers and professionals from across the globe together to work on the issues of sustainable development and make much more progress than if we were working separately. EngiConnect will also help build up the community of engineers, professionals and academics as there currently is limited options to how they can get involved, one example is Engineers without Borders which works to solve some important problems but is usually limited to engineers.
