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| THE OPPORTUNITY PROJECT 2023 SPRINTS |
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| Problem Statement Proposal Template |
| Part I : The Problem Statement |
| 1. **Challenge:** *Provide a 1-2 sentence description of the key challenge that you’re putting forward to tech teams and other stakeholders. Here’s an example from a past problem statement: “Create digital tools that use data to help individuals and community leaders gain a better understanding of national and community hazards and threats and enable the public to take appropriate preparedness actions.” Remember not to prescribe what the solutions should look like, and instead focus on describing a broad public-facing challenge.*   For example:   * “We’d like companies to build a mapping tools for veterans that shows our data alongside job listings” * “Veterans and their families need tech tools that help them to find quality jobs near resources that matter to them.” |
| 1. **Describe your problem statement in plain language, including the problem or challenge, why it is important, and your vision for the sprint outcomes. View several excellent examples from 2022** [**here**](https://opportunity.census.gov/sprints/)**. (No more than 2 paragraphs)**   *In one to two paragraphs, paint a picture of the big problem at hand, why it’s important, and what you’re trying to solve in this sprint.*   * *What is the overall problem space this challenge focuses on, and why is it important to the nation, world, or specific communities? For example, describe the big picture landscape such as the global threats that climate change poses.* * *Consider providing one or two statistics or facts, and compelling, human stories to help make the case that this problem is timely and significant. This will help to motivate potential tech teams and other stakeholders to get involved in the sprint.* * *What is the specific aspect of this problem you’re trying to solve in this sprint (e.g. narrowing down from climate change to helping the public understand the scale of transportation based emissions).* * *Remember that this should be a problem facing the public, not federal agencies.* * *Avoid using jargon, acronyms, and technical terms, and instead use plain language. This will help potential sprint participants understand what they’ll be working on if they join the sprint.*   **(Optional) Overall goal or vision for sprint outcomes:** *Add a one sentence vision of what the world looks like with tech solutions to your problem.*  *For example: “Through access to data and user friendly digital tools, more Americans are aware of the natural hazards they face, what they can do to protect themselves and their families, and take action to get prepared.”*  *This can be a qualitative statement, but please feel free to list any target quantitative impacts you’ve identified for this issue overall: e.g. “By improving access to information on how to prepare for disasters, we hope to increase the percentage of young people who report being prepared for disasters by 20%”* |
| 1. **Target audience/end user**: *In a few words, describe the target audience for resulting products. Examples include: youth experiencing homelessness; veterans; engaged citizens; individuals and families under age 35; local officials or other local decision makers.* |
| 1. **Suggested open data sets**: *Please provide links to any federal open data sets you’re aware of that are relevant to the problem. This list* ***does not need to be exhaustive, and does NOT need to include any data sets from your agency or organization!*** *It’s very common for some or all the relevant data for your topic to come from another agency or source.*   *List any other key open data sets that are relevant to this topic (e.g. open data from state, local, or non-governmental sources), and provide links if possible.* |
| 1. **Does your problem statement align with one or more of the following themes? (Note: this is not required!)**   \_\_\_\_ Financial inclusion (e.g., Increasing access to capital, supporting minority businesses, etc)  \_\_\_\_ Economic Mobility (e.g., Improving workforce development opportunities, investing in economic development)  \_\_\_\_ Data transparency (e.g., empowering consumers with knowledge about their data usage)  \_\_\_\_ Other theme (please describe) |
| **Collaborator wish list:** *Who do you hope to collaborate with on this challenge, from the technology industry, government, civil society (e.g., government agencies, NGOs, non-profits or advocacy organizations)? These can be existing partners, or organizations on your “wish list” of potential contributors, even if you don’t yet have any connections to them.* |

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| Part II : Your Organization |
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| 1. **Agency/Organization Name:** |
| 1. **Executive Champion’s name and title:** *Who is the most senior official (up to your agency’s or organization’s Secretary, Administrator, Executive Director, etc.) who is aware of TOP and your problem statement, and supportive of your agency’s participation? This person does not have a formal role, will be named in sprint documents and may be asked to speak at end-of-year Summit.* |
| 1. **Main agency POC name(s), title(s), email(s), and phone number(s):** *Please list at least 2 individuals who will serve as primary points of contact for your agency or organization and work with us and participating teams throughout the sprint. We highly encourage you to include at least 3 people to help share weekly sprint tasks.* |
| 1. **Why do you want to lead a TOP sprint?** *Please tell us more about why you’re submitting this problem statement, why you want to bring the TOP method to bear to help solve this problem, or anything else that will help us to get to know you and your collaborators.* 2. **Leading a TOP sprint will be a substantial commitment! Please refer to the** [**TOPx toolkit**](https://opportunity.census.gov/topx-toolkit/) **for more information on the time commitment at each phase. Do you have manager support to take on this commitment?** (YES/NO) |
| 1. **We encourage cross-sector and interagency collaboration on TOP sprints! Are you submitting this problem statement in collaboration with any additional other federal agencies, NGOs, or other organizations?** *If so, list them here.* |
| 1. **Which of these scenarios best describes your bandwidth and resourcing to support a sprint:**    1. My team will lead the sprint with some assistance from the TOP team and the TOPx toolkit    2. We have very limited staff bandwidth and would need the Census team to lead the sprint, and have a budget to support an interagency agreement (IAA).    3. Not sure or would like to discuss further. |
| 1. **Have you worked with The Opportunity Project before?** (YES/NO)   *If you have not directly worked on The Opportunity Project, how did you hear about us?* |