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| THE OPPORTUNITY PROJECT 2021 SPRINTS |
| 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 2020** [**here**](https://opportunity.census.gov/sprints/)**.**   **The “Why”:** *In no more than one paragraph, paint a picture of the problem at hand. 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. We encourage you to use one or two statistics or facts, and compelling, human stories to help make the case that this problem is timely and significant.*  **The Problem:**  *In no more than one paragraph, narrow in on the specific problem you’re trying to solve in this sprint. This should be a problem facing the public, not federal agencies. Avoid using jargon, acronyms, and technical terms, and instead use plain language. In this section, focus on the specific component of the big problem that you’re encouraging sprint participants to take on (e.g. narrowing down from climate change to helping the public understand the scale of transportation based emissions).*  **Overall goal 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. **Potential data sets**: *List any federal open data sets that are relevant to the problem you’re focusing on, and if possible, where they can be found online (e.g., website or API links, file downloads, etc.). This can just be an initial scan of data sets that you’re aware of.* ***This does not need to be an exhaustive list, and does NOT need to include any data sets from your agency!*** *It’s completely fine and very common for some or all the relevant data for your topic to come from another federal agency.*   *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!)**   \_\_\_\_ The World Post COVID-19: Society and Economy  \_\_\_\_ The World Post COVID-19: Environment  \_\_\_\_ Creative and inclusive approaches to share 2020 Census data & increasing data literacy  \_\_\_\_ Other theme (please describe) |
| **Collaborator wish list:** *Who do you hope to collaborate with on this challenge, in the nonprofit sector and technology industry? 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 |
| 1. **Agency Name:** |
| 1. **Executive Champion’s name and title:** *Who is the most senior official (up to your agency’s Secretary, Administrator, etc.) who is aware of TOP and your problem statement, and supportive of your agency’s participation, who can serve as your executive level champion? This person does not have a formal role, but provides air cover, will be named in sprint documents and may be asked to speak at Demo Day.* |
| 1. **Main agency POC name(s), title(s), email(s), and phone number(s):** *Please list 2-4 primary people who will serve as points of contact for your agency 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. **Do you have manager support to spend up to 5-6 hours per week of your time on the project through Demo Day in December 2021?** (YES/NO) |
| 1. **Are you submitting this problem statement in collaboration with any additional federal agencies or NGOs?** *If so, list them here.* |
| 1. **Which of these scenarios best describes your bandwidth and resourcing to support a sprint:**    1. We can facilitate the sprint with some assistance from the TOP team and the TOPx toolkit (averaging up to 5 hours per week time commitment).    2. We have very limited staff bandwidth and would need the Census team to do most of the sprint facilitation, and have a budget to support an interagency agreement (IAA).    3. Other scenario (please describe).    4. 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?* |