Media Factsheet
Build for Good 2024
In collaboration with the Singapore Government Partnerships Office

Citizens collaborate with government in month-long hackathon to develop 21 potential tech solutions tackling issues such as eldercare, healthcare and sustainability

- The Build for Good Hackathon Finale was held on 28 September 2024, at the Lifelong Learning Institute. Minister of State for Culture, Community, and Youth Alvin Tan attended the event as guest-of-honour.

- For its third and largest run to date with 100 participants, Build for Good (BFG) hackathon organised by Open Government Products (OGP), partnered the Singapore Government Partnerships Office (SGPO) to foster co-creation and collaboration between government agencies and citizens for a better Singapore. Participants were shortlisted from 500 applicants. The teams focused on topics such as eldercare, healthcare, online safety and sustainability. Issues related to isolation and undetected deaths of seniors were a hot topic tackled by seven out of the 21 teams. See Annex A for more information on BFG, OGP and SGPO.

- This partnership offered participant builders the opportunity to consult a wider group of subject matter experts across government to better refine their problem statements and subsequent proposed solutions for public good. SGPO facilitated the connections between participants and public sector partners to potentially implement solutions. The office also directed citizens to relevant resources for funding and other support for their projects.

- The participants come from all walks of life, from students, to tech professionals and public officers. For the first time, public officers made up 10 per cent of the

participants to further encourage co-creation and synergy amongst citizens and the government.

- Launched on 28 August, the month-long hackathon saw the participant builders form small groups to tackle a public issue they were passionate about. Over four weeks, the teams were expected to identify clear problem-statements, build prototypes of their proposed solutions, and test them with users.

- Throughout, they were provided mentorship from OGP and tech non-profit, Better.sg. Past BFG winners and community groups also lent their expertise to support participants on their hackathon journey. With the popularity of AI, many of the prototype solutions were built with emerging technology — seven teams incorporated elements of AI/Machine Learning into their projects. To support these projects, OpenAI is providing complimentary API credits and engineering mentorship for winning teams that are working on AI solutions.

- At the finale, teams presented their solutions to government leaders and industry experts. Winning teams will receive up to S$20,000 each to further refine, develop, pilot and launch their solutions to real users during an eight-week accelerator programme taking place from October.

Annexes:

Annex A: About Build for Good, Open Government Products and Singapore Government Partnerships Office

Annex B: Builder Profiles

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Annex A: About Build for Good, Open Government Products and Singapore Government Partnerships Office

About Build for Good

Build for Good is a citizen engagement initiative launched by Open Government Products in 2023 to empower citizens to make Singapore better through technology. Citizens can be part of the initiative by joining the Build for Good hackathon, accelerator (for hackathon winning teams) or community.

Build for Good runs month-long citizen hackathons where teams will choose a public good problem to work on, identify solutions, build prototypes, and test them with users. They will be provided the necessary support through their journey such as domain expertise, mentorship, workshops and resources. At the finale, teams will present their solutions to government leaders and industry experts. Winning teams will receive funding and go through an 8-week accelerator to further develop their products, and potentially launch them with real users. Find out more at https://www.build.gov.sg.

About Open Government Products

Open Government Products is a tech team within the Singapore Government that is dedicated to building technology for public good. Our team's work ranges from developing better apps for citizens to automating the internal operations of public agencies, with the ultimate goal of accelerating the digital transformation of the Singapore Government. Our vision is to transform Singapore into a model for how governments can use technology to improve the public good. Learn more at https://www.open.gov.sg.

About Singapore Government Partnerships Office (SGPO)

The Singapore Government Partnerships Office (SGPO) was officially launched by then-Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance Lawrence Wong on 19 Jan 2024 to strengthen the government's partnerships and engagements with citizens. The new office is a response to aspirations shared by citizens during the Forward Singapore exercise to shape their communities, as well as co-create policies, public spaces and services. Established to take the lead in partnering Singaporeans, SGPO will serve as

a "first-stop" for individuals and interest groups keen to partner the government. It will facilitate interactions between such individuals and groups, and the relevant government agencies, as well as connect them with resources to help turn ideas into action, especially those that cut across topics and address complex issues. SGPO will also bring changemakers and thought leaders together through forums to share expertise and best practices on effective partnerships. The new office curates key government resources for partnership, funding, and volunteering opportunities. Citizens may submit proposals for partnership ideas with the government through the Partners Portal found on the SGPO website (www.sgpo.gov.sg). The website also shares stories on inspiring changemakers, to encourage more individuals and interest groups to step forward and contribute.

Stay tuned for updates on SGPO:

www.facebook.com/**oursingapore**

www.instagram.com/**our_sg**

www.linkedin.com/company/**oursg**

www.linkedin.com/company/**singaporegovernmentpartnershipsoffice**

www.youtube.com/**oursg**

www.twitter.com/**our_sg**

Anyone aged 18 and above with a strong desire to make Singapore better and possesses a tech background are welcome to sign up to be a builder. Applicants may join as a team or as individuals, though during the hackathon all builders will be required to form teams of three to five. Applications are assessed based on four core attributes:

- Commitment: Is the applicant able to commit for all in-person weekly sessions, and willing to continue working on the solution beyond the hackathon?
- Initiative: Has the applicant demonstrated that he/she has thought through the problem space, and even proposed possible solutions to the problem?
- Values: Are there any past projects / involvement that demonstrates the applicant's commitment to public good?
- Ability: What's the level of technical expertise the applicant has in his/her own field?

Please contact the OGP and SGPO communications teams for more information on the builders on event day. Selected profiles will also be available for media interviews then.