Hackathons for Public Sector Challenge Solving Training Course

Professional Development Training Course Outline

Category	Public Sector Innovation	**Duration**	10 Days
Base Fee	$3,000 USD	**Delivery Mode**	Online / On-site Hybrid

Course Introduction

Public sector organizations are increasingly seeking innovative solutions to complex societal challenges. Hackathons for Public Sector Challenge Solving Training Course is designed to equip government professionals, policy makers, and innovation teams with the skills, tools, and methodologies to conduct impactful hackathons. Participants will learn how to foster cross-departmental collaboration, leverage emerging technologies, and implement rapid prototyping to address real-world challenges. This course emphasizes a hands-on, solution-driven approach, enabling participants to translate creative ideas into actionable strategies that enhance efficiency, citizen engagement, and public service delivery.

The training integrates design thinking, agile methodologies, behavioral insights, and systems thinking to empower teams to tackle pressing public sector problems. Participants will gain practical experience in ideation, problem framing, rapid prototyping, and solution validation within a collaborative hackathon environment. By the end of the course, learners will possess a comprehensive understanding of how to design, execute, and evaluate hackathons that drive measurable impact, increase public sector responsiveness, and inspire innovation culture. This course also highlights the organizational benefits of hackathons, including talent identification, process optimization, and data-driven decision-making.

Programme Curriculum

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Course Objectives

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

1. Understand the fundamentals and purpose of public sector hackathons.
2. Apply design thinking principles to public sector problem-solving.
3. Facilitate cross-functional collaboration for innovative outcomes.
4. Utilize agile frameworks to manage hackathon projects effectively.
5. Conduct needs assessments to identify key public sector challenges.
6. Develop creative problem statements for hackathon participants.
7. Implement rapid prototyping techniques for solution testing.
8. Employ behavioral insights to enhance participant engagement.
9. Integrate technology tools for virtual and physical hackathon environments.
10. Evaluate hackathon outcomes and measure organizational impact.
11. Apply systems thinking to solve complex policy and operational problems.
12. Translate hackathon solutions into actionable public sector initiatives.
13. Foster a culture of innovation and continuous improvement in government organizations.

Organizational Benefits

1. Accelerated problem-solving and innovation in public sector initiatives.
2. Identification and nurturing of high-potential talent within teams.
3. Enhanced cross-departmental collaboration and communication.
4. Improved citizen engagement and satisfaction through creative solutions.
5. Rapid validation and implementation of innovative ideas.
6. Increased efficiency and resource optimization.

7. Strengthened organizational culture of innovation and agility.
8. Data-driven insights for informed policy decisions.
9. Recognition of organizational achievements through impactful projects.
10. Development of scalable solutions with long-term societal benefits.

Target Audiences

1. Government officials and policy makers
2. Innovation and strategy teams in public sector
3. Civic technology professionals
4. Public administrators and managers
5. Nonprofit and NGO professionals working with government programs
6. IT teams supporting government digital transformation
7. Consultants in public sector innovation
8. Academic researchers and students focused on public policy

Course Duration: 10 days

Course Modules

Module 1: Introduction to Public Sector Hackathons

- Overview of hackathons and their role in government
- Benefits of innovation challenges for public services
- Key stakeholders in hackathon design and execution
- Understanding public sector constraints and opportunities
- Case Study: Successful government hackathon outcomes
- Hands-on Activity: Identifying potential hackathon themes

Module 2: Design Thinking for Government Solutions

- Principles of design thinking in public sector context
- Empathy mapping for citizen-centric solutions
- Ideation techniques for generating innovative ideas
- Rapid prototyping methods
- Evaluation frameworks for early-stage solutions
- Case Study: Human-centered design in municipal challenges

Module 3: Agile Project Management for Hackathons

- Agile principles tailored for public sector projects
- Sprint planning and time-boxed innovation sessions
- Team collaboration and task allocation
- Risk management during hackathon execution
- Iterative feedback loops for solution refinement
- Case Study: Agile methodology in government digital initiatives

Module 4: Behavioral Insights and Engagement Strategies

- Behavioral science principles for public participation
- Incentivizing and motivating hackathon participants
- Communication strategies to maximize collaboration
- Understanding stakeholder psychology
- Metrics for engagement success
- Case Study: Behavioral interventions in civic innovation

Module 5: Systems Thinking in Policy and Operations

- Identifying complex interdependencies in government challenges
- Mapping processes and feedback loops
- Scenario analysis and solution testing
- Leveraging data for systems-level decision making
- Integrating systems thinking into hackathon outputs
- Case Study: Systems thinking applied to municipal service delivery

Module 6: Technology Tools for Hackathons

- Platforms for virtual and hybrid hackathons
- Collaboration software and project management tools
- Data visualization for solution communication
- AI and automation tools for idea validation
- Cybersecurity considerations in public sector hackathons
- Case Study: Leveraging technology in national innovation challenges

Module 7: Problem Framing and Challenge Identification

- Techniques for identifying high-impact challenges
- Writing clear problem statements
- Prioritizing challenges based on feasibility and value
- Aligning challenges with organizational goals
- Engaging stakeholders in problem selection
- Case Study: Challenge framing in federal innovation labs

Module 8: Ideation and Creative Solution Development

- Brainstorming and divergent thinking techniques
- Collaboration methods for multidisciplinary teams
- Selecting solutions for prototype development
- Overcoming creativity barriers in public sector teams
- Applying innovation metrics to idea evaluation
- Case Study: Ideation workshops for city planning solutions

Module 9: Rapid Prototyping and Testing

- Prototype development approaches for quick feedback
- Using mock-ups, wireframes, and simulations
- Testing solutions with stakeholders and end-users
- Iterative improvement cycles
- Measuring prototype success
- Case Study: Prototyping solutions for smart city initiatives

Module 10: Evaluation and Impact Assessment

- Frameworks for assessing hackathon outcomes
- Metrics for organizational impact and citizen benefit
- Collecting and analyzing feedback
- Reporting and presenting results to stakeholders
- Identifying next steps for solution implementation
- Case Study: Post-hackathon evaluation in government programs

Module 11: Policy Translation and Implementation

- Converting hackathon solutions into actionable policies

- Stakeholder engagement for adoption
- Regulatory and compliance considerations
- Scaling and institutionalizing innovations
- Continuous improvement for public sector initiatives
- Case Study: Policy adoption from hackathon solutions

Module 12: Cross-Departmental Collaboration

- Building multi-functional teams
- Communication and conflict resolution strategies
- Leveraging expertise across government departments
- Collaboration tools and techniques
- Measuring effectiveness of collaboration
- Case Study: Interdepartmental innovation projects

Module 13: Communication and Presentation Skills

- Storytelling techniques for government audiences
- Presenting complex solutions clearly
- Persuasive communication for decision-makers
- Visual presentation best practices
- Feedback integration for presentations
- Case Study: Pitching solutions to government committees

Module 14: Funding and Resource Mobilization

- Identifying funding opportunities for innovation projects
- Budget planning for hackathons
- Engaging sponsors and partners
- Resource allocation for prototyping and testing
- Sustainability planning for long-term impact
- Case Study: Funding models for municipal innovation programs

Module 15: Scaling and Institutionalizing Innovations

- Scaling successful hackathon solutions
- Institutionalizing innovation culture in government

- Knowledge management and lessons learned
- Creating communities of practice for continuous innovation
- Sustaining momentum post-hackathon
- Case Study: Institutionalizing innovation in national agencies

Training Methodology

- Interactive lectures with practical examples
- Group discussions and peer learning exercises
- Hands-on workshops and hackathon simulations
- Case study analysis and solution presentations
- Mentorship from experienced innovation practitioners
- Continuous feedback and evaluation during exercises

Register as a group from 3 participants for a Discount

Send us an email: info@fineskilltrainingcenter.org or call *+254769199797*

Certification

Upon successful completion of this training, participants will be issued with a globally- recognized certificate.

Tailor-Made Course

We also offer tailor-made courses based on your needs.

Key Notes

a. The participant must be conversant with English.

b. Upon completion of training the participant will be issued with an Authorized Training Certificate

c. Course duration is flexible and the contents can be modified to fit any number of days.

d. The course fee includes facilitation training materials, 2 coffee breaks, buffet lunch and A Certificate upon successful completion of Training.

e. One-year post-training support Consultation and Coaching provided after the course.

f. Payment should be done at least a week before commence of the training, to Fineskill Training Center account, as indicated in the invoice so as to enable us prepare better for you.

Upcoming Scheduled Sessions

Start Date	End Date	Location	Price

23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Online	$2,000
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Physical	$3,000
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Physical	$6,000
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Physical	$6,000
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Physical	$12,000
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Physical	$9,000
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Physical	$12,000
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Physical	$12,000

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