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EaP | Eastern
Partnership 

2023 EU-EaP Civic Tech Acceleration Hackathon

Information Webinar

April 18, 2023

**EASTERN PARTNERSHIP
CIVIL SOCIETY FACILITY
PROJECT**

#EaPCivilSociety

Eastern Partnership Civil Society Facility in a Nutshell

Objective: to strengthen the role and increase the capacity of CSOs and activists in the EaP region to:

- engage in policy making processes and policy dialogue,
- promote reforms and public accountability,
- foster local democracy, local development and engage citizens in public debate.

Implemented by a consortium led by GDSI Limited (Ireland)

Budget: MEUR 3.69

Timeline: June 2021 – December 2024

Website: <http://eapcivilsociety.eu/>

1

Capacity building activities

Courses, trainings, webinars, coaching and mentoring for civil society

2

Civil society fellowships

Community engagement fellowships and civic digital fellowships

3

Civil society hackathons and civic tech activities

Annual ideathons and hackathons, development of digital solutions

4

Civil society networking and ad-hoc support

Regional networking, relevant regional and international events and helpdesk for EU grantees

5

Country specific communication campaigns

Communication campaigns to improve the public image of civil society

6

Mappings, analyses, studies and research

To contribute to the EU's better understanding of CS



2023 EU-EaP Civic Tech Acceleration Hackathon

May-June 2023
Online

[REGISTER NOW!](#)

2023 EU-EaP Civic Tech Acceleration Hackathon

Who:

- ≈ 15 teams with prototypes of civic tech solutions from EaP countries (AM, AZ, BY, GE, MD and UA)
- IT professionals & graphic designers from EaP and EU countries

When: 12 May – 10 June 2023

Where: Online

Prize: ≈ EUR 10,000 per winner (up to EUR 12,000 if you convince the Evaluation Committee 😊)

Registration and details:
<https://ict.eapcivilsociety.eu/>

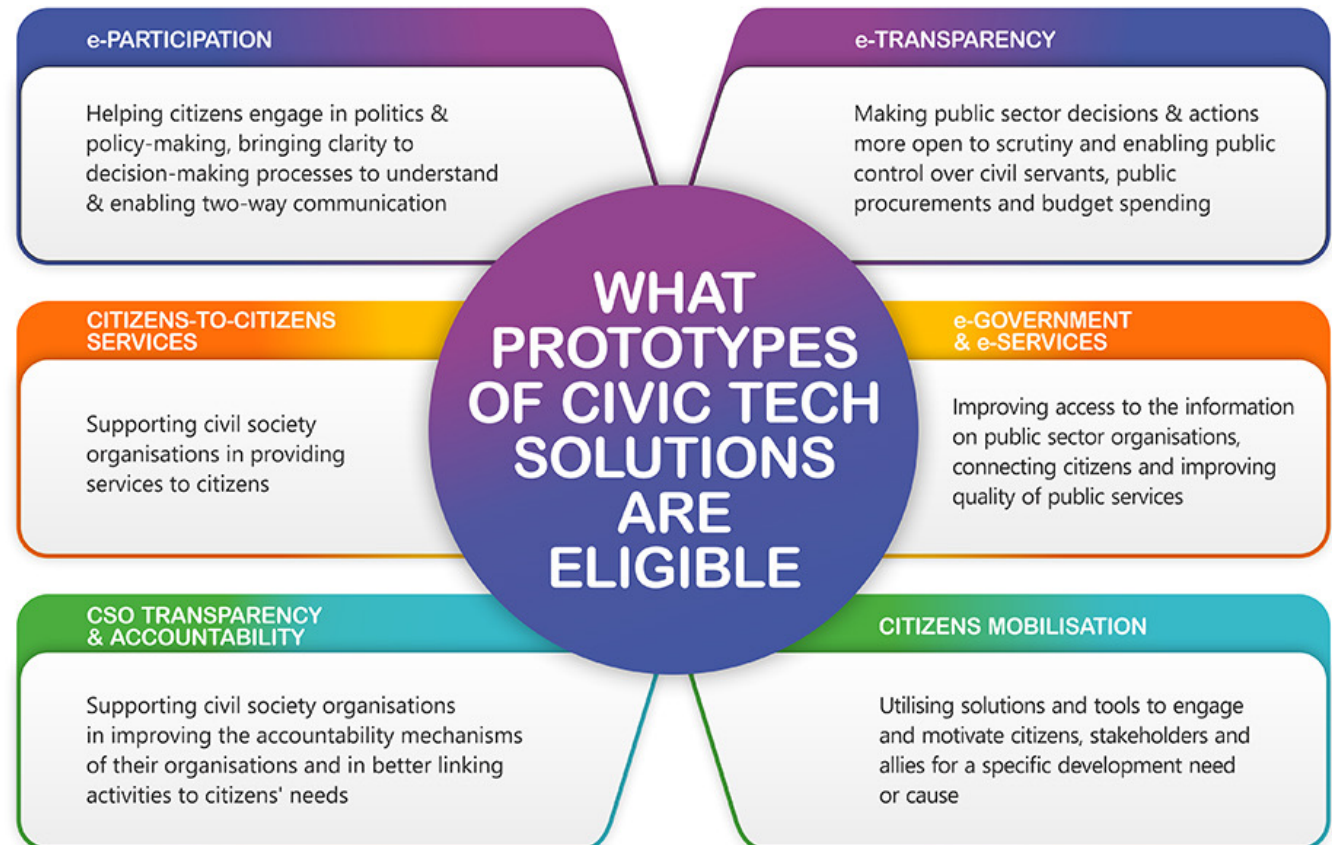
For our 2023 Hackathon, we combined the elements of a classic IT startup accelerator and a classic hackathon:

- You and your team will work with a dedicated mentor for 3.5 weeks to make your civic tech product better.
- There will be [not too many] webinars with mentors and guest speakers.
- You will have a chance to strengthen your team by getting more IT professionals and designers on board (they will choose teams)
- The finalists will be selected based on the final pitches.

Eligible Solutions

In short, a civic tech solution is an IT product for social good / impact that:

- addresses a **societal challenge** (a not-for-profit product)
- is designed for and used by **citizens and/or civil society** (in our case, in at least one EaP country)
- requires **coding**
- has a strong '**user-system**' **interaction** (users must be active)



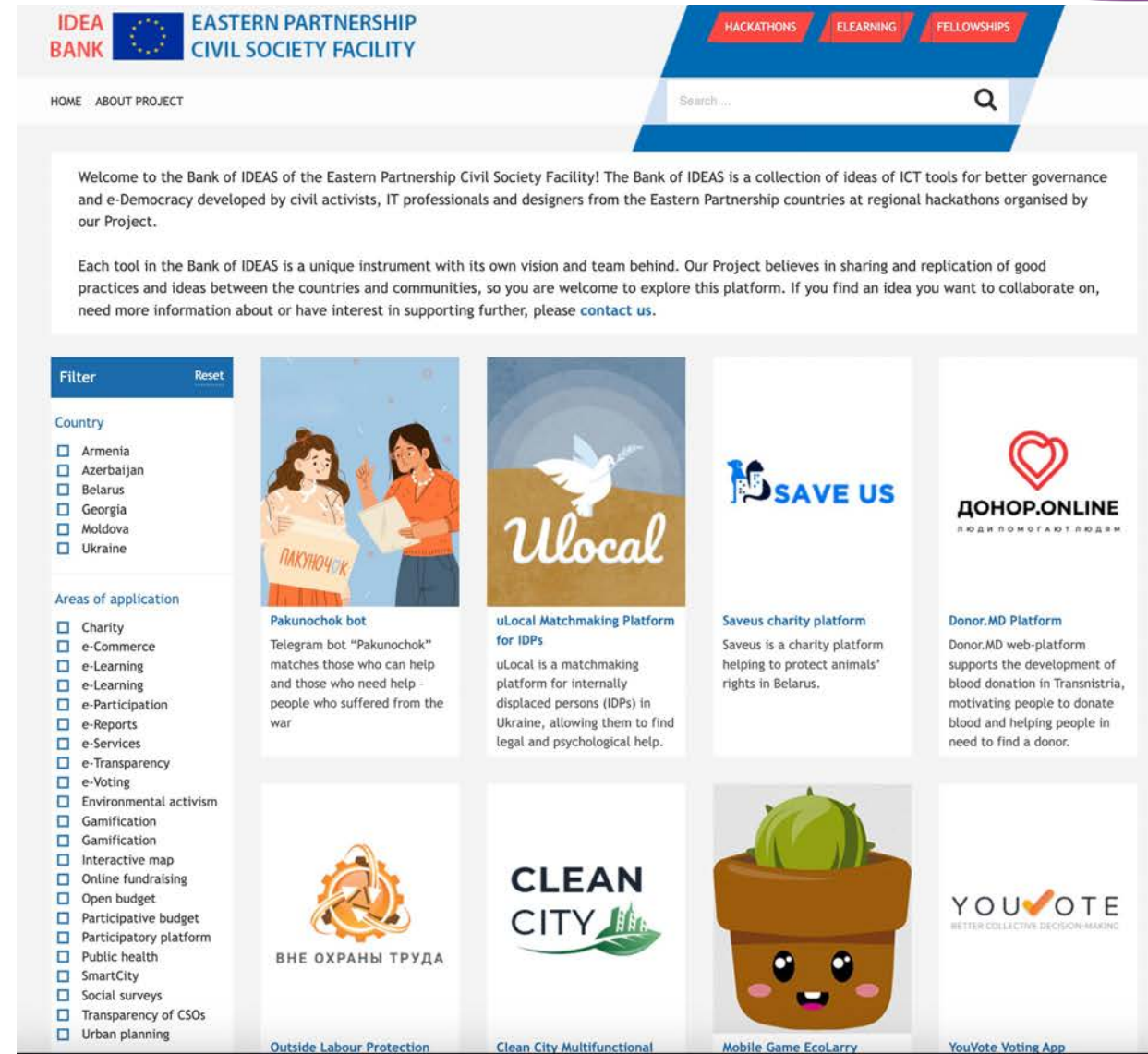
Ineligible Solutions:

- pure information (news) websites and pages, with little or no 'user-system' interaction (the same applies to online courses);
- pure for-profit (commercial) IT products, with little or no social value;
- websites and platforms of individual organisations, institutions, communities, projects, groups, etc., and/or networks of such organisations;
- IT products supporting political parties or candidates;
- IT products aiming to proselytise (i.e., attempt of any religion or religious individuals to convert people to their beliefs);
- videos / groups / pages / campaigns in social networks and messengers, including the YouTube (no development of a new IT product);
- seminars, trainings and other capacity building (there is no IT product);
- hardware, i.e. equipment, devices, etc.

For inspiration and self-check

Our **Bank of IDEAS** is a collection of [some] ideas of civic tech solutions developed by our 2017-2020 Hackathon participants and Civic Digital Fellows:

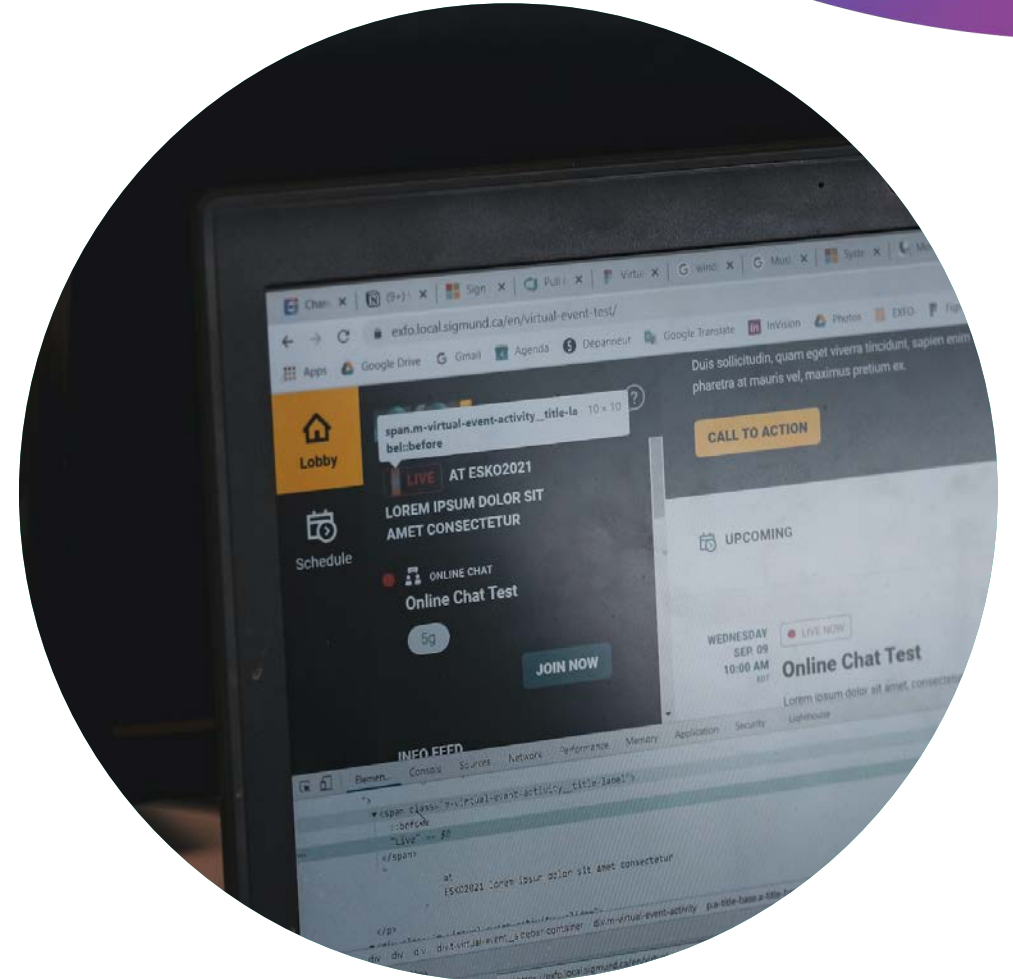
<https://ideas.eapcivilsociety.eu/>



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Bank of IDEAS website. At the top, there is a header with the 'IDEA BANK' logo, the European Union flag, and the text 'EASTERN PARTNERSHIP CIVIL SOCIETY FACILITY'. Navigation links for 'HACKATHONS', 'E-LEARNING', and 'FELLOWSHIPS' are visible. A search bar is located on the right. Below the header, a welcome message states: 'Welcome to the Bank of IDEAS of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Facility! The Bank of IDEAS is a collection of ideas of ICT tools for better governance and e-Democracy developed by civil activists, IT professionals and designers from the Eastern Partnership countries at regional hackathons organised by our Project.' It also mentions that each tool is a unique instrument and encourages users to explore the platform and contact them for more information. The main content area features a grid of project cards. On the left, there is a 'Filter' sidebar with options for 'Country' (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine) and 'Areas of application' (Charity, e-Commerce, e-Learning, e-Participation, e-Reports, e-Services, e-Transparency, e-Voting, Environmental activism, Gamification, Interactive map, Online fundraising, Open budget, Participative budget, Participatory platform, Public health, SmartCity, Social surveys, Transparency of CSOs, Urban planning). The project cards include: 'Pakunochok bot' (Telegram bot for help), 'uLocal Matchmaking Platform for IDPs' (platform for internally displaced persons), 'Saveus charity platform' (platform for animal rights), 'Donor.MD Platform' (web-platform for blood donation), 'Outside Labour Protection' (game for labor protection), 'Clean City Multifunctional' (game for urban planning), 'Mobile Game EcoLary' (game for environmental activism), and 'YouVote Voting App' (platform for collective decision-making).

Prototypes

- A prototype is a model to visualize and explain your civic tech solution.
- It can be:
 - mock-ups in Figma or any other app,
 - a basic no-code prototype put together with a constructor like Wix, Tilda, Weebly, WordPress, etc.),
 - a working prototype hosted on a development server,
 - the first release of your product that you want to improve,
 - ...
- **Your application is not assessed by the quality of your prototype!**



Hackathon Team

Consists of **at least** two persons:

- **Team lead** – the (co-)author of the proposed civic tech solution and the main applicant. Responsible for everything, from the idea/concept to the final product (and everything that goes wrong). Pitches the prototype / product and receives the most questions and comments from the mentors and other participants. May be referred to as Product Owner.
- **Developer** implementing the changes recommended by the mentor(s).

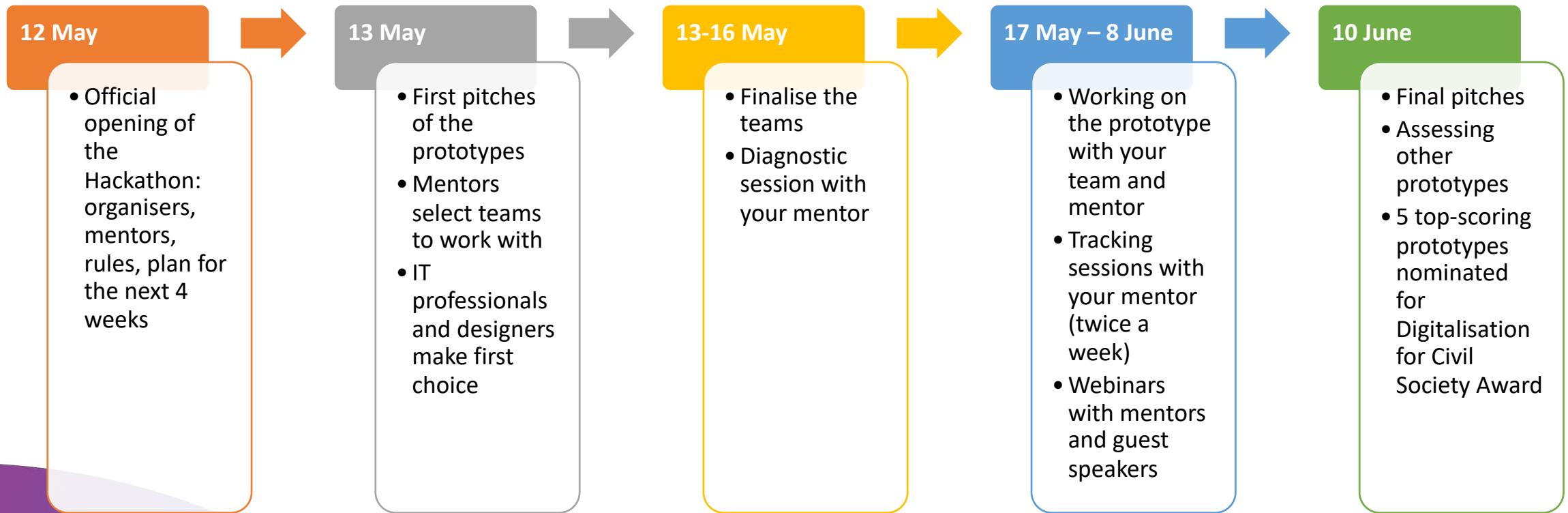
There is no maximum limit, and you may add as many relevant team members (designers, marketing or data experts, QA, etc.) as needed.



Key Hackathon Dates



What to Expect at the Hackathon





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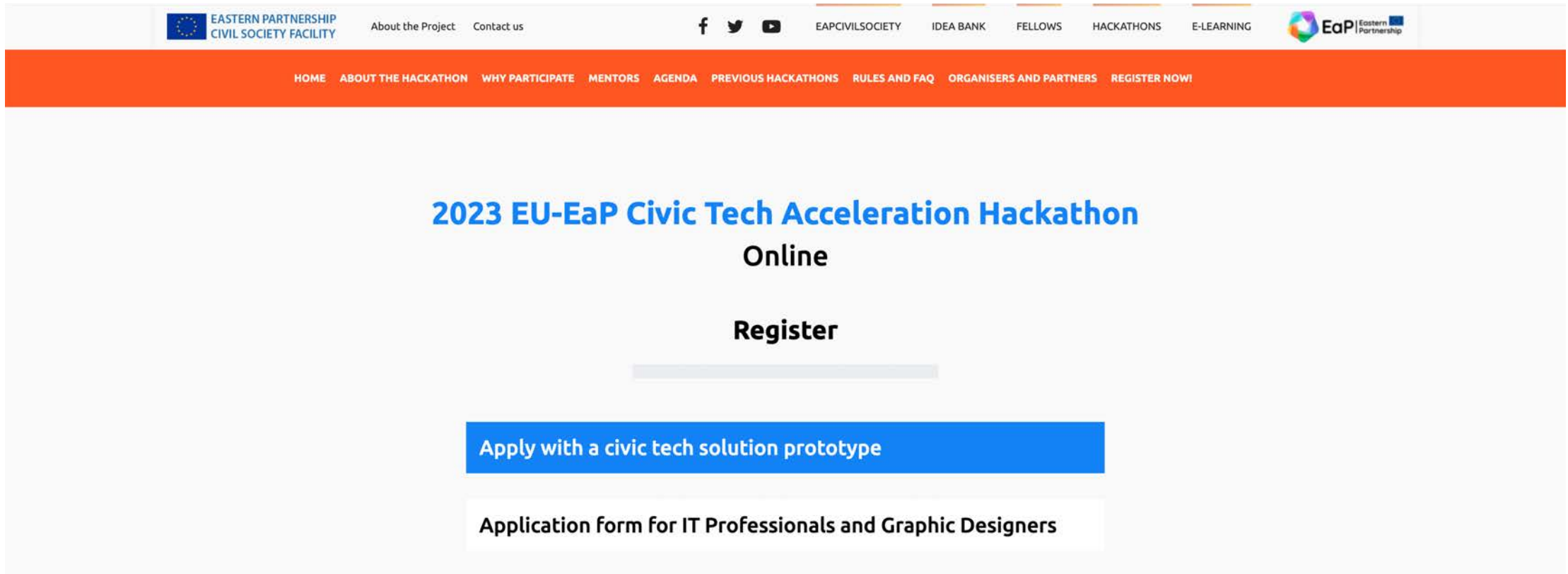
Joining the Hackathon

Submit Your Civic Tech Solution Prototype
Deadline: April 24, end of the day

The Project is funded by the European Union
and implemented by the consortium led by GDSI Limited



Registration at <https://ict.eapcivilsociety.eu/en/register-form>



The screenshot shows the registration page for the 2023 EU-EaP Civic Tech Acceleration Hackathon Online. The page features a top navigation bar with the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Facility logo, social media icons, and links to various resources. Below this is an orange navigation bar with links to Home, About the Hackathon, Why Participate, Mentors, Agenda, Previous Hackathons, Rules and FAQ, Organisers and Partners, and Register Now. The main content area has a large heading for the hackathon, followed by a 'Register' button. Below the button are two options: 'Apply with a civic tech solution prototype' and 'Application form for IT Professionals and Graphic Designers'.

2023 EU-EaP Civic Tech Acceleration Hackathon
Online

Register

Apply with a civic tech solution prototype

Application form for IT Professionals and Graphic Designers

Part I: Your Details

- Information on the **person submitting the civic tech solution** – author of the solution / Team Lead (aka main applicant).
- Make sure the **email address is correct**: this is how we will contact you.

Personal information (Author / Team Lead)

1.1 First name:

1.2 Last name:

1.3 Contact phone with country code
(numbers only):

1.4 Email Address (valid email only):

1.5 Country of Residence:

1.6 Country of Citizenship:

1.7 Gender:

1.8 Age:

1.9 Language skills:

Indicate your English language competence:

	Reading	Speaking	Listening comprehension
English:	<input type="text" value="Please, choose"/>	<input type="text" value="Please, choose"/>	<input type="text" value="Please, choose"/>

Part II: Your Solution

- Working name / title and **link** to see your prototype.
- For what **country** (and if relevant, city or region) you develop it.
- **Short description** and how you developed the prototype (at a hackathon or at your free time, if you got any funding for its development).
- What **specific problem** you want to solve.
- Technical implementation = **main functions**.
- What is your **business model**, i.e., how will you support it in future once you launch it? Grants? Commission? Crowdfunding? Partners?
- Who else provides similar services?
- The question about the areas of e-development does not have 'right' or 'wrong' answer.

Proposed civic tech solution

2.1 Title / name of the proposed digital solution:

2.2 Link to the prototype (valid URL only; please note that this can also refer to a shared Google folder or similar):

<https://example.com>

2.3 Targeted town(s)/province(s) and country(ies):

2.4 What would best describe the purpose of your digital solution? Please select up to two options:

addresses the need(s) of a specific community or group of people

helps citizens to better hold the government of the target country to account.

contributes to the improvement of public services in the target country.

2.5 Describe your digital solution in brief (not more than 250 words), providing information on how you developed the prototype (in what context and with which funding):

Part III: Your Experience

- **No requirement** to be a member of a registered CSO.
- Almost everyone has some experience of civic engagement: volunteer, student clubs, local communities. They all count.
- Show **you understand the problem** you want to address with your civic tech product.
- **The letter of support** from an organisation / initiative / group is **not a must!**
- If you want to add a letter of support, it may be just an email, even in your local language.

Team lead's relevant experience

3.1 Do you have experience of working or volunteering in civil society organisation, community or civil movement, in any form?

Please, choose

3.2 Are you currently working or volunteering in civil society organisation, community or civil movement?

No, I am not engaged in any civil activity now

Yes, I am full time employed with a civil society organisation

Yes, I am part time employed with a civil society organisation

Yes, I am a volunteer with a civil society organisation, community or civil movement

No, I am in full-time education, please provide details

Other (please, specify)

3.3 Provide the name and links (website or social media pages) of the organisation(s) you are associated with (if any):

3.4 Describe your position and how long you have been working with the organisation(s)

Part IV: Your Team

- **At least 2 persons:** you and one more
- Include yourself as Team Member #1 **ONLY** if you are an IT professional and/or designer
- We do not ask for your team members' contact details (we have yours)

4.1 Please provide here the key information on the members of your team

Remember that besides you, your team needs to have at least two more members, with at least one developer among them, unless you have the relevant expertise and will be a developer during the Hackathon

Team Member 1:

First and Last Name	Country of Citizenship	Country of Residence
<input type="text"/>	Please, choose ▾	<input type="text"/>
Technical expertise	Role in the team	Is it you (main applicant)?
<input type="text"/>	Please, choose ▾	Please, choose ▾

Team Member 2:

First and Last Name	Country of Citizenship	Country of Residence
<input type="text"/>	Please, choose ▾	<input type="text"/>
Technical expertise	Role in the team	
<input type="text"/>	Please, choose ▾	

Team Member 3 (optional):

First and Last Name	Country of Citizenship	Country of Residence
<input type="text"/>	Please, choose ▾	<input type="text"/>



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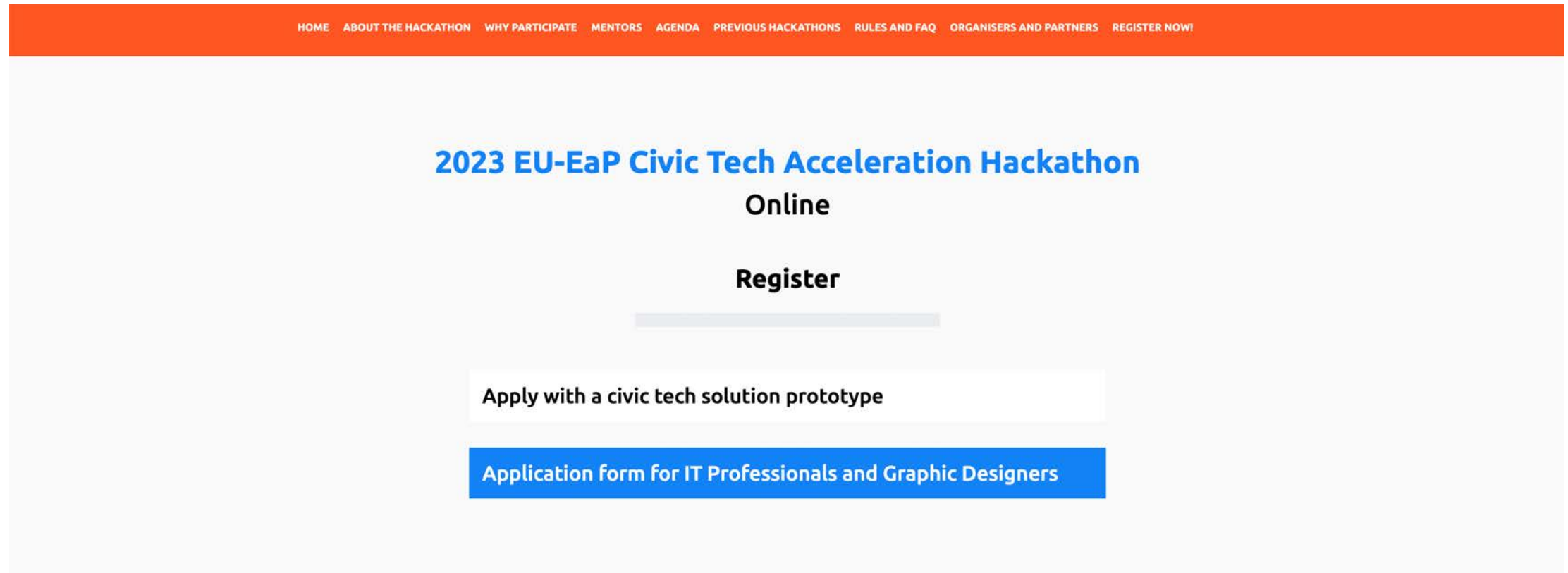


Joining the Hackathon

Register as an IT professional or graphic designer to help other teams

Deadline: May 1, end of the day

Registration at <https://ict.eapcivilsociety.eu/en/register-form>



HOME ABOUT THE HACKATHON WHY PARTICIPATE MENTORS AGENDA PREVIOUS HACKATHONS RULES AND FAQ ORGANISERS AND PARTNERS REGISTER NOW!

2023 EU-EaP Civic Tech Acceleration Hackathon

Online

Register

Apply with a civic tech solution prototype

Application form for IT Professionals and Graphic Designers

Part I: Your Details

Yes, it is the same as when you apply with the civic tech solution prototype 😊

- Information on the **person submitting the application** (you).
- Make sure the **email address is correct**: this is how we will contact you.

Personal Information

1.1 First name:

1.2 Last name:

1.3 Contact phone with country code
(numbers only):

1.4 Email Address (valid email only):

1.5 Country of Residence:

1.6 Country of Citizenship:

1.7 Gender:

☐ Male

☐ Female

☐ Prefer not to say

1.8 Age:

1.9 Language skills:

Indicate your English language competence:

	Reading	Speaking	Listening comprehension
English:	<input type="text" value="Please, choose"/>	<input type="text" value="Please, choose"/>	<input type="text" value="Please, choose"/>

Part II: Your Experience

- **The main areas are general, the areas of expertise are more specific**, e.g. Graphic Designer as the main area, and “Digital illustrations and 3D design” as areas of expertise.
- It’s **OK to have little or no experience**. You will find your team (remember it’s you who chooses).
- **Your portfolio** may be selected works on Google Drive (or any other file sharing service), a page at Behance or Upworks, projects on GitHub, or even a link to your best project. Show us what you can do!

Relevant experience

2.1 Your main area(s) of expertise. Please select up to three qualifications that describe your hands-on experience

Graphic designer	UX/UI designer	Software developer (web)	
Software developer (mobile)	Software developer (frontend)		
Software developer (backend)	Software developer (full stack)	Business analyst	
Web architect	Product manager / Product owner	Data analyst	QA specialist
Other (Please, specify)			

2.2 Employment Status:

Full time employment	Part time employment	Freelancer
In full-time education, please provide details		Other (please, specify)

2.3 How many years (cumulative) have you been working in IT industry or as a designer?

0 - 2 years	2 - 5 years	6 - 8 years	over 8 years
-------------	-------------	-------------	--------------

2.4 Describe your areas of expertise and professional experience in IT and/or graphic design. Please provide links to successful projects, if available

Area of technical expertise, link(s) to project(s)

2.5 Please provide a link(s) to your website or portfolio



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Questions?

If nothing comes to mind now, please
write to us at ict@eapcivilsociety.eu

Maybe these questions will be relevant

- **I have already applied for your Fellowship programme. Is it ok to apply for the Hackathon as well?**

Absolutely! These two programmes are not mutually exclusive.

- **I am hesitant to apply as my English is not super great.**

A big secret: none of us is a native English speaker 😊 Most of our mentors and us (the organisers) speak 2+ languages and are happy to help. You may decide within your team and with your mentor what language you will use for the internal communication.

- **We have a prototype, but it is very basic.**

No worries, your application is not evaluated on the quality or readiness of your prototype.



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Thank you for your attention!

Project Contact Details:



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welcome@EaPCivilSociety.eu



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GDSI Limited Contact Details:



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