GIZ Transport Hackathon

Lessons Learned Paper

TUMI
Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative

TUEWAS · WhereIsMyTransport

In November 2018, the Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI) organized two Hackathons in Asia:

1. From November 2 to 4, 2018, TUMI, together with the GIZ Sector Network TUEWAS (WG Transport & Environment), the GIZ project Integrated and Sustainable Urban Transport Systems in Smart Cities (SMART-SUT) India and WhereIsMyTransport jointly organized a Hackathon on First and Last Mile Connectivity in the Indian city of Nagpur.

2. From November 23 to 25, 2018, TUMI together with GIZ Vietnam, the GIZ Transport and Climate Change project ASEAN and WhereIsMyTransport jointly organized a Hackathon on Flexible and Seamless Mobility in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

Both hackathons were part of TUMI's ongoing Global Urban Mobility Challenge 2019 activities. The winning ideas of both hackathons were followed up and resulted in concrete project concepts, which have now been submitted to the TUMI Global Urban Mobility Challenge 2019.

Hackathons can be valuable tools to initiate creative and data based idea finding for GIZ projects and related activities and to foster stakeholder dialogue as well as to raise awareness for specific challenges. Hackathons should kick-start or reinforce new or ongoing activities/project components and facilitate out of the box approaches and innovative solutions. It is important to ensure that the (mostly conceptual) results of the hackathon are further developed and ideally realized as part of project implementation. Hackathons should be organized as part of bigger events such as workshops or conferences to maximize visibility for the outputs of the event and therefor to increase follow-up potential aiming at realizing the winning solution(s).

Below, please find some aspects for your consideration when organizing hackathons.

Terms of Reference (ToR)

1. The different roles of organizing and supporting stakeholders should be specified in the ToR (such as event organization, orga-communication, PR and media outreach, data collection etc.);

2. It should be specified in the ToR which media products/documentation the contracted party has to deliver after the hackathon event (specify the quality of products);

3. It should be specified in the ToR that the contracted event organizer is responsible for the data collection. The specific requirements (contents, level of detail, budget, ownership rights etc.) need to be specified;

4. The expected/required number of participants (the "hackers") should be specified in the ToR;

5. It should be specified in the ToR that the contracted event organizer is responsible for the preparation and on-site (logistic) support

Hackathon in Ho Chi Minh City

Hackathon in Nagpur

of the participants (such as relevant preparing content and target briefing, printed agenda and info material, printed certificates, appropriate working spaces, catering, IT-infrastructure and stable internet connections etc.);

6. It should be specified in the ToR that the contracted event organizer is responsible for the selection of participants and the composition of the different hackathon teams;

7. It should be specified in the ToR that the contracted event organizer is responsible for the attendance of the participants and that a "Plan B" should be available in case that participants are not showing up (in time);

8. It should be specified in the ToR that the contracted event organizer should be actively consulting and supporting the teams with their ideas and should ensure a (thematic) variety of solutions, making use of the participants individual backgrounds;

9. It should be specified in the ToR that the contracted event organizer should ensure that the teams are able to effectively present their solutions. This should include professional communication and presentation training.

Event-Organization

1. A local thematic sponsor is recommended when organizing a hackathon. This can be a university, NGO, or other relevant partner. The sponsor should be involved in the preparation and implementation of the hackathon and can function as the key partner for follow-up activities (such as the realization of the winning idea) after the hackathon took place;

2. It should be clearly communicated with the sponsoring/organizing partners, who will be attending the jury. To increase ownership and follow-up potential, it is recommended to reserve jury seats for local (political) supporting partners;

3. Relevant (local) partners and donors should be invited to the inauguration and the price-giving ceremony to ensure follow-up and network building;

4. An appropriate purse should be included in the budget.

Communication

1. Regular coordination calls with the involved stakeholder are strongly recommended;

2. It should be ensured that the sponsoring/ organizing partners are equally represented in the media outreach (branding, logos on flyers etc.);

3. Media outreach should be well coordinated (ensure that not every sponsor comes up with own flyers, announcing mails etc.);

For further information on the Hackathon on First and Last Mile Connectivity in Nagpur, India and the lessons learned document, please contact Sebastian Ibold, Kasinath Anbu or Levent Toprak.

For further information on the Hackathon on Flexible and Seamless Mobility in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, please contact Carolin Capone, Friedel Sehlleier or Levent Toprak.

You can find the documentation of the hackathons and all TUMI activities via this link:

https://transformative-mobility.org