

HYBRID CYBER-INNOVATION HACKATHON (CyINNO-HACK)

Hackathon HandBook



About the Hackathon Handbook.

This is a document which contains all the important information that you will need during this Hackathon to make sure that everyone fully participates in the hackathon. The contents of this handbook include:-

- What is a Hackathon?
- Objectives of the hybrid Cyber-Innovation Hackathon
- Format of the Hackathon
- Hackathon Tracks and their challenges
- Team Formulation
- Form of Communication

- Mentorship
- Submission Guide
- Judging Criteria
- Prize and Awards
- Post Hackathon

What is a Hackathon?

A portmanteau of “hacking” and “marathon” hackathons are competitive sprint events that enable people to collaborate from different disciplines to solve a particular problem by developing an innovative technology, software, service, process, or institutional procedure that has the potential for a patent.

Hackathons are often organized around a particular theme or topic, and participants may have access to resources such as mentors, software tools, data sets and other supporting tools to aid them in their work. At the end of the event, participants shall present their projects to a panel of judges, and prizes may be awarded for the best projects.

Objectives of the CyINNO-HACK

We are excited to bring together a community of student programmers and cybersecurity enthusiasts passionate about using computer technology to solve real-world problems. Our objectives for this hackathon are:

- **To bring together a community of student programmers:** We believe that collaboration is essential to success. By bringing together a diverse group of student programmers and cyber security enthusiasts, we aim to create an environment that fosters collaboration and encourages sharing ideas.
- **To promote information security through Tanzanian-made innovative solutions:** end users are vulnerable to most of the cyber-attacks currently prevailing, and homemade solutions encounter this through cultural and behavioural understanding, we aim to promote enhanced security that has never been done before through this hackathon. Tailor-made approaches would be championed through innovative approaches for the main goal of addressing local cybersecurity challenges.
- **To inspire the creation of startups based on cyber-security:** we aim to get fully functional and diverse startups at the end of this hackathon, ready to face the mass market

Format of the Hackathon

This hackathon will be done in a hybrid format where participants can participate through Zoom/discord in times of meetings and education sessions, all days of the hackathon are virtual, except for the last day when startups pitch their products for investment and kick-start.

The hackathon is divided into three phases:

Phase 1: This phase involves the registration of members who wish to participate in the hackathon, some may apply as a team if they already have teams, and those who are individuals

without teams can just apply as individuals, this phase lasts from application opening day to December 10th 2023,

Phase 2: This phase is the innovation education phase, here Human Centered Design (HCD), an overview of cyber security, case studies on challenges, collaboration tools, and information sessions, all go in this phase, the aim is to get the participants with enough information to successfully get started with problem-solving, This phase lasts for 2 weeks from December, 10th 2023, to December, 24th 2023, and at the end of this phase all members without teams are going to have their teams

Phase 3: This phase is the actual hackathon phase, in this phase the teams are going to conduct their idea formulation and research and all to programming, until completion of the platform of their idea, and this must be based on cyber-security of any kind, at the end of this phase there is first-round judgement, this judgement is largely based on completion, relevance, functionality and friendliness to the target customer, as the teams must also submit short documentation about their platform to clearly show these judging criteria answered, only complete platforms pass through this stage,

The phase lasts for 2 months, from December, 27th 2023, to March, 8th 2024, and the judging transition starts 8th March 2024, for a full week to March, 15th 2024, the results are released by 15th March 2024, for the next phase,

Phase 4: This phase involves entrepreneurship education on startups, business laws and all the startup needs to start a business, the phase also provides pitching education and fundraising, and this phase lasts for 2 weeks, from March, 17th 2024, to March, 31st 2024, This phase also combines teams from the youth coding hackathon done in May 2023, these teams benefit entrepreneurship education and at the end of this phase is the final judgement and startup pitching, the main goal of this physical event is not to get winners but to give startups chances to pitch for investment and fundraising and all they wish to start, but winners are also obtained

HACKATHON TIMELINE

Phase	Event	Start Date	End Date	Judging Start Date	Judging End Date	Pitching Date
1	Application	-	December 10, 2023	-	-	-
2	Innovation Education	December 10, 2023	December 24, 2023	-	-	-
3	Hackathon	December 27, 2023	March 8, 2024	March 8, 2024	March 15, 2024	-
4	Entrepreneurship Education	March 17, 2024,	March 31, 2024	-	-	March 31, 2024,

Hackathon Tracks and challenges

Tracks refer to specific concentrations within a particular theme (as detailed in a subsequent section) to which participants are allocated,

For this hackathon participants are required to innovate around cyber security,

[Hackathon Challenge topics](#)

Team Formation

Participants are allowed to find team members from the hackathon participants. The maximum number of people in a team is Five (5). For the participants who registered as a team, they can proceed with their teams but for the individual participants, they should look for teams through the tools that will be used in this Hackathon i.e. WhatsApp and Discord. The deadline for team formulation is 24, December 2023, only teams participate in the hackathon as registered entities

Forms of Communication

Form of communication: communication channels are crucial to ensure that all participants in the Hackathon are updated throughout the hackathon.

All stakeholders (organizers, participants, judges, and mentors) must communicate with each other to share ideas and resources, clarify what is required at each stage of the hackathon, and review important announcements. Particularly for virtual and hybrid hackathons, communication channels allow team members to communicate as they develop solutions across different regions and time zones when they are not physically together. The tools that will be used include **WhatsApp, Zoom, Google Workspace, Discord and Notion** for teams WhatsApp is for open communications and simple announcements

Link to WhatsApp Group:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/I4UhssrErGu7w3Yh9qcEwK>

Link to Discord: <https://discord.gg/mjbK6MJ2>

Mentorship

Throughout the Hackathon, participants receive structured mentorship from leaders and experts in the field. Hackathon mentorship is coordinated by the organizing team, as participants are oriented to the process, and mentors work closely with participants as they iteratively develop their solutions. No mentor will be allocated to a particular team but teams that will need mentorship can request for assistance in the Mentors channel that is found in Discord, only background monitors are provided by default.

Submission Guide

The deadline for product submission is on 9th March 2024 before 02:00 PM where each team will be required to submit the following.

1. Product installation package example APK, and .deb or executable files. We do not require source code for security and copyright reasons
2. Documentation for the product involving target customers and all you need us to know about your product
3. A maximum of 3-Minutes video that demonstrates how the system works. The video should be uploaded on YouTube (upload it as “unlisted”) and the link will be shared to the judges
4. Team photos (optional)

Judging Criteria

There are two (2) rounds of Judging. The first round of Judging is done to obtain finalist startups

The judging criteria will include:

- Potential for patenting (Innovation aspects)
- Completion and usability for target customers (only completed and functioning platforms are taken to the next stages),
- Teamwork and collaboration
- Marketability (defend through documentation and video submitted)
- Attractive design

Prize and awards

All finalists are awarded certificates and materials for startup running education, as well as free mentorship,

Winning teams receive startup kick-start cash prizes, and can also get investment opportunities if impress the investors and donors during the pitching stage,

Post Hackathon

"Let's start the journey"

Note: We encourage you to take photos during your discussions and throughout your Hacking stages. Participants who will use virtual tools to conduct discussions please make sure you take screenshots during your meetings.

Remember to immerse yourself and enjoy the experience! The goal is not only to win but to gain added insight, skills and new experiences.