Challenge briefs

The SanaripThon is a competition of creative ideas and practical projects. Participating teams race against the clock and each other to develop new approaches to challenges facing Kyrgyzstan in the digital age. The SanaripThon asks teams to develop ideas and projects to address three key questions that touch on protection of personal data, using data for better accountability and new economic opportunities, and, improving the safety of Kyrgyz citizens online. The key factor in all three areas is how Kyrgyz citizens can protect, use, and create data - to reinforce their rights and responsibilities as citizens, and build a new vision of digital citizenship in Kyrgyzstan!

![SanaripThon logo] **SanaripThon**

Challenge #1

Who owns your personal data, and how can you protect it?

At present over 2.5 million citizens of Kyrgyzstan spend an increasing amount of time online using local government services and global platform and ecosystems such as mail.ru, Yandex, Google, and Facebook. Every month 690,000 users share some kind of personal information on Facebook. Personal data including diplomas, identification numbers, family status is now stored online.

Every interaction and transaction online is traceable. Yet at present, Kyrgyz citizens have little oversight over how their data is collected, used, and stored. There is no government agency responsible for the protection of personal data, and the government is poorly placed to protect and defend the data rights of Kyrgyz citizens domestically and from global platform providers.

Data has been described as the "new black gold". But who owns the rights to the data created by or about Kyrgyz citizens? Data - including *publically available* open data - is being packaged, and sold to businesses, and governments. This data can have impacts on people's ability to access employment, credit, education, and even the ability to qualify for foreign visas. Are Kyrgyz citizens sufficiently aware of their data rights, and their data risks? What are the possible solutions to educate Kyrgyz citizens about their data rights or to exercise ownership over their data? Is there a sustainable market-based solution to protecting these rights?

The objective of this challenge is to develop practical ideas to address the knowledge and capability gap for defending data privacy, and data ownership of Kyrgyz citizens, at the national and global levels.

Teams are encouraged to propose practical ideas. Potential entry points include (but are not limited to) projects that:

- Educate Kyrgyz citizens on their data rights and how to protect them
- Create a mechanism or tool that allows Kyrgyz citizens to find out who collects and uses their data.
- Creates a market or self-regulation mechanism to protect data rights of Kyrgyz citizens

Resources

- Ongoing e-governance projects
- Защита персональных данных в Кыргызской Республике
- Закон Кыргызской Республики "Об информации персонального характера" 2008, No. 58, статья
- https://kloop.kg/blog/2019/09/12/tsifra-dnya-stolko-kamer-s-funktsiej-raspoznavaniya-lits-ustanovleno-v-ramkah-bezopasnogo-goroda/
- https://kloop.kg/blog/2019/08/30/kitajskaya-kompaniya-vnedrit-sistemu-raspoznavaniya-lits-v-kyrgyzstane/

Project examples.

- [Mobile App Consent solution](#),
- [Startpage.com](#),
- [IRMA](#)

Challenge #2

Can citizens use data to improve governance and accountability and create new economic opportunities?

Digital Government, Digital Economy and Smart Cities promise streamlined government services, new jobs, and safer communities. At present, the Kyrgyz government has launched almost 80 e-services with many more planned. In Bishkek and Osh cities smart city initiatives have implemented pervasive video cameras and traffic monitoring systems and and over 200,000 smart metres have been installed in the Chuy and Talas oblasts.   All of these systems are creating massive amounts of data - including publicly available open data. But can this data help improve the quality of governance? Can it create new economic opportunities in the old (non digital) economy? Can institutions be made more accountable to citizens, including the right to challenge decisions and rules that are enforced by these systems?

At present the data created by smart city systems or collected by government platforms remains closed or difficult to access by ordinary citizens - even when such data is created to open data standards. Electricity bills and traffic fines are generated automatically with citizens having little recourse to challenge fines or judgements from operators of smart home or smart city infrastructures.

[Open Data](#) is also being created daily. Are there ways in which it can be put to use to create broad-based economic activities by reinvigorating the old, non-digital economy in sectors such as tourism? Can open data reduce corruption and improve the delivery of services vital to citizens, such information about the pricing and availability of commodities such as medicines?   Finally, are there ways in which data can be used to uphold public trust in institutions by creating new means and mechanisms for accountability?

The objective of this challenge is to develop practical ideas that empower citizens to use data for better governance, accountability of public and private institutions, create new services that improve efficacy and reduce corruption of vital services, and create new economic opportunities in non digital sectors of the economy.

Some areas for practical entry points include (but are not limited to) projects that:

- Raise public awareness of the range and types of data that is being collected by specific smart city tools or public service portals, and specify areas for citizen/policy engagement
- Leverage data for accountability and better governance of public and private institutions
- Use *Open Data* to create new economic opportunities in non digital sectors of the economy such as tourism.
- Create new services that improve the quality of vital service delivery such access to medicines, heathcare and education.

Resources

1. [Обеспечил ли безопасность «Безопасный город»?](#)
2. [Безопасный город](#)
3. [Общественная объединение «Коалиция за демократию и гражданское общество» в рамках своей деятельности провела опрос мнения граждан Кыргызстана о ситуации на дорогах после внедрения проекта «Безопасный город». Общенациональный телефонный социологический опрос проводился с 13 по 26 июня 2019 года](#)
4. https://opendata.kg/data/

Challenge # 3

Can we make Kyrgyz citizens better prepared and safer on-line?

Just over 50% of all Kyrgyz citizens are online. The rest are not. Those being left behind include elderly people, economically disadvantaged, physically handicapped and the young. Ensuring that all citizens have the ability to become "digital citizens" means preparing them for a digital future. And it is not just the disadvantage that are being left behind. Professionals of all kinds, doctors, lawyers, government workers, teachers - lack the basic skills to be healthy citizens of a digital world. And there are other reasons why this is important. Every week, a company Kyrgyzstan becomes a victim of a ransom cyber-attack. Every day hackers receive about $3000-$4000 as ransom money from attacks. Most cases are not public as reputations are often at risk. Cybercrime affects everyone online, including individuals and communities least able to protect themselves. Cyber crime can also be vicious - targeting individuals for trolling, exploitation, sexual trafficking, or recruitment into criminal or violent extremist organizations.

Knowledge and awareness of cyber skills and risks have not kept pace with the speed at which these technologies have become part of everyday life in Kyrgyzstan. Awareness of basic practices - such as digital skills - a simple set of principles citizen should know and follow online - are not part of basic school curricula. Most adults also are not aware of digital skills and safety basics, even though they increasingly use public and private services online. How can access to basic digital skills be improved at all levels of society? Are there good resources available? Are there sustainable, market-driven ways to make digital skills training attractive - so that it is practised, and used by Kyrgyzstan's growing digital citizenry? Are there special measures that should be taken to address the needs of the most vulnerable populations - children, youth, religious and sexual minorities?

The objective of this challenge is to develop new approaches, and tools for raising awareness of citizens to digital risks and teaching digital skills in a manner that is accessible and affordable to all Kyrgyz citizens including those from vulnerable or marginalized communities.

Teams are encouraged to propose ideas that:

- Raise awareness of digital risks and digital skills in a fun and engaging manner
- Create tools other means that allow people to measure their digital risks and understand their options for digital skills

- Encourage advocacy and policy engagement around the fact that digital citizens require public education and support to digital skills.
- Create a market-based approach to digital skills training that ensures affordable access to all Kyrgyz citizens

Resources

Ongoing Initiative in Digital skills in Kyrgyzstan

1. https://24.kg/biznes_info/117080_tsifrovyie_navyiki_kak_Beeline_uchil_shkolnikov_tsifrovoy_gramotnosti/
2. http://ict.gov.kg/index.php?r=site%2Fsanarip&cid=27

Resources about online risks in Kyrgyzstan:

1. http://factcheck.kg/ru/post/252
2. https://ru.sputnik.kg/society/20180114/1037260615/kak-voruyut-vashi-dengi-s-bankovskih-kart-beseda-o-bishkekskih-moshennikah.html

Examples of possible projects

The list below is designed to give participants and teams guidance and examples of possible projects. This is not an exhaustive list, nor is it a proscriptive list. Your project should be as unique and creative as you are!

Projects and solutions can take many forms. In general, we encourage solutions that use one or more of the following approaches:

- **Technical projects** - are ones that are based upon using software and software systems creatively in order to achieve solutions or approaches to the challenge areas. This could take the form of computer or mobile phone app, or a creative use of devices.   Such projects will be addressed on their technical merits, as well as the capability of the team to show that they have the capability and a solid pathway to develop their approach into a workable solution. If you're going to take on a technical project, be ready to defend it showing is a prototype and a solid business plan!

- **Advocacy campaigns** can involve conducting analytical, legal, or other research aimed at identifying methods to overcoming some of the difficulties identified in the challenge areas. A successful campaign needs to show that it understands the political and legal

context, and can identify specific ways to address it in a practical point if you to achieve the ultimate goal.

- **Media and educational campaigns** need to identify who will be helped, and how. They need to show a sensitivity for disadvantaged populations, such as those that may be illiterate, disabled or that may be excluded economic reasons. Educational campaigns a reason, and, a clearly identified outcome based upon good, grounded research.

- **All projects and proposals needs to look at how their impact can be sustained.** This could be by way of a Business plan, or, creation of new market conditions, or a market for the services or needs identified by way of research and advocacy work, or education. The greater the impact the higher the chances that your project will succeed!

Winning ideas are generally those that combine all of these approaches: that can leverage technology to create new ways of doing things; successfully advocate for change based on a clearly identified need; and, can reach wider audiences and through education build a constituency to make that change permanent!