Happy Cities Summit: Amaravati 2018
Happy City Hackathon
Frequently Asked Questions

Q1. What is Happy City Hackathon?

Happy City Hackathon is one of the flagship events of the Happy Cities Summit: Amaravati 2018. It is a collaborative, hands-on activity that brings together citizens of Andhra Pradesh to envision, plan and develop the Punnami Ghat waterfront in Vijayawada, with coaching and support from design experts. The objective is to give citizens and students of Andhra Pradesh the opportunity to create a "happy" public space that is beautiful and inviting, that enables citizens of all ages and backgrounds to interact with each other, and motivates them to engage in fun and purposeful activities. The hackathon is based on the concept of tactical urbanism, which involves low-cost, quick transformations of public spaces by citizens to improve the usability, accessibility, and aesthetics of open spaces in a city. Through these initiatives, cities have been able to forge a new social contract with citizens, where they are active participants in the planning and use of their city, as opposed to passive recipients of top-down planning.

Q2. Where can I read more about tactical urbanism?

To know more about 'tactical urbanism', you can refer to:
https://goo.gl/Lh2exY
https://goo.gl/qJjjWF

Q3. Who can apply for the hackathon?

Students studying in a school (class 9 to 12) or a college in Andhra Pradesh can apply for the hackathon. They can apply individually or in teams (maximum 4 members).

Q4. Why should I participate in the hackathon?

Students whose concepts are shortlisted by the jury will get a chance to:
- Bring their idea to life!
- Showcase their creation to urban experts from around the world, tourists, and citizens of Andhra Pradesh
- Get felicitated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister at the Happy Cities Summit
- Win cash prizes

Q5. How can I apply for the Hackathon?

There are two options for submitting your application:
Option 1: Online submission
Step 1: Click on apply now
Step 2: Fill the form
Step 3: Submit your application

Option 2: Email submission
Step 1: Click on email us
Step 2: Send your application

Q6. In which format do I need to submit the application?

Your application can be submitted as an essay (up to 400 words) or PowerPoint presentation (maximum 5 slides) or video (maximum 5 mins). You can supplement your application with drawings/ photos (up to 16 MB). You can choose the format that allows you to express your idea the best!

Q7. To apply, do I need the site plan or the exact dimensions of the Hackathon site?

No, for this stage of the competition you do not need the exact dimensions of the site. However, for visualization purposes you can assume 250-300 sq. meters, i.e. 25-30 meters (length) by 10 meters (width). The actual dimensions of the site may differ from this.

Q8. Can I modify or edit my application once submitted?

No, once submitted the application cannot be modified.

Q9. What is the application deadline?

You have to submit your application by 11.59 pm on 20 March 2018.

Q10. How will my application be evaluated?

Your applications will go through rigorous evaluation by a jury comprising urban designers, planners, and architects.

Q11. How many winners will be selected?

The top few concepts will be selected

Q12. When will the results be announced?

The results will be announced on 23 March 2018.

Q13. When will the design workshop be held for the winners and what will happen at the workshop?

The design workshop will be held on 25 March at the School of Planning and Architecture in Vijayawada, with a site visit to the Punnami Ghat. The objective of the workshop is to:
- Translate student concepts into final site design(s)
- Identify and quantify raw materials and tools required for construction
- Formulate next steps

Q14. When will the final Hackathon be conducted?

The final Hackathon will be conducted on April 7 and 8. While the winners will primarily drive the execution of their concepts, they will be supported by experts and citizens during the hackathon days.

Q15. Will I have to procure and bring my own raw materials for the hackathon?
No, the raw materials will be provided by the Happy City Hackathon organizing team. However, as part of your application, you are required to identify the type of raw materials required for your proposed concept.

Q16. Will the structure created be temporary or permanent?

The idea is to create a working model/ prototype/ proof of concept of your idea during the hackathon days. This will stay for 30 days for visitors to witness. If the structure serves its purpose of enabling citizen interaction and meaningful activity, it could even be made permanent and replicated in other parts of Andhra Pradesh!

Q17. If my application gets shortlisted, who will pay for my travel to Vijayawada for the workshop and for the hackathon?

All shortlisted students (winners) living outside Vijayawada will be provided travel and accommodation (if required) by the government.

Q18. I have other questions. How can I reach you?

For additional questions, you can write to us on hackathon@happycitiessummit.org.