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## TOP: Facilitated by [Agency]

[Insert theme-relevant image]

**The Opportunity Project (TOP)** brings together technologists, government, and communities to rapidly prototype digital products—powered by federal open data—that solve real-world problems for people across the country.

**The TOP**x **Toolkit** enables federal agencies to use the TOP model to **execute their own virtual technology development sprints** to address challenges at the heart of their missions. This year, [agency] is facilitating a TOP sprint focused on challenges related to [sprint topics].

How TOP Works

|  |  | 1 | **Identify challenges**  [Agency name] identifies high-priority challenges facing the public. |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2  **Team up**  Tech teams from industry and universities sign up to create data-driven, digital products in collaboration with end users, data stewards. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3 | **Build**  Tech teams build products during a 12 week virtual tech development sprint that includes user research, data exploration, and product development. Past products include mapping tools, apps, websites, games, AI algorithms, network visualizations, and more. |
| 4 **Launch**  Products are launched and showcased at an in-person or virtual event. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 5 | **Reach end users**  After the sprint, participants work to ensure products reach end users and move the needle on national challenges. |

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## TOP Roles

**Federal Agency:** In TOP sprints, federal agencies facilitate technology development sprints that address specific challenges at the heart of their missions. While the TOP project team within each agency facilitates the 12-week sprint, user advocates and data stewards provide feedback to the participating teams and assistance working with federal open data.

**Responsibilities:**

* Develop problem statement(s) and identify relevant open datasets
* Recruit sprint participants
* Facilitate a 12 week technology development sprint
  + Organize and facilitate milestone calls (User Research, Data Discovery, Alpha Demo, Final Demo)
  + Provide insight related to the agency’s policy and operational areas
  + Answer questions about finding and using the agency’s public data
  + Provide feedback on the products being developed
* Host an (optional) in-person event during which products are launched and showcased

## **Tech teams:** The companies, universities, non-profits, and students who build digital products in the sprints. They design, develop, and launch the products they build, and typically own and maintain the products after the sprints.

**User Advocates:** Community leaders, advocates, and people with direct lived experience in the target challenges (e.g. state and local government, non-profits, service providers, or individual experts). Their role is to guide tech teams in designing solutions that are realistic and useful for the target end users.

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## Benefits for Agencies

## Leverage TOP to advance

## your mission and activate your data.

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1. **Meet federal requirements to increase reuse of your data**  
   TOP enables agencies to meet requirements from the Evidence Act to collaborate with industry to increase the reuse and dissemination of federal open data. TOP engages industry to create products that use open data to provide value to Americans and the economy.
2. **Develop lightweight and cost-effective solutions**  
   TOP is designed to make cross-sector collaboration easy and cost-effective. Through rapid sprints, agencies can catalyze a greater volume, diversity, and quality of products than they would on their own or through traditional mechanisms.
3. **Catalyze innovation within your agency**  
   Through the implementation of TOP, agency staff learn new strategies for lightweight collaboration with external stakeholders, human-centered design and agile methodology - which can also advance goals like IT modernization and improved customer experience.
4. **Engage with data consumers and improve data quality**  
   Improve data quality by engaging directly with data consumers as they work with federal data. By participating in a sprint, agencies develop and deepen relationships with key industry stakeholders and data users, helping to better understand their target audiences and collect real time feedback on data access and quality.