



Centre for Development of Intellectual Property and Research Naovina Development of Intellectual Property and Research Foundation (A Section 8 Non-profit Organisation registered under the Companies Act, 2013)

South Asian Hackathon (SAH) 1.0

South Asia's first Transregional, Innovation-driven Hackathon

In Collaboration with





About the South Asian Hackathon (SAH) 1.0

The South Asian Hackathon (SAH) 1.0 marks a historic milestone as South Asia's first Transregional, Innovation-driven Hackathon dedicated to solving real-world technological, social, legal, and infrastructural challenges through practical, scalable and community-impactful digital solutions. Organised by the Centre for Development of Intellectual Property and Research (CDIPR), Naovina Development of Intellectual Property and Research Foundation in collaboration with WebXHub Pvt. Ltd. and the UN Internet Governance Forum (IGF), the initiative seeks to integrate innovation with governance, digital rights, cyber safety, and intellectual property protection.

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The Hackathon aims to build a regional ecosystem where coders, designers, researchers, cybersecurity experts, digital rights advocates, policy thinkers, engineers, and young innovators converge to create solutions reflecting both global technological standards and South Asia's unique socio-economic realities.

The event facilitates an experiential innovation environment combining:

- Real-world problem statements,
- Technical mentorship from industry experts,
- Policy mentorship from UN IGF contributors,
- Prototype deployment pathways via WebxHub Pvt. Ltd.

Bringing together stakeholders across South Asia and beyond, the Hackathon seeks to empower the next generation of innovators to address people-centric problems through a rights-based, technology-enabled lens.

Hackathon Objectives

- To provide a structured platform for youth to develop AI-driven, IoT-based and software solutions for critical regional challenges.
- To cultivate technical, legal and innovation skills through hands-on problem-solving.
- To promote responsible and ethical innovation, aligning with global frameworks on data protection, cyber safety and digital rights.
- To encourage cross-border collaboration and exchange among innovators across South
- To familiarise participants with intellectual property rights, patent strategies and innovation management.
- To support the development of deployable prototypes that address governance, public service delivery and citizen welfare.
- To contribute to the South Asian Innovation Report 2025, which will compile the best solutions, insights and recommendations emerging from the Hackathon.

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Participating Countries

The **South Asian Hackathon 1.0** brings together innovators from diverse regional and international contexts, fostering a dynamic innovation ecosystem.

South Asian & Regional Participants

India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, Maldives, and Afghanistan

Extended Asia-Pacific Collaborators

Vietnam, Thailand, and Indonesia

Global Dialogue Partners

United Kingdom, United States of America, Germany, France, and Australia

SAH Date & Format

• Format: Virtual

• Date: 21st December, 2025

All teams will participate through a secure digital platform equipped with project rooms, mentor breakout spaces and collaborative tools for real-time innovation.

Problem Statements & Innovation Tracks

Below are the central challenges that participants will address. Each problem reflects a tangible governance or societal issue requiring immediate, tech-based intervention.

1. Copyright Content Checker for Students & Creators

Problem Overview

Students, designers and content creators across South Asia frequently and unknowingly publish copyrighted images and textual content. This generates risks such as copyright strikes, account suspension, legal notices, and academic misconduct.

Solution Requirement

- Performing reverse image search
- Extracting metadata and EXIF data
- Identifying copyright, Creative Commons, Royalty-Free or Public Domain status

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• Providing safe alternatives and attributions

Intended Impact

- Reduce accidental copyright infringement
- Promote academic and creative ethics
- Support copyright literacy among youth and creators

2. Fake Trademark Detector for MSMEs

Problem Overview

Counterfeit trademarks and imitated brand logos have been increasingly harming small businesses across South Asia. MSMEs lack technical knowledge to verify brand originality.

Solution Requirement

- Upload a logo or brand name
- Compare it with existing trademark records
- Receive similarity scores (textual + visual)
- Receive recommendations on legal remedies and registration

Intended Impact

- Protection of business identity
- Reduction in trademark fraud
- Awareness of IP rights

3. WhatsApp Scam Detector for Elderly Citizens

Problem Overview

Elderly citizens are frequently targeted by digital scams through WhatsApp and SMS. They often lack the digital literacy to evaluate suspicious messages.

Solution Requirement

- If the message is a scam
- A risk score

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• Recommended actions such as blocking/reporting

Intended Impact

- Protect vulnerable populations
- Reduce digital fraud
- Strengthen digital trust ecosystems

4. Online Harassment Auto-Report Tool for Schools

Problem Overview

Schools lack structured tools to monitor cyberbullying and online harassment. Manual monitoring is inefficient and slow.

Solution Requirement

- Monitors chat platforms for abusive language
- *Identifies harmful images*
- Generates standardised reports
- Alerts school counsellors

Intended Impact

- Protect school children from online abuse
- Create documentation trails for counsellors
- Promote safe digital learning environments

5. Fraud Detection Tool for Digital Loans

Problem Overview

Fake or predatory lending apps are increasing across the region, causing financial exploitation.

Solution Requirement

- *Identifies verified financial entities*
- Flags unregistered lending platforms
- Categorises risk levels

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• Provides immediate recommendations

Intended Impact

- Protect citizens from digital loan scams
- Strengthen financial literacy
- Promote trustworthy fintech ecosystems

6. Garbage Overflow Alert System for Municipalities

Problem Overview

Fake or predatory lending apps are increasing across the region, causing financial exploitation.

Solution Requirement

- Detect bin fill-levels
- Send alerts at 80% capacity
- Provide actionable insights to municipal workers

Intended Impact

- Reduce garbage overflow
- *Improve municipal waste management*
- Ensure cleaner public spaces

Format & Presentation

Participants will undergo:

- Preliminary Presentation Round
- Final Presentation Round (For Selected Participants)
- Jury evaluations

A final Hackathon Innovation Report 2025 will present top solutions.

Recognition & Awards

Selected participants will receive:

• International Certificate of Participation for all

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- International Certificate of Excellence for Top 8 Participants
- Best Innovation Award with Rs. 45,000 INR (Cash)
- Second Prize Award with Rs. 30,000 INR (Cash)
- Third Prize Award with Rs. 20,000 INR (Cash)
- Innovation Impact Award
- Women Innovator Award
- Opportunity to be featured in the Innovation Report 2025 which will be published in 13 Nations around the World.

Call for Participation Timeline

- **Registration Opens:** 29th November, 2025
- **Registration Deadline:** 12th December, 2025
- Prototype Proposal Submission Deadline: 13th December, 2025
- Notification of the Selected Proposal: 16th December, 2025
- **Presentation Confirmation:** 19th December, 2025
- Date of Technical Session: 23rd December, 2025

Contact Details

For direct communication, email us at: events@cdipr.ac.in

Reach us

Secretariat, South Asian Hackathon (SAH), 2025,

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RULES OF PROCEDURE

1. Eligibility

- **1.1** Participation is open to:
 - Students, researchers, developers, designers, innovators and professionals from the listed participating countries.
 - Individuals or teams (maximum 2 members).
- 1.2 Cross-institution and cross-country teams are allowed and encouraged.
- **1.3** Participants must register within the official deadlines.

2. Team Composition

- **2.1** Minimum 1 member, maximum 2 members per team.
- **2.2** Each team must nominate a **Team Leader** for official communication.
- **2.3** A participant may represent **only one team**.

3. Platform & Participation

- **3.1** The Hackathon will be conducted **entirely online** through an official virtual platform.
- **3.2** All teams must join using the official link shared by the Secretariat.
- **3.3** Participants must keep cameras on during presentations unless authorised otherwise.
- **3.4** Any disruptions, abusive behaviour, or misconduct will result in immediate disqualification.

4. Problem Statement Selection

- **4.1** Teams must choose **one** problem statement from the official tracks.
- **4.2** Teams are free to propose **an improved or hybrid solution**, but it must remain aligned with the selected problem statement.
- **4.3** Changing the problem statement after submitting the proposal is **not allowed**.

5. Proposal Submission Requirements

- **5.1** All teams must submit a **Prototype Proposal** by the deadline.
- **5.2** Only teams with approved proposals will proceed to the final round.

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5.3 Late submissions will not be entertained unless permitted by the Secretariat due to technical issues.

6. Presentation Rules

- **6.1** Teams shortlisted for finals will give a **7–10 minute presentation** followed by **5 minutes of O&A**.
- **6.2** Presentations must include:
 - Problem overview
 - Technical architecture / workflow
 - Innovation and feasibility
 - Compliance with digital rights, cyber safety, and IP protection
 - Impact and scalability
- **6.3** Use of AI tools for slides is allowed, but content must remain original.

7. Evaluation Criteria

Final evaluation will be based on:

Category	Weightage
Innovation & Originality	25%
Technical Feasibility	20%
Social/Governance Impact	20%
UI/UX, Functionality & Prototype Quality	15%
IP Awareness & Ethical Compliance	10%
Presentation & Communication	10%

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- **7.1** Decisions of the Jury are final and binding.
- **7.2** Jury may recommend promising solutions for future incubation.

8. Intellectual Property (IP) Policy

- **8.1** Participants retain full ownership of their ideas and prototypes.
- 8.2 The Organisers may not request permission to feature prototypes in the Innovation Report2025 with proper credit.
- **8.3** Participants must ensure original work; plagiarism or copyright infringement will result in disqualification.

9. Code of Conduct

Participants must:

- Maintain professionalism
- Respect cultural diversity across South Asia
- Avoid hate speech, misinformation, or offensive content
- Adhere to data protection norms
- Ensure secure handling of user data (real or simulated)

Violations may lead to removal from the event.

10. Disqualification Grounds

Teams may be disqualified for:

- Submission plagiarism
- Misconduct during sessions
- Multiple registrations
- Sharing confidential platform links
- Using pre-built scripts or buying code from third parties
- Violating IP or data protection guidelines

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PROTOTYPE PROPOSAL SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

1. Submission Format

The prototype proposal must be submitted in **PDF format only**.

Font & Formatting Standards

• Font: Times New Roman

• Size: 12 pt

• Line Spacing: 1.5

• Margins: 1 inch on all sides

• File Name Format:

SAH2025 TeamName Proposal.pdf

2. Proposal Structure (Mandatory Sections)

2.1. Cover Page

- Team Name
- Problem Statement Selected
- Country
- Institution/Organization
- Names & Emails of Team Members
- Name & Contact of Team Leader

2.2. Executive Summary (150–200 words)

A brief overview of the problem, proposed solution and expected impact.

2.3. Problem Analysis

- Description of the societal/governance challenge
- Relevance to South Asia
- Target beneficiaries
- Current gaps in existing solutions

2.4. Proposed Solution

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This section must describe:

- Core technology used (AI, ML, IoT, NLP, etc.)
- Key functionalities/features
- Prototype workflow
- Innovation differentiators
- Ethical, legal & privacy considerations

2.5. System Architecture / Technical Design

Include:

- Flowchart
- Architecture diagram
- Tech stack
- Data sources (only safe/public datasets allowed)
- API usage, if any

(Simple diagrams are acceptable.)

2.6. Implementation Plan (Step-by-Step)

Outline:

- Prototype development stages
- Expected time for each stage
- Responsibilities divided among team members

2.7. Feasibility & Impact Assessment

Cover:

- Technical feasibility
- Social and governance impact
- Scalability potential across South Asia
- Risk assessment and mitigation

2.8. IP Considerations (Mandatory)

Teams must include:

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- Statement of originality
- Copyright/trademark implications
- Patentability potential (if any)
- Licensing considerations

2.9. Expected Outcomes

Describe what the final prototype will be able to do by:

- Demo stage
- Final presentation stage

2.10. References (if used)

Use any simple referencing style. Ensure that all borrowed ideas are credited.

3. Word Count Requirement

The proposal must be between: 800 - 1,200 words (excluding diagrams and cover page).

4. Shortlisting

Shortlisting will be based on:

- Clarity of concept
- Feasibility
- Innovativeness
- Regional impact
- Compliance with guidelines

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