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2023 GovTech Accelerator

GovTech Accelerator sponsored by



The GovTech Accelerator has been a highly effective and proven model for government organisations to tackle some of their most urgent challenges.

Now in its sixth year, the accelerator will look quite different to the previous years' programmes. This year the teams will be rapidly developing prototypes and delivering real-world outcomes in 13 weeks.



“

GovTech encourages cross-agency collaboration, innovation and creativity. If we're going to tackle our complex challenges, we need to think differently.

”

Dr. Ganesh Nana
Chair of the Productivity Commission and GovTech Ambassador

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The value of GovTech

3.5 billion

litres of drinking water saved in the 12 months following the programme.

Developed a chatbot

that provided information that 42% of social welfare clients were unaware of.

\$38 million

annual economic benefit delivered by improving access to LiDAR technology to help NZ navigate Climate Change.

For more information on our impact check out our [GovTech Impact Report](#).

2023 focus:

Value delivery through rapid project prototyping and development.



GovTech Accelerator: Alumni

Since 2018, we've worked with local councils, central government agencies and international governments to fast-forward impactful projects.

For more information on previous GovTech Accelerator projects, head over to our [YouTube](#), or visit creativehq.co.nz/govtech-projects/.

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Selecting a suitable project

Govtech 2023 will be best suited to projects that have some of the following attributes:

1. The organisation shares a sense of urgency to solve the problem.
2. The project has alignment with the organisation's strategic objectives.
3. A project team of approx 3-5 staff who are dedicated to the project over 13 weeks.
4. The project would benefit from cross-sector collaboration.
5. You have a solution hypothesis ready to test or you have delivered a pilot or prototype already.

If you are unsure about what might be a suitable project, or if you have several options to choose from, please contact Dr. Moiz Penkar, Programme Director at moiz.penkar@creativehq.co.nz.

GovTech 2023 Structure

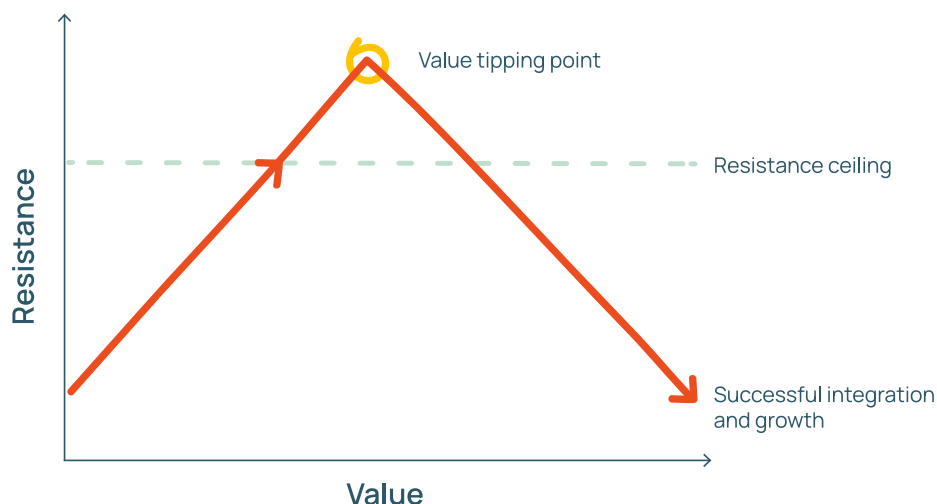
Innovation seems to be occurring at an increasing rate in the public sector. While this feels positive, the ratio of those projects that go on to deliver value in the real world remains as small as ever. This phenomenon is sometimes referred to as "Innovation Theatre".

One senior government leader explained that this has led to "1,000 blooming flowers within our public sector". These are projects that look impressive and innovative at first glance but eventually fade and die. These projects eventually reach, what we are calling, the **resistance ceiling**. Only a small number of projects manage to push beyond it.

The projects that survive and break through this resistance ceiling, seem to have one thing in common:

They are able to deliver **real value within the current structure/system/process**. This value delivery becomes the **tipping point where the momentum begins to build and resistance decreases**.

The GovTech Accelerator 2023 has been designed to help projects reach, and get beyond the value delivery tipping point.



FAQ's

For staff who go through the programme, what can they expect?

The accelerator provides an experiential and immersive upskilling of staff in 'innovation thinking'. We see that staff build valuable skills, confidence and capability and go on to apply the tools and methodologies within future projects.

What sort of project is a good fit?

We are seeking applications from central and local government projects that have already done the problem discovery and ideation. These projects may have a solution concept and are ideally ready for rapid prototyping and testing.

Do I need a team to participate?

Yes, a team of approx. 3-4 members, depending on the skills required, is ideal. We can support in filling any gaps, e.g. by finding the right individuals (i.e. contractors) to complement your team.

Does it matter if it's an election year?

Depending on the project, that could actually be a good thing. This is the third election we are bridging with a Govtech Accelerator. With the past two elections we found that starting the term on an innovative note struck the right chord with a new government.

What's the time commitment?

Approximately 3-5 days a week (depending on the size of the team and project) for the duration of the 13-week programme.

How long does the programme run for?

13 weeks. From 5 September to 2 December, with the Innovation Showcase in early December.

What if I just have an idea?

That's great — all good things start with an idea. If you also have a solid team that is able and willing to start earlier than other teams, the GovTech Accelerator can help to validate the problem and solution concepts.

What does it cost to participate in the GovTech Accelerator?

Participation fee is NZD\$55,000 (ex GST). This is a fixed cost and is subsidised by sponsors of the programme.

How can we apply?

The programme application process is on a first-in-first-serve basis. To find out more, please contact Dr. Moiz Penkar, Programme Director at moiz.penkar@creativehq.co.nz.

For any questions, contact a team member



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