

April 30, 2020

HACKCOVID19 - ENGLISH INFORMATION

What? Hackcovid19, a 72-hour online hackathon focused on the covid-19 pandemic (<http://www.cbpf.br/hackcovid19>).

Who? the organizers are three scientific Federal institutions: the Brazilian Center for Research in Physics (CBPF; <https://portal.cbpf.br/en-us/home/>), the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz; <https://portal.fiocruz.br/en>) and the National Laboratory for Scientific Computing (LNCC; <https://www.lncc.br/>). The participants are anyone interested in helping out!

When? the submission of challenges is open from 21/4 until 4/5, the registration as a hacker is open from 21/4, accepted challenges will be announced on 7/5 and the actual hackathon will take place during 15-17/5, 2020.

Why? in order to mobilize a great amount of intellectual potential in a lockdown, with the aim of developing technological equipment that helps society confront the various challenges posed by the covid-19 pandemic.

How the hackathon works

First, there is the period of submission of challenges by people who spot a covid-19-related problem. Then, over an intense period of 72 hours, all participants will be working collectively in teams to try to come up with technological solutions for the challenges. The whole event will be online, via the DevPost (<https://hackcovid-19.devpost.com/>) and Slack platforms (workspace #HackCovid19). The participants will be aided by experts in the various challenges' areas and will be supported by the scientific and technological infrastructure of the organizing institutions. The spirit of the hackathon is about collaborative work and about helping society. We will, however, choose three top projects, with the intent that they are effectively implemented for the benefit of society after the hackathon. We will seek sponsors for that but the hackers themselves will have the copyright of the projects.

Hackathon participants

Anyone from the age of 18 years is allowed to participate. People with a keen interest in helping society and with a creative mind are particularly encouraged to participate, no matter what their background is! Although participants do not need to speak Portuguese, if they don't, they should have someone to translate for them and we note that the final projects should be in Portuguese.

There are two categories of participants:

The first category consists of activators, who propose specific challenges related to covid-19. The diverse areas that can be covered by the challenges are the following: healthcare; community; vulnerable populations; business; education; culture and entertainment; environment; information. The submission of challenges is done via DevPost (<https://hackcovid-19.devpost.com/>) during 21/4-4/5 and the accepted challenges will be announced on 7/5, 2020. Activators should also be able to assist the hackers -below- which will be working on their challenge during the actual hackathon of 15-17/5.

The second category consists of hackers, who will try to come up with projects that develop apps, services and technological solutions to the challenges. Hackers can register on DevPost from 21/4 and they are encouraged to start forming teams and discussing on the Slack platform as soon as they register. We recommend that the size of the teams is between 4 and 6 hackers and we encourage the diversity of people's backgrounds within each team. Registration on the actual hackathon will take place on 15/5, just before the start of the hackathon. Whenever the teams of hackers submit their projects by 17/5, they will give pitches of maximum 3 minutes presenting their projects.

Apart from the above, the organizers will put together a team of mentors, who are experts in the various challenges' areas. The mentors will be aiding the participants with their knowledge and advice during the hackathon.

Any questions may be addressed to the email: hackcovid19@cbpf.br

Let's be creative and try to help out society all together!