Mobilizing
collective intelligence
to co-create the society of tomorrow

openGENEVA

Our vision
Open Geneva

Founded in 2017, Open Geneva is a non-profit
organization based in Geneva. We are committed to
harnessing collective intelligence for the betterment of
society, particularly through the practice of hackathons.

We unite a diverse ecosystem of partners
and a community of over 6,000 enthusiasts.
Together, we work to address our shared societal
challenges, from major global issues to local obstacles,
through open innovation and collaboration.

Our hackathons are educational events
officially acknowledged by the United Nations.
These innovation marathons bring together people
with diverse backgrounds and skills to collaborate and
develop tangible solutions that can improve our society.

By co-creating solutions, they not only forge stronger
connections and deepen their understanding of the pressing
issues, but also foster a shared sense of purpose and a
common goal of achieving positive societal change.

Together, we cultivate a culture of
open innovation where everyone can
contribute to building a better future.

Our missions and endeavours
to foster a culture of open innovation for the collective good

1 Open Innovation Festival

Since 2017, Open Geneva has organized and coordinated its Open Innovation Festival in Geneva. Designed for anyone who wants to engage in the future and create a positive social impact in Geneva, this unique concept promotes and encourages an open culture of innovation for and by all individuals located in or related to Geneva.

2 Hackathons and collaborative events

Open Geneva organizes and co-organizes a wide variety of hackathons, partnering with diverse local and international organizations. These events are inclusive 24-hour innovation marathons focused on addressing critical societal issues, such as financial sustainability, global health and smarter future cities.

3 Digitalization and resources

Open Geneva provides digital tools and resources to democratize open innovation, empowering its community to promote and organize collective intelligence projects like hackathons. These tools organically foster co-creation and community engagement, nurturing a strong community of responsible innovators.

4 Scientific research and certification

In collaboration with the United Nations, Open Geneva issues official learning certificates to participants of SDG-themed hackathons. Simultaneously, partnering with the University of Geneva, Open Geneva is actively contributing to scientific research and conducting a study on hackathons to refine our methodology.

The Open Innovation Festival,
a unique event showcasing civic engagement in Greater Geneva

Open Geneva has organized and coordinated the Open Innovation Festival since 2017. This unique event promotes and encourages an open and inclusive culture of innovation and by all individuals located in or related to Geneva.

▼ 8 editions have been organized by Open Geneva since 2017, each attracting over 1000 participants.

◀ The program features between 30 and 50 events (hackathons, exhibitions, workshops, conferences, etc.) that are free and open to all. These events are organized and hosted by and for the Geneva community.

▶ A network of partner locations fostering innovation across the region.

▲ Citizens who become change agents and innovate for the society of tomorrow.

◀ This distinctive concept, originating in Geneva, has since 2019 been replicated in Asia (China, Singapore, Indonesia) to promote innovation for the SDGs.

Hackathons and collaborative events to co-create solutions for the society of tomorrow

Geneva organizes and co-organizes multiple hackathons (24-hour innovation marathons) with diverse partners, where participants from various backgrounds work together to tackle real-world challenges and to co-create practical solutions.
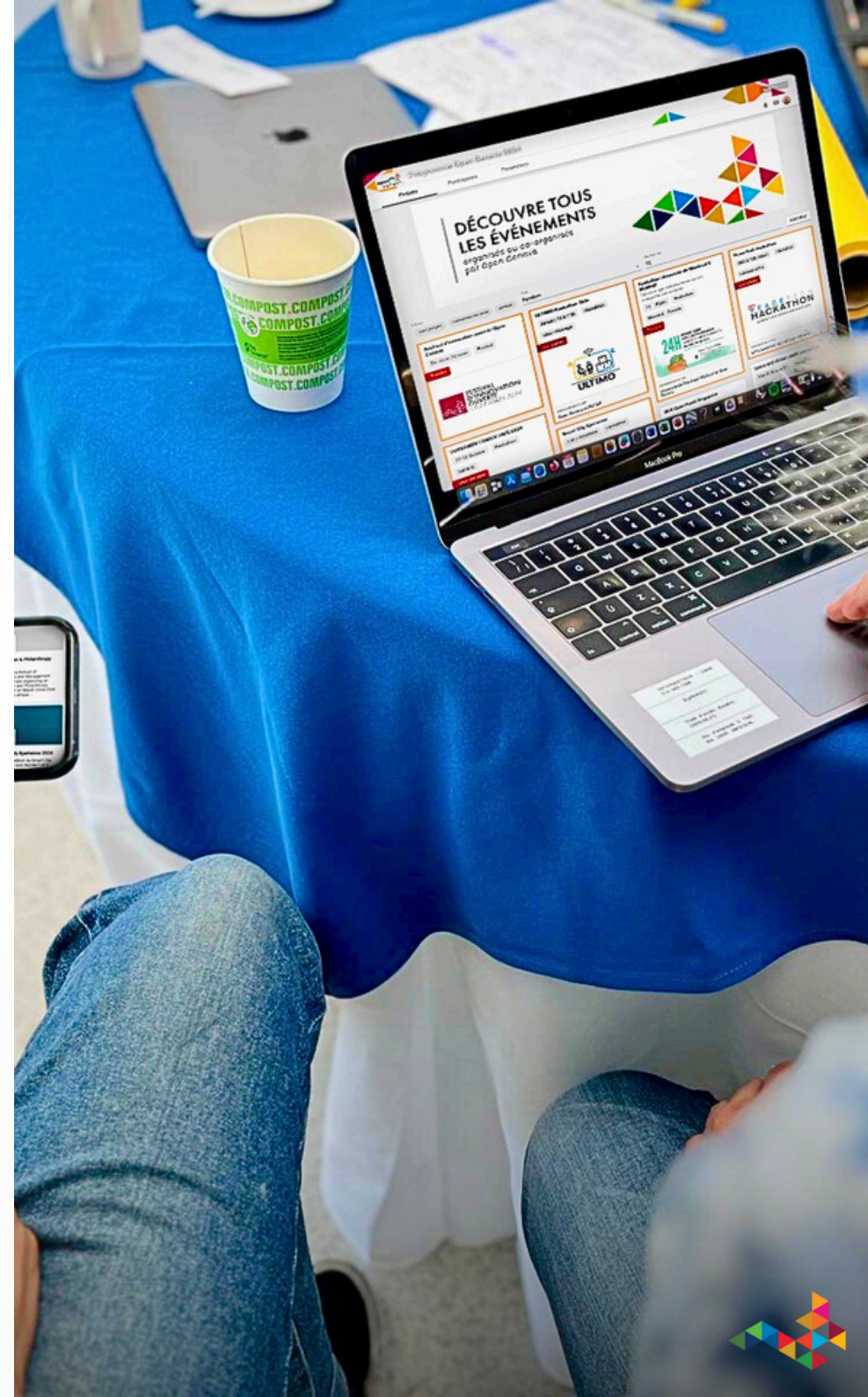
▼ Open Geneva and its partners have organized +140 hackathons in Geneva and globally since 2017, engaging +6000 enthusiasts from diverse backgrounds.

◄ International expansion, especially in Asia, through the "SDG Open Hack!" initiative inspired by Open Geneva's model.

► Themes of hackathons related to sustainability and societal issues.

▲ Unique expertise in organizing and executing hackathons with the Open Geneva methodology consisting of 5 key steps.

◄ Around 1600 solutions and innovative ideas have emerged from Open Geneva hackathons, some of which have evolved into tangible entrepreneurship and research projects.

Digitalization and resources
to democratize the practice of open innovation

Open Geneva provides digital tools and resources to democratize open innovation, empowering its community to promote and organize collective intelligence event and projects, such as hackathons.

▶ The Sparkboard, a digital platform, has emerged as the primary platform for local innovation.

▲ Digital tools created in partnership with the innovation community.

◀ Sharing all resources developed to democratize open innovation practice within our extensive ecosystem, including methodologies, tools, and data.

Scientific research and learning certification in collaboration with our academic partners

Open Geneva has formed strategic alliances with UNITAR and UNIGE. These partnerships aim to validate the engagement in hackathons as a learning opportunity for innovation related to the SDGs and to promote the advancement of hackathon science.

▼ Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2021 between the United Nations Agency for Training and Research (UNITAR) and Open Geneva.

◄ Introduction of practical innovation learning certificates to achieve the SDGs.

► Over 1200 certificates have been issued to participants of Open Geneva hackathons.

▲ Research on hackathon science began in 2020 in collaboration with the University of Geneva to enhance comprehension of hackathon participants' motivations.

◄ A published scientific article.

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GENEVA SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT

MBS since 1897
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unitar
United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Governance
of the association

Members

40 dedicated members, each representing strong organisations such as UNIGE, SIG, State of Geneva, HUG, HEG Geneva, RTS and the United Nations.

Committee

7 members from Geneva-based institutions such as RTS, Hospice Général, HUG, SIG, and Lombard Odier ensure the effective governance of the association.

Operational team

An agile team of **4 members** responsible for executing all operational tasks of the association.

open
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