

Open Geneva's Sustainable Finance Hackathon adapts to address evolving industry needs

Open Geneva, a non-profit association fostering collective intelligence, is hosting the 6th edition of its annual **Sustainable Finance Hackathon on October 11-12, 2024 in the SDG Solution Space** with support from Building Bridges, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and Geneva Responsible Entrepreneurship Center - University of Geneva. This year's event adapts to address evolving industry needs, shifting its focus to encompass transversal themes in the intersection of finance, social responsibility and emerging technologies.

Reflecting new priorities and broader societal concerns

The hackathon has since 2019 been backed by Geneva's top financial institutions, but in light of declining involvement from the usual banking partners, this year's hackathon will expand its focus to less conventional yet highly relevant topics. While maintaining its core mission of promoting sustainable finance, the hackathon will include themes outside the traditional scope of banking closer linked to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and reflecting the priorities of a new generation seeking to reshape the financial system. The event will bring together diverse participants – students, international organizations, startups and financial companies – to co-create solutions to these pressing issues and real-world challenges.

"Following five successful hackathons, and in light of declining involvement from our usual banking partners, we've strategically shifted our focus to address the evolving industry," says Julia Dallest, Executive Director of Open Geneva. "This year's themes align with broader societal concerns while holding significant potential for the financial sector. Our partnership with the University of Geneva prioritizes student-driven ideas, reflecting the new demands of this generation."

The challenges are presented by Giga (UNICEF-ITU initiative), Sustainable Finance Geneva, Finance for Peace (Interpeace initiative), the University of Geneva and The Good Token Society. They will be exploring timely themes such as the impact of a 4-day workweek, financing digital infrastructure for remote schools, incorporating conflict risks into investment decisions and harnessing blockchain to finance humanitarian and sustainable actions.

The hackathon is free and open to all, with no prerequisites for participation. Registration opens on September 16, 2024. For more details visit: www.opengeneva.org/sfh24/

Event Details:

- **Date and Time:** October 11-12, 2024 (SDG Solution Space, Geneva)
- **Program:** Presentations, hacking sessions, closing ceremony, and networking cocktail.
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