Worksheet 2: Defining the problem

Writing a problem statement

A problem statement helps to explain what the current situation is (i.e. the problem) and the desired situation (i.e. what the situation would look like once the problem is solved). Importantly the statement should focus on the users needs!

Writing a problem statement is a useful exercise as it can help you to focus on the specific needs of the people affected by the problem which will in turn help you to come up with effective ideas about how to help solve them - and develop a great project!

Your challenge

How can you use technology to create an app, product or service that will make the world a better place, enabling people to Live Better, Live Longer, Live Greener and Live Together?

Living Better
There have been huge leaps and bounds in technology and medicine to help us live healthier lives, but that we are also faced with ongoing health challenges, these can be both physical and mental.

Live Greener
It is becoming increasingly important to transform the way we live to reduce our negative impacts on the environment, including challenges like pollution and climate change. .

Living Longer
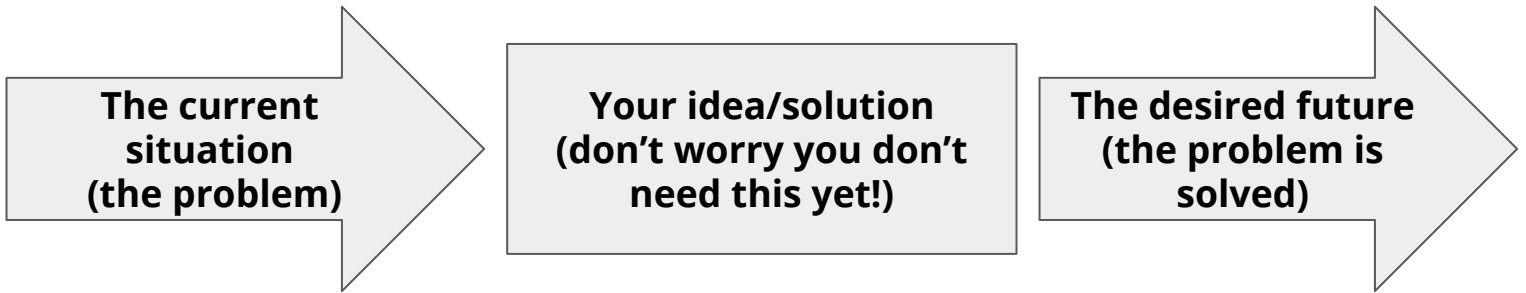We are living longer than ever. But as we get older, our needs change, with challenges around mobility and isolation, re-skilling, and access to care.

Living Together
We are presented with more and more options that can help us move about, access vital services and supplies and stay connected to each other however these may also have negative consequences, such as impact on our environment and mental health.

Activity: Our problem statement

The current situation (the problem)	Your idea/solution (don't worry you don't need this yet!)	The desired future (the problem is solved)

a. **Who (is affected by the problem/the user)**...

b. **Has the problem of (describe the current state/the problem)**..
....
....
....

c. **Our idea should deliver (describe what it would look like once the problem is solved)**...
....
....
....

Tips!
- **Remember to frame it around the people affected by the problem - they will be your users!**
- **Keep it simple - think about who (is affected) , what (is the problem), where (is the problem), when (does the problem occur), why (is it important to solve this problem)!**