Project Close-Out Report

IndiaCodeX '26: India's Largest Cardano Hackathon

Project-URL:https://projectcatalyst.io/funds/14/cardano-open-ecosystem/indiacodex-26-indias-largest-cardano-hackathon
Project ID:1400070
Name of Project Manager: Nucast
Date Project Started: December 2025
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Overview

IndiaCodex'26 was a two-day Cardano developer event held in Hyderabad on 11–12 July 2026, preceded by three technical onboarding workshops and followed by a 10-day extended build and judging phase.

Day 1, held at EThames Business School, recorded 476 registrations and 167 attendees, focusing on Cardano awareness, technical education, networking, and hackathon onboarding.
Images:https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1H2YEmB0iGDIVS_KhC2cbxTRxELq_eAwA?usp=drive_link

Day 2, the main hackathon moved to DraperU India in Gachibowli the next day, with 515 approved registrations and 271 developers attending the event.
Images:https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1E5bvqEPpFFfOz87OCjxC34TBTQgh00IM?usp=drive_link
Developers then worked across the General, Masumi, and Midnight tracks, turning ideas into working projects.
The hackathon produced 47 projects from 42 teams across the General, Masumi, and Midnight tracks, supported by 8 mentors, with ₳6,500 distributed in prizes. All projects were publicly submitted through GitHub, and the top 10 teams received continued mentorship toward potential Project Catalyst proposals and priority access to the Draper × Cardano Accelerator Programme.

Project Background

IndiaCodeX was established to strengthen Cardano's presence within India's large and rapidly growing developer ecosystem.

The previous IndiaCodeX initiative demonstrated that developer communities, universities, DAOs, companies, and Cardano ecosystem organisations could be brought together through a combination of workshops, hackathons, mentorship, and open-source development.

List of Project KPI's and how we addressed them

1. Build Cardano Awareness & Skills

Engaged developers through 3 technical workshops and the two-day event, with 476 Day 1 registrations and 167 attendees.

2. Enable Hands-on Development

271 developers built across the General, Masumi, and Midnight tracks, resulting in 47 projects from 42 teams.

3. Strengthen Mentorship & Collaboration

Provided support from 8 technical mentors and connected developers with Cardano organisations, 12 DAOs, companies, and educational institutions.

4. Create a Long-term Project Pipeline

Projects were published on GitHub, with the top 10 teams offered continued mentorship toward Catalyst proposals and priority access to the Draper × Cardano Accelerator Programme.

List of Challenge KPIs and How the Project Addressed Them

Challenge: Cardano Open: Ecosystem

IndiaCodex'26 advanced the Cardano ecosystem in India through developer education, hands-on development, mentorship, ecosystem collaboration, and open-source project creation.

KPI 1: Increase developer engagement with Cardano tools and infrastructure

IndiaCodex'26 delivered three technical workshops covering wallet connectivity, transaction building, smart contracts, vesting contracts, and NFT marketplace development. The main hackathon engaged 271 developers, resulting in 47 projects from 42 teams across three technical tracks.

KPI 2: Increase awareness of Cardano and attract new community members

The programme engaged developers, students, and technology professionals through workshops, the inaugural event, community outreach, and the main hackathon. Day 1 recorded 476 registrations and 167 attendees, while Day 2 recorded 515 approved registrations and 271 developer check-ins, exceeding the 250-person target by 8.4%.

KPI 3: Enable partnerships and collaboration across DAOs and ecosystem entities

IndiaCodex'26 connected Cardano organisations, DAOs, educational institutions, companies, and technical communities. Eight mentors from Nucast, Masumi, Midnight, SyncAI, Trivolve Tech, PerpX, and Ascend Markets provided technical support. Partnerships with Hyderabad DAO, DraperU India, and EThames Business School supported outreach, venues, and ecosystem engagement.

KPI 4: Encourage open-source contributions within the Cardano ecosystem

All 47 projects submitted by 42 teams were made publicly available through the IndiaCodex GitHub organisation, enabling continued development, reuse, and collaboration within the wider Cardano ecosystem beyond the hackathon.

Key Achievements

IndiaCodex'26 achieved several important outcomes.

1. Developer Participation Exceeded the Main Attendance Target

271 developers checked in for the main hackathon against a milestone target of 250.

2. Strong Project Output

42 teams produced 47 projects across three technical tracks.

3. Multi-Ecosystem Collaboration

The event brought together organisations working across Cardano, AI agents, privacy, DeFi, developer tooling and community infrastructure.

4. Continued Developer Pipeline

The top 10 teams were offered additional mentorship and access to future funding and accelerator opportunities.

Beyond milestone scope

The top 10 teams have been offered continued mentorship toward ProjectCatalyst proposals under the 20M ADA fund, together with priority access to the Cardano X Draper U Programme.

Key Learnings

1. The Main Build Day Drives Stronger Developer Participation

The higher Day 2 turnout reinforces the previous Codex experience that developers are particularly motivated by hands-on building opportunities.

2. Technical Onboarding Reduces the Barrier to Entry

Pre-event workshops allowed participants to gain practical familiarity with Cardano development before arriving at the hackathon.

3. Mentorship Is Critical to Project Quality
Having mentors physically available across both floors of the hackathon venue made technical assistance accessible during the most important stage of project development.

4. Extended Development Time Improves Track Flexibility
The 10-day build phase enabled specialised tracks to operate on a different judging timeline without compromising the physical hackathon experience.

Future Development
The next phase of IndiaCodex should focus on converting event participation into long-term developer and project retention.
Recommended areas include:

1. Maintain a public repository of IndiaCodex projects and reusable development resources.
2. Develop stronger links between IndiaCodex projects and Project Catalyst.
3. Expand collaboration with universities, DAOs and technical communities across India.
4. Explore future South Asian expansion once the India programme has established a sustainable operating model.

Results
42 teams submitted 47 projects across the General, Masumi, and Midnight tracks; several teams entered more than one track with distinct projects. All submissions are public on GitHub at:
github.com/IndiaCodex/IndiaCodex-2026
https://github.com/IndiaCodex/IndiaCodex-2026/blob/main/SUBMISSIONS.md

Judging Room Visuals
Judging was conducted in two rounds by a 7-member panel, scoring on technical execution, originality, Cardano integration, and presentation:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nIsUCvTvqe0zcYNRsKcVnsYFyHFWHU8A/view?usp=drive_link

General Track & Community Choice projects judged on-site; winners announced at the awards ceremony on 12 July 2026.
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1WfAWrFP1nctWd1KjFQgCzK_cpRSVqxyy?usp=drive_link

Masumi and Midnight Tracks projects judged following the 10-day build phase by representatives from Midnight And Masumi Team; winners announced 23 July 2026.

Separate Communication Channels were established For Masumi And Midnight Track Participants with respective mentors via Whatsapp Groups:
Masumi Group: https://chat.whatsapp.com/G3tWPGLJSmu7nMNbEyKXWL
Midnight Group: https://chat.whatsapp.com/LX0BUjHYD9xLYDnYiJXJ6W

Our virtual workshops were hosted by Maulesh Nagar
Three virtual workshops delivered online ahead of the in-person event.
All three workshops are published publicly at https://www.indiacodex.com/
Workshop 1 — Wallet connection and simple transaction building
Workshop 2 — Smart contracts / vesting smart contracts
Workshop 3 — NFT marketplace project

Winners & Awards

IndiaCodex'26 distributed a total prize pool of:**₳6,500**
The prize pool was distributed across:

- General Track-**Ouro,Proof Pair,Foundry**
- Masumi Track-**Antidote,Sentinel,Argo Operators**
- Midnight Track-**Compass,Confidential Proof of Reserves,Medvault**
- Community Choice Award-**Forge**

Evidence
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1etoEKMBGQHuMUxqLK-XMo_LVwze_uQ5g2pNlouAbTOc/edit?usp=sharing

Conclusion

IndiaCodex'26 delivered a multi-stage Cardano developer programme combining education, hands-on development, mentorship, and project incubation. The programme attracted 271 developers, exceeding the 250-person target, and produced 47 projects from 42 teams across three tracks, supported by 8 mentors and 7 judges, with ₳6,500 in prizes.

The results demonstrate India's potential as a strategic Cardano developer market and the value of combining education, mentorship, development, and post-event support to drive lasting ecosystem contributions.

Key Highlights

1)Day 2 turnout of 271 developers exceeded the 250 milestone target.
2)Delivered as two days rather than one, at no additional budget.
3)47 projects built on Cardano across three technical tracks.
4)Partnerships with Hyderabad DAO, DraperU India, and EThames Business School.

Relevant Links

Closeout Video Link
https://youtu.be/qY9IZdTsaTY
India Codex Website Link
https://www.indiacodex.com/
Evidence folder
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1i1GV0LMq_jAzKprooXjqj8xMIhc1RIh2?usp=drive_link
Registration
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ee30BRqEtPPcZFkRDmmK56oiw5pi4B3-/view?usp=drive_link
Judging room
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/14DFgRKKNoIKMV7VAkKEkNyYCyc6uKf6J?usp=drive_link
Day-1 images
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1H2YEmB0iGDIVS_KhC2cbxTRxELq_eAwA?usp=drive_link
Day-2 images
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1E5bvqEPpFFfOz87OCjxC34TBTQgh00IM?usp=drive_link
IRL Mentorship Workshops
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/14rSCwfKUOuevIOfQ-pL3QwksOmbtqPz0?usp=drive_link
Virtual Workshops-Pre Event
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/19bdZI_juZ6Gn00pDZngfqOzj6Se02G4q?usp=drive_link