Business Requirements Document (BRD)

Project Title: Cost Estimation for Home Renovation and Construction

1. Project Overview:

Homeowners and contractors often face challenges in estimating the accurate costs of home renovations, interior design projects, and new constructions. These challenges often lead to miscalculations, budget overruns, and project delays. This project aims to develop a cost estimation solution that allows users to input project specifications and receive detailed, accurate estimates, including material costs, labour, and design variations.

2.Objectives:

The primary objective of this solution is to:

- Provide an easy-to-use platform where users (homeowners and contractors) can input project details and get an accurate cost estimate.
- Help users better plan their budgets and timelines by providing detailed breakdowns of costs such as materials, labour, and design variations.
- Reduce manual errors in cost calculations that lead to budget overruns and delays.
- Enhance the user experience with features like multiple design options and realtime cost comparisons.

3. Stakeholders:

- **Homeowners:** Homeowners are the primary users of the solution, utilizing it to estimate renovation or construction costs for their homes. They input project specifications, review cost breakdowns, and use the platform to plan budgets and timelines effectively, reducing errors and overspending.
- **Contractors:** Contractors use the platform to generate accurate estimates for their clients and manage multiple projects. The system helps them provide detailed quotes, compare material and labour costs, and ensure that projects stay within budget and on schedule.
- Interior Designers: Interior designers use the platform to explore different design variations, calculate associated costs, and provide clients with detailed, aesthetically driven project plans. The system helps them adjust designs based on budget constraints and client preferences.

3. Functional Requirements:

- **FR-1:** The platform should have a user-friendly interface to input all relevant project details.
- **FR-2:** The platform should include a cost estimation engine that uses predefined formulas and real-time data for calculations.
- **FR-3:** The platform should support different types of projects new constructions, interior design projects and for both also.
- **FR-4:** The platform should provide an itemized breakdown of costs for materials, labour, and other expenses.
- **FR-5:** The platform should support integration with third-party services (e.g., material price databases or labour market rates) for real-time pricing data.
- **FR-6:** The platform should allow for the generation of PDF reports or downloadable summaries for users.

4. Non-Functional Requirements:

- **NFR-1:** The system should handle multiple users simultaneously without performance degradation.
- **NFR-2:** The system should provide accurate, real-time cost data with less than a 5% margin of error.
- **NFR-3:** The system should be secure, with strong authentication and data encryption for user information.
- NFR-4: The system should be accessible on both desktop and mobile devices.

5.Project Architecture

Your project follows a **three-tier architecture** with a microservices approach. The primary components are the **Presentation Layer (Frontend)**, **Business Logic Layer (Backend)**, and **Data Layer (Database)**. The system will communicate asynchronously using **Kafka**, and microservices will be registered via **Eureka servers** for service discovery and load balancing.

5.1 Presentation Layer (Frontend)

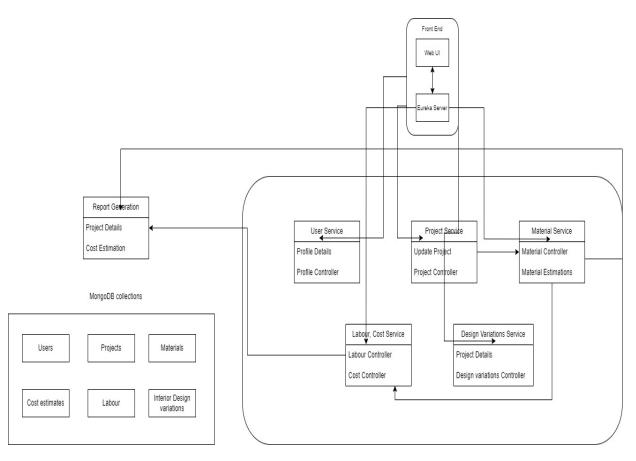
- **Framework**: React with TypeScript
- State Management: Redux
- **Libraries**: Material-UI or Bootstrap for UI components
- Communication: RESTful APIs via HTTP to interact with backend services
- o This layer will handle user interaction for contractors, homeowners, and designers, allowing them to manage projects, access cost estimates, input project data, and view real-time information.

5.2 Business Logic Layer (Backend)

- **Framework**: Node.js with TypeScript (strictly)
- **Microservices Architecture**: Each microservice handles a distinct business function such as:
 - Cost Estimation Service: Calculates project costs based on materials and labour
 - Project Management Service: Manages the lifecycle of projects (start, in-progress, completed)
 - Notification Service: Sends project updates, notifications, or alerts via Kafka
- Eureka Server: For service discovery and load balancing of microservices
- **Communication**: Kafka for inter-service communication and event-driven updates. RESTful APIs for client-facing communication.

5.3 Data Layer (Database)

- **Database**: MongoDB (Non-relational, scalable) to store:
 - User Information: Profiles of homeowners, contractors, and designers
 - **Project Data**: Details of ongoing and completed projects
 - o Material and Labour Prices: Data for real-time cost estimation
 - **Estimation History**: Records of previous project estimations
- **Caching**: Optional Redis or in-memory database for faster data retrieval (e.g., frequently requested estimates).



6. Database Schema Overview

User Table

- **Key:** user_id
- Relationships:
 - o One-to-Many with the Project Table (a user can have multiple projects).

Project Table

- **Key:** project_id
- **Ref**: user id (references User Table)
- Relationships:
 - One-to-Many with the Cost Estimate Table (a project can have multiple cost estimates).
 - One-to-Many with the Design Variation Table (a project can have multiple design variations).

Material Table

- Key: material_id
- Relationships:
 - One-to-Many with the Cost Estimate Table (each estimate can include multiple materials).
 - Many-to-One with the Supplier Table (materials are provided by suppliers).

Labour Table

- **Key:** labour id
- Relationships:
 - One-to-Many with the Cost Estimate Table (each estimate can include multiple labour costs).

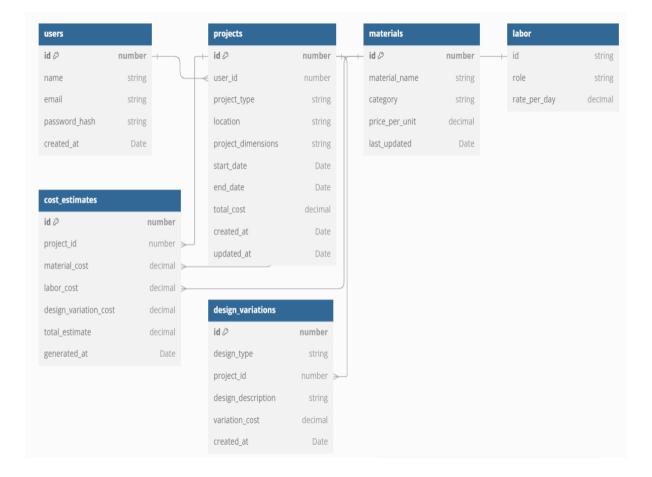
• Cost Estimate Table

- **Key:** estimate_id
- **Ref**: project_id (references Project Table)
- Relationships:
 - Many-to-One with both Material and Labour Tables.

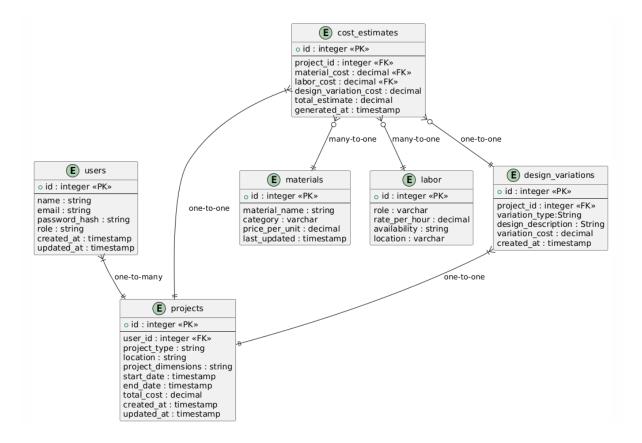
• Design Variation Table

- **Key:** design_id
- **Ref**: project_id (references Project Table)

Schema Diagram:



UML Diagram:



7.Workflow

1. User Actions:

○ Register/Login → Create Project → Input Project Details → View Estimate →
Compare Estimates (optional) → Generate Report

2. Backend Processing:

 Input Validation → Data Aggregation (External APIs) → Cost Calculation (Estimation Engine) → Store Estimate in Database → Report Generation

3. System Notifications:

 Send notifications about changes in project estimates due to material or labour price updates.