EGerton University



proposal document

for

Title: Home application system

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# ABSTRACT/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The proposal must begin with a summary of the proposed activity, not to exceed one page in length.

This summary should provide an overview of the work to be undertaken and the significance of the work. It should include a statement of the objectives of the research and the general approaches to be employed. As with all parts of the proposal, the summary should be written in the third person.

The summary should provide the reader with a clear idea of the overall intellectual merit of the proposed work and the broader impacts of the work on the field and/or on society in general.

It should be written as the last event. i.e. after the whole proposal is completed. That's why it is called summary.

# CHAPTER 1

# INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 BACKGROUND

Employers take a lot of time when looking for workers suited to do the type of work they want. Employees on the other hand tarmac when looking for work so as to fend for themselves and their families. As it has been the norm in Kenya, most workers are gotten from the rural regions and most times they are inexperienced. Cases have arisen whereby the workers being hired have caused domestic issues in homes .For instances, there was an instance where a house help beat the employers kid because she had vomited, the house help even stepped on the child who was approximately only two years old this was caught on camera and spread via social media. Another scenario happened whereby a house help kidnapped the child of the employer, ran away with him and was even asking a ransom of a large amount of money so that she could return the kid. There has also been a case where a house help murdered twin boys in Eastleigh also sodomy for young boys raised by house helps. There have also been cases where these workers are often abused and harassed by their employers. Young men and women have been known to apply for jobs in Saudi Arabia and other Middle East countries only to go there and be killed or mistreated. Most never get paid, others are sexually harassed, others are jailed since they got in to the country illegally and some end up dead never to see their families again. *For instance one was stabbed with a knife, another doused in boiling water, another raped and jailed* (Barker,2014).

The genesis of the problem came from my childhood days when my mother struggled to get a reliable house help to help with the chores in the house. She had to wait until a house help was found in our rural area or from a friend’s home. Not all the house helps were equipped in house work. Some did not know how to cook or wash clothes and also there was the issue of language barrier most of them were fluent in mother tongue. Some of them stole stuff from our house and ran away. Another time she needed a plumber but she couldn’t find any. So a young man came knocking at our door in search for a job and my mother was willing to give him the job only to be disappointed he had actually done more damage to the sink piping system. My mother had to look for another plumber. Many workers have also been hired and abused for instance workers employed in the Middle East have always had cases whereby they are promised well paying jobs and when they go there they are put to slavery, raped or even killed.

This will be a tool that will assist house helps, gardeners, nannies, plumbers and home based to get access to prospective employers easily. Prospective employers can at least investigate employees work history and know them before actual employment.

## 1.2 OVERVIEW AND LITERATURE REVIEW

Case Study 1: Timesaverz

Timesaverz was founded by Deb(Co-founder and CEO) and Lovnish(Co-founder and COO).Timesaverz connects consumers with trained, verified and background-checked service providers in their locality. From cleaning, handy man jobs, car spa, pest control , repairs and painting.

Timesaverz is an app developed in India. It has an android version of the app and a web app one can book the services from this platforms. Timesaverz and home application system provide similar services like cleaning and laundry services and they both have platforms to give feedback. Timesaverz however does not cater for home based care givers, house helps and nannies.

Case study 2: Domestly

The cleaning industry is one of the biggest in South Africa with millions of people making a living from cleaning homes and offices. Historically however the industry has had very little to do with helping cleaners take charge of their lives and futures, and for many cleaning has become a way to support their families if they are unable to find other employment (Radingwana, 2015). Domestly is for busy people who cannot find time to do chores.

The Domestly app gives consumers the freedom to choose a professional home cleaner based on her experience and recent reviews, and enables cleaners to confirm job requests and track their work schedules at the click of a button. Those without smartphones, can access the same functionality via a mobile site tailored for feature phones (Radingwana,2015).

Both Domestly and Home application system help users to get cleaning services and both have a mobile platform. Home goes further than Domestly by catering for other services such as plumbing, gardening and house helps.

### Case Study 4: Taskbob

Taskbob was founded by alumni of IIT Bombay and IIM Ahmedabad. Taskbob is an app developed in Mumbai, India and it provides professional drivers, electricians, plumbers, carpenters, maids on demand along with home cleaning, ac repair, car spa & at-home beauty services. One can be able to book multiple services at once from the app and scheduling each one as per the customer’s convenience. The client books a day and time of their own convenience and the worker then shows up at the house of the client. A client can also pay in form of cash or through electronic means. Taskbob was unfortunately shut down on January 2017.

Taskbob and Home application system provide an opportunity to a client to hire services from a wide range of service workers. Taskbob doesn’t contain a platform for the workers to air their grievances in case harassed by the clients.

## 1.3 Problem Statement

Most people aim for working in the corporate arena and thus leaving a big opportunity for domestic workers to find jobs. The problem with domestic work is that they tarmac looking for work unlike corporate businesses which are advertised through various platforms. Most of the people working in corporate world require help from domestic workers examples nannies, plumbers, house helps and gardeners since most of them work from 8am to 5pm or have night shifts or are unavailable for months. The problem is there is not a good platform where domestic workers can find work and prospective employers can find domestic workers.

The Home application System will provide a platform where employers can get easy access to domestic workers and mostly trusted workers because background information of domestic workers is required. The domestic workers can also get access to jobs. It will cater for domestic workers rights in that in case of abuse they can post on the system. The system will narrow the gap between prospective employers and domestic workers.

## 1.4 Justification

The project is being done to mainly find out a way to assist prospective employers to hire qualified domestic workers and also put up a platform where this group of people is able to air out their grievances. This group of people is normally scared of losing their jobs if they air out if they are harassed or sexually abused and hence might continue being in the same kind of torture for a long time. Employers will be able to rate and review their employees and hence other prospective employers will be able to pick the best.

## 1.5 Objectives

The general objective of this tool is to enable employers to seek and employ qualified domestic workers.

Specific objectives

1. To provide a platform where employers know the background information of their prospective employees.
2. To be able to give feedback.

# CHAPTER TWO

## 2.1 Proposed solution

Next, the solution to the need (or problem) is to be evaluated. How well does it meet the need? Who are the competitors, and how will the new product fit into the market window?

## 2.2 Methodology

In my application I will use agile methodology. Agile development provides opportunities to assess the direction throughout the development lifecycle. This is achieved through regular rhythms of work, known as iterations, at the end of which teams must present a potentially shippable product increment. The phases are as follows:

### Phase 1: Iteration/Concept phase

This involves the inception of the idea. Either idea can be academically or business oriented. During the Concept Phase you will want to do just enough feasibility analysis to determine if it makes sense to work on the project. One might chose to work on it or give a time limit or even chose not to work on the project. Home application came as an idea due to the experiences I faced when growing up and also the fact that casual laborers do a lot of work when looking for jobs.

### Phase 2: Inception/Warm-up phase

The goal of this phase is to initiate project by, starting to build the system. This phase also require one to model the initial architecture of the system, a sketch of the model of the project is worked on which acts as an initial model and can be developed later. In this phase also the developer need to set environment and gather all development requirements together

### Phase 3: Construction phase

During construction iterations agilities incrementally deliver high-quality working software which meets the changing needs of the users. This is achieved by, developers working closely with users, analyzing and designing, ensuring quality, regularly delivering working solutions and testing. The developer can get information using interviews such as for employees they require work experience.

### Phase 4: Transition phase

During Transition, also known as the "end game" or deployment, developer release the solution into production. Several aspects in this phase are: - Final testing of the system. Final system and acceptance testing should be performed at this point, this is where the developer has to rerun the regression test to see that it works, reworking on the defects the developer will discover. Other things that are done in this stage are finalization of the user system and the document training the users and deployment of the system.

### Phase 5: Production phase

The goal of the Production Phase is to keep systems useful and productive after they have been deployed to the user community. It is crucial as it is at this point that the developer keep the system running and help users to use it. This phase ends when the release of a system has been slated for retirement or when support for that release has ended.

### Phase 6: Retirement phase

The goal of the Retirement Phase is the removal of a system release from production, and occasionally even the complete system itself, an activity also known as system decommissioning or system sun setting. Retirement of systems is a serious issue faced by many organizations today as legacy systems are removed and replaced by new systems.

## 2.3 Project Scope

The system will only focus on some of the domestic workers not all of them such as chauffeur, footman, governess, personal trainer etc.

## 2.4 Resources

Hardware resources required are laptop, safaricom modem, flash disk and android phone.

Software required is android studio.

# CHAPTER THREE

## 3.1 Preliminary Results and Evaluation

The Home Application System is expected to provide good user output example when employee checks for available employers the output should be as the employee put it. How to achieve this is by continuously testing the user input to output using dummy data.

The system is supposed to inform the employee who has booked them. This is achieved by continuously testing the user interface input and output using dummy data .

# CHAPTER FOUR

## 4.1 Challenges obstacles and risks

Time: The time required for the entire project to be finished is limited.

This may be due to client requesting changes in the system after it is already implemented and also coding errors may take a lot of time to debug.

Funding: The funding required to complete the entire project is limited.

Minimum requirements of computer to complete the task: This may be due to CPU overworking. The android studio emulator makes the computer hang due to the RAM size it works better on computers with a RAM of 8GB and above.

How to fix this problem is by ensuring that the project has a back up.

Computer virus: This may be due to use of flashes that have viruses

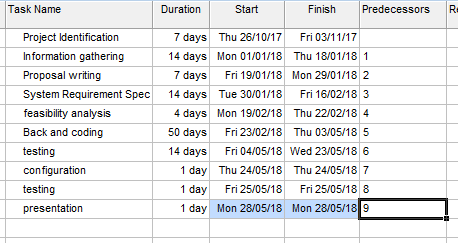
How to fix this problem is by ensuring my computer has an updated antivirus.

Coding errors: Solution is to ensure that the application is debug well.

# CHAPTER FIVE

# SCHEDULE AND BUDGET

## 5.1 Schedule



## 5.2 Budget

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Laptop | Kshs 40,000 |
| Android Phone | Kshs 25000 |
| USB cable | Kshs 200 |
| Safaricom Modem | Kshs 2000 |
| 8GB flash disk | Kshs 2000 |
| Printing cost for all documents | Kshs 2000 |
| Total | Kshs 72200 |

# CHAPTER SIX

## 6.1 Conclusions and Future work

The solution to how to the application will enable prospective employers to employ qualified individuals will be due to the availability of background information thus the employers can contact the previous employer to know if the worker is qualified.

The solution of proving feedback is by ensuring the system will give different user interfaces to worker and prospective employer and both interfaces should be interactive.

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