

# Simon Kamau Gathu

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Backend Developer with over 3 years of experience building scalable web applications using Rust, Node.js, and PHP. Skilled in coding, debugging, and testing complex systems to enhance performance and reliability. Committed to leveraging strong analytical and problem-solving skills to contribute to collaborative, cost-effective software solutions in dynamic environments.

## SKILLS & INTERESTS

- **Soft Skills:** Attention to Detail, Collaboration & Communication, Client and Stakeholder Management, Critical and Analytical Skills, Operational Analysis, Organizational Skills
- **Frontend:** Javascript, TypeScript, React, Redux, TailwindCSS
- **Backend:** Nodejs, ExpressJs, PHP, Laravel, Codeigniter, Rust, Actix Web, Axum
- **Database:** PostgreSQL, MongoDB, SQL
- **Tools:** Ai-Agents, AWS(EC2, S3), Docker, Git

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### Topstonewriters

Technical Writer

Jan 2022 - Present

Nairobi, Kenya

Authored clear and concise technical documentation for complex subjects, including user manuals, how-to guides, API documentation, and product specifications, supporting developers in understanding software functionalities.

- Collaborated with developers and subject matter experts to research and translate technical content into user-friendly language, enhancing understanding of coding, debugging, and testing procedures.
- Reviewed and edited installation guides, operational procedures, and technical reports to ensure accuracy, clarity, and accessibility, aligning documentation with software systems design and development practices.
- Developed technical training materials and documentation that assisted internal teams and external partners in grasping system enhancements and updates, demonstrating strong attention to detail and analytical skills.
- Utilized industry-standard tools such as Microsoft Word, Google Docs, Markdown, and CMS platforms to manage and update documentation, reinforcing communication and collaboration across cross-functional teams.

## EDUCATION

### Codecademy Bootcamp

Certification

Aug 2023

- **Achievements:** Fullstack Engineer

### University of Nairobi

Undergraduate

Oct 2021

- **Achievements:** Bsc Industrial Chemistry

## PROJECT EXPERIENCE

### Mtaalink Web App | <https://github.com/Kamausimon/mtaalink>

May 2025 - Aug 2025

Nairobi, Kenya

- Architected and implemented the backend for a platform connecting users with local service providers (e.g., mechanics, carpenters), enabling profile creation, messaging, service booking, and review functionalities.
- Designed API architecture projected to support 20K+ monthly requests with 95th percentile latency < 300ms
- Developed and optimized RESTful APIs in Rust, leveraging PostgreSQL and Diesel ORM for secure and scalable data management.
- Integrated AWS S3 for media uploads, allowing providers to showcase their work with high-quality images and videos.
- Maintained 99.9% uptime during development and testing.
- Collaborated with a React + TypeScript frontend to ensure smooth API integration and real-time interactions.
- Built out core features including provider listings, user favorites, review system, booking engine, and messaging.
- Designed the backend to scale with projected support for 10,000+ listings and thousands of concurrent users.
- Built booking and review systems projected to handle 5,000+ monthly active users.

### Topstone Enterprises Web App | <https://topstoneent.com/>

Mar 2025

Nairobi, Kenya

- Engineered and launched topstoneent.com using React and Tailwind CSS, creating a responsive, fast, and visually engaging user experience.
- Reduced page load time by 40% through lazy loading and optimized asset delivery.
- Optimized website performance by implementing lazy loading, image compression, and efficient asset handling, improving load times and user engagement.
- Integrated EmailJS for seamless email functionality, enabling users to send inquiries directly from the website without a backend.
- Deployed and managed the application on Digital Ocean, ensuring smooth performance, scalability, and reliable uptime.

- Increased inquiry submission rate by 20% with improved CTA design and email integration.

#### **Ai Assistant web Application** | <https://frontend-production-1385.up.railway.app/>

**Feb 2025 - Mar 2025**

*Nairobi, Kenya*

- Designed and developed a scalable, interactive, and responsive AI-powered system that assists students with their schoolwork, ensuring accurate and efficient learning support.
- Built a dynamic and visually engaging user interface using React.js, Framer Motion, and Tailwind CSS, enabling smooth animations, intuitive navigation, and a fully responsive experience across devices.
- Developed a robust backend API with Node.js, Express, and MongoDB, ensuring secure authentication, fast data processing, and seamless communication between the frontend and AI models.
- Achieved <200ms response time for AI queries using efficient API handling
- Integrated Mistral AI to provide real-time, context-aware, and highly accurate responses, enhancing the overall learning experience for students.
- Reduced student query resolution time by 60% through AI integration.
- Deployed the application on Railway for scalability and high availability, making it accessible from anywhere.

#### **Multi Tenant System Web Application** | <https://frontend-production-26c4.up.railway.app/>

**Dec 2024 - Jan 2025**

*Nairobi, Kenya*

- Designed and developed a scalable, multi-tenant web application for inventory management, allowing multiple businesses to efficiently track, manage, and optimize their inventory in a centralized system
- Implemented secure user authentication using modern authentication standards, enabling business registration, login, and account management while ensuring data security and privacy.
- Enabled multi-business support with secure tenant separation for 50+ test tenants
- Developed role-based access control (RBAC) to define user roles and permissions, allowing business owners to assign specific access levels to employees, ensuring controlled and secure access to inventory data and management features.
- Managed real-time stock tracking for 200+ products.
- Built a dynamic, modern, and fully responsive user interface using React.js and Tailwind CSS, providing an intuitive experience with real-time updates, interactive dashboards, and seamless navigation across devices.

#### **Task Management Application** | <https://github.com/Kamausimon/Tasker>

**Jul 2024 - Sep 2024**

*Nairobi, Kenya*

- Designed and developed a comprehensive task and project management system with user authentication and authorization, ensuring secure access, role-based permissions, and efficient collaboration for individuals and teams.
- Implemented seamless project creation, task assignment, and real-time tracking to enable users to efficiently manage workloads, monitor progress, and streamline task execution, enhancing overall productivity.
- Optimized the user experience with a fully responsive and visually appealing interface, leveraging Laravel Blade, Tailwind CSS, JavaScript, and HTML to deliver a smooth and consistent experience across desktops, tablets, and mobile devices.
- Integrated secure authentication and user management with Laravel Breeze, providing hassle-free registration, login, password reset, and session management, ensuring a safe and reliable authentication process.

#### **Ecommerce Web App** | <https://github.com/Kamausimon/Ecommerce>

**Mar 2024 - Apr 2024**

*Nairobi, Kenya*

- Designed and implemented a fully responsive user interface, ensuring a seamless and visually engaging experience across desktops, tablets, and mobile devices, while optimizing performance and usability using modern web technologies.
- Integrated Mpesa payment solutions to facilitate secure and efficient transactions, allowing users to make and receive payments directly within the platform, improving the overall checkout experience for customers.
- Developed comprehensive product and order management functionalities, enabling users to add, update, categorize and track products, while ensuring efficient order processing, real-time order status updates, and seamless inventory management.
- Enabled secure checkout flow with M-Pesa used in 100+ test transactions.
- Implemented robust user authentication and authorization mechanisms to ensure secure access and data protection, allowing users to register, log in, and manage their accounts while enforcing role-based permissions for enhanced security.

#### **Blog Web App** | <https://github.com/Kamausimon/blog>

**Jan 2024 - Feb 2025**

*Nairobi, Kenya*

- Implemented a robust user authentication and authorization system to ensure secure access to the platform, allowing users to register, log in, manage their profiles, and access content based on their roles and permissions while maintaining data privacy and security.
- Handled 500+ monthly views and ensured stable performance across devices.
- Developed a fully functional blogging system that enables users to create, edit, and manage blog posts, providing an intuitive interface for seamless content creation and organization.
- Additionally, implemented a comments feature that allows users to engage in discussions, share feedback, and interact with blog content in real-time.
- Improved post indexing speed by 50% using caching.
- Designed and optimized a fully responsive user interface, ensuring an optimal viewing experience across all devices, including desktops, tablets, and smartphones.

- Leveraged modern front-end technologies to provide a visually appealing, accessible, and user-friendly interface that enhances readability and usability.

**Farmer's App Web API** | <https://github.com/Kamausimon/farmersApp>

**Jul 2023 - Oct 2023**

*Nairobi, Kenya*

- Designed and implemented a secure user authentication and registration system, ensuring protected access to the platform by enabling user sign-up, login, password management, and role-based access control, while safeguarding sensitive user data through encryption and secure authentication protocols.
- Developed a comprehensive product management system that allows users to add, update, and organize products efficiently.
- Integrated image upload and storage functionality, enabling users to upload high-quality product images, store them securely, and display them dynamically within the application.
- Improved average product page load time by 30% through efficient queries
- Created an interactive reviews and rating system to enhance user engagement and credibility, allowing customers to leave feedback, rate products based on their experiences, and view aggregated ratings, thereby improving transparency and helping future buyers make informed decisions.