

Zachary Gakuo

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A full-stack web developer with work experience in EdTech and Fintech. I am detail oriented, love a good plan and have exhibited the ability to contribute to all stages of product development.

Technical Skills

- **Programming Languages**
Python, JavaScript, Typescript, Kotlin, Java
- **Web Dev Frameworks, libraries, and platforms**
Next.js, React, Django, Quarkus, Supabase
- **Databasing, Caching & Storage**
PostgreSQL, AWS S3, ElastiCache (Redis), MySQL
- **Versioning, Containerization and CI/CD**
Git, Docker, Kubernetes, Terraform, ELK, AWS, GitHub workflows.
- **Application security**
OAuth 2.0, Auth0, Keycloak
- **Machine Learning**
TensorFlow, Scikit-learn.
- **System Analysis & Design**
User Stories, Market Research, Feasibility Studies, Requirements Specification, UML Diagrams
- **Project Management**
Lean and Agile SDLCs

Certifications

- **The Git & GitHub Bootcamp**, Udemy, May 2023.

Education

BSc. Computer Science, **2015 - 2019**
Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology.

Work Experience

July 2023 – Current

Full Stack Software Developer | Fin Africa

In this role I built, maintained and expanded microservices within Fin's multi-tenant ecosystem.

Key projects:

- **Back Office** – Main backend developer handling bug fixes, feature addition and database migrations for Fin's loan origination platform built on Django.
- **Partner Portal** – Played a key role in the development and launch of this application that allows Fin's diverse partners to help clients access credit and track their commissions.
- **Fin Pay web app** – Sole contributor to this progressive web app that leverages Fin mobile payments. Embedded within partner platforms, it provides their users with access to mobile wallets.
- **USSD Service** – A multi-tenant USSD micro-service built using Kotlin-Quarkus driven by JSON to allow for dynamic menu configurations.

January 2023 – June 2023

Junior Software Developer | Fin Africa

As a junior developer, I collaborated in building both large and smaller web apps to meet business needs.

Key projects:

- **Fin Connect**: Contributor within the integrations team for Fin's new SaaS platform implementing both SOAP and REST integrations with financial service providers.
- **Referral Service**: Main contributor to an app for creating and managing marketing campaigns and promotions for Fin Kenya using Quarkus and Next.js.
- **Migration to GitHub**: Collaborated with DevOps in our CI/CD changeover to GitHub actions and handled issues arising.

Soft Skills

- Leadership
- Collaboration
- Critical analysis
- Excellent communication skills
- Adaptability
- Multilingual

English, Swahili, French

Referees:

Available upon request.

June 2022 – December 2022

Software Engineering Intern | Fin Kenya

- Branch facilitation tool: An internal web application built using React.js and Django to facilitate planning and fund disbursement for sales efforts across Fin's branches in Kenya.
- Played a key role in Fin's migration from Azure to AWS, including database migration and switching applications from Azure to AWS S3 storage utilization.
- Assisted in system migrations to Microsoft Intune platform and a new Outlook domain.

Aug 2020 – July 2021

Product Development Fellow | Impact Africa Network (IAN)

In this role I worked on bringing EdTech solutions to market.

- Software Engineering Professional Accelerator (SEPA): I played a pivotal role in the design and launch of this online learning program for budding developers in close partnership with the CEO, doctorate academic team and leading tech entrepreneurs.
- Frontier Learning: an online learning platform built for K-12 students during the pandemic.

September 2018 -November 2018

IT Intern | Nuclear Power and Energy Agency (NuPEA)

Performed network Administration, Device maintenance, User Support, Website maintenance as part of the IT department.