

# STEPHEN GIFT MUKOYA ARAKA

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## CAREER SUMMARY

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Software engineer with five years of extensive experience in designing, creating, and maintaining software products to enhance business operations. Contributed as a front-end engineer in building a cloud-native tool that reduced bandwidth usage for locally based African developers by over 40% during application deployments. Passionate about driving innovation and continuously honing my skills to stay ahead of industry advancements. Seeking opportunities to apply and expand my expertise in software engineering and DevOps while helping companies achieve their business objectives.

## EDUCATION

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### Carnegie Mellon University – Africa, Rwanda

Aug 2020 – Dec 2022

Master of Science in Information Technology

CGPA 3.35

Department of Information and Communication Technology

### Makerere University – Uganda

Aug 2016 – May 2019

Bachelor of Science Computer Science

CGPA 3.92

College of Computing and Information Science

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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### Full stack Software Engineer – Contract

Jul 2022 – Dec 2024

atlasGO – San Francisco, U.S | teroGO – Belgium

- Orchestrated the end-to-end development of atlasGO's / teroGO's well-being mobile application, utilising React Native for the frontend and Node.js for the backend. Demonstrated proficiency in creating seamless user experiences and ensuring optimal performance on both iOS and Android platforms.
- Notably, spearheaded remote collaboration with a diverse team spread across different parts of the world.

### Frontend Engineer – Full time

Jul 2022 – Sep 2023

Jumia – Kenya

- Recruited as part of the pioneer tech team of Jumia in Kenya.
- Spearheaded the development of responsive and visually appealing user interfaces for Jumia's e-commerce platform – particularly the vendor platform called Jumia Vendor Center, leveraging expertise in Angular and JavaScript (ES6). Played a key role in enhancing the overall user experience and interface design and migrating users from a legacy version of this system.
- Collaborated closely with cross-functional teams, including product managers, quality assurance technicians and backend developers, to translate design specifications into functional and high-performing frontend components. Contributed innovative solutions to optimise the platform's frontend architecture.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant – Software Architecture and Design**

Jan 2022 – May 2022

Carnegie Mellon University, Africa – Rwanda

- Currently coordinating a class of 14 students to develop skills in designing, developing, and justifying reasonable software architecture for enterprise-scale software-intensive systems, considering both functional and non-functional requirements as well as contextual system environments.
- Organising recitations, assignments, and discussions to accord students a smooth transition in Software Architecture and Design.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant – First Year Seminar**

Aug 2021 – Dec 2021

Carnegie Mellon University, Africa – Rwanda

- Assisted a class of 48 students in developing students' career skills and broadening professional horizons through exposure to a wide-ranging set of issues in ICT.

**DevOps Engineer – Intern**

Jun 2021 – Sep 2021

Crane Cloud – Uganda

- Analysed current containerization processes used by Crane Cloud users.
- Researched on containerization best practices drawn from industry.
- Implemented and tested initial version of a Docker containerization pipeline for over 200 users – [link to github repo](#).

**Software Engineer**

Apr 2019 – Dec 2020

Crane Cloud – Uganda

- Designed and implemented [cranecloud.io](#), an open source web platform used to manage Infrastructure-as-a Service on premise and multiple public clouds while working specifically as a leading front-end engineer.
- Optimised product for a fitting user experience and launched [cranecloud.io](#) through a webinar to accelerate adoption of cloud native solutions in Uganda and Africa at large.

**Software Developer**

Nov 2019 – Jan 2020

REF. Sports Limited – Uganda

- Cemented company's online presence through designing and building an e-commerce website.

**Software Developer**

Jan 2019 – Mar 2019

Line23 – Uganda

- Executed the implementation of a mobile application to aid team collaboration.

**Developer Consultant – Intern**

Jun 2018 – Sep 2018

Flock of Birds – Uganda

- Developed widgets for Mendix, a low-code software platform to build, test, deploy and iterate applications, by working with fellow interns.
- Gained hands-on experience in software development and consultancy through engaging and helping customers with questions about company products and services.
- Selected among 8 interns and retained to work as permanent staff.

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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**Frontend:** React, Next.js, JavaScript (ES6), TypeScript, Bootstrap, HTML, CSS, Sass, UI Design (Figma).

**Backend:** Node.js, Express.js, Web Sockets (socket.io), MySQL, MongoDB, PostgreSQL.

**Mobile:** React Native, Expo.

**DevOps:** Docker, Heroku, CI/CD (CircleCI, Jenkins), Cloud Computing (AWS, GCP, Azure, IBM Cloud), Kubernetes, Terraform, Helm, Ansible, Vagrant.

**Project Management & Collaboration:** Version Control (Git), Jira, Trello, Pivotal Tracker, Agile Software Development (Scrum & Kanban).

## PROJECTS

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- Estimation of carbon emission reduction from forestry and farming for carbon credits trading (React Native, Node.js) **[Jan 2022 - School Project]**
- Online pet shop and veterinary service (React, Node.js, MongoDB) – [link to website](#) **[Dec 2021 - Hobby Project]**.
- COAST - End-to-end AI and data systems for targeted surveillance and management of COVID-19 and future pandemics affecting Uganda (HTML, CSS) – [link to website](#) **[Dec 2021 - Hobby Project]**
- High performance Twitter Analytics Web Service on the cloud (Terraform, Kubernetes, Helm, AWS, GCP, Azure, Microservices) **[Sep 2021 – Dec 2021 - School Project]**

## HONOURS AND AWARDS

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- Recognized for volunteering as a Mastercard Foundation facilitator for a bootcamp to teach programming basics to students using Python (2021).
- Recipient of a full scholarship from the Mastercard Foundation for the master's program at Carnegie Mellon University Africa (2020).
- Recognized for volunteering as an organiser for the Bright Summer School at Makerere University to enhance ICT Training and Research in Uganda (2017).