

# 1 — High level technical architecture (overview)

**Goal:** A mobile-first React Native app with an Express/Node.js API, mobile offline-first logging & cloud sync, user profiles/goals/social features, a natural-language chatbot, and analytics.

## Primary components

- **React Native app (mobile):** UX, offline persistence, habit logging, chatbot UI, motivation hub, social sharing, onboarding quiz. (4 frontend components divided among 4 members)
- **Backend API (Express/Node.js):** auth, business rules, data validation, sync endpoints, chatbot orchestration, notifications, shareable image/card generation.
- **Database:** Primary relational DB (Postgres) for core data; Redis for caching/session/locks; S3 (or compatible object store) for photos and generated share cards.
- **Background workers / async services:** queue (BullMQ with Redis) for heavy tasks: image rendering, notification scheduling, badge computation, chatbot model calls.
- **Third-party services:** Push notifications (FCM/APNS via a push service), email, SMS provider (optional), external ML/LLM for chatbot (if any), analytics (Mixpanel/Amplitude), and Sentry for errors.
- **CI/CD:** GitHub Actions for tests and deploys; staging & production environments; mobile builds via EAS (Expo) or Fastlane.
- **Hosting:** Backend containerized (Docker) on serverless or Kubernetes, or a managed container host (e.g., AWS ECS/EKS, DigitalOcean App Platform). Postgres managed (RDS / DigitalOcean Managed DB).

## Data flow (user habit logging example):

1. User adds habit in app → stored locally in SQLite/AsyncStorage.
2. App tries to send `/sync/habits` to backend; server validates & persists to Postgres.
3. Server enqueues badge recalculation + notification via Redis/Bull.
4. Worker updates user badges and sends push notification.

---

## 2 — Responsibilities & team split (5 members)

You said you'll do the full backend. The 4 frontend members each take a component:

1. **You (Backend — Full stack backend owner)**

- Build Express API, DB schemas, workers, authentication, sync logic, admin endpoints, deployments.
2. **Frontend Member A — Onboarding & Profile + Motivation Hub**
- Lifestyle quiz, baseline profile, profile editing, Motivation feed, weekly personalized suggestions. (Onboarding & motivation features).

KeyFeatures&UserFlow

3. **Frontend Member B — Daily Habit Tracking**
- Habit list, quick-add UI, voice-to-text integration, photo evidence upload, history & trending graphs, offline-first features, local persistence & sync.

KeyFeatures&UserFlow

4. **Frontend Member C — Chatbot**
- Chat UI, message history, NLU integrations, fallback flows for logging activities via conversation. Integrates with backend chatbot endpoints.

KeyFeatures&UserFlow

5. **Frontend Member D — Social, Goals & Sharing**
- Goals UI, badges & streaks, private leaderboards, progress reports, shareable card generator and share flows (social media).

KeyFeatures&UserFlow

---

## 3 — Database design (recommended Postgres schema)

Key design notes:

- Use normalized relational model for users, habits, goals. Store time-series habit logs with good indexes for time-range queries.
- Use UUIDs as primary keys (pgcrypto or uuid-ossf).
- Store photo metadata (S3 keys) not binary in DB.
- Soft deletes via `deleted_at` timestamps.
- Add partitioning for `habit_logs` by date if scale grows.

### Tables (core)

**users**

- id UUID PK
- email text UNIQUE
- phone text NULL
- password\_hash text (bcrypt)
- name text
- timezone text
- locale text
- avatar\_s3\_key text NULL
- onboarding\_completed boolean default false
- baseline\_profile jsonb (quiz result snapshot)
- created\_at, updated\_at

### **sessions / refresh\_tokens**

- id UUID PK
- user\_id FK -> users(id)
- refresh\_token\_hash text
- device\_info jsonb (os, device id)
- expires\_at, created\_at

### **habits (catalog / user-defined)**

- id UUID PK
- user\_id FK
- title text
- category text (enum: transport, food, energy, waste, consumption)
- unit text (km, kg, trips, meals, etc.)
- co2\_per\_unit numeric (kg)
- is\_default boolean (pre-set suggestions)
- meta jsonb (voice-suggestions, prompts)
- created\_at, updated\_at

### **habit\_logs**

- id UUID PK
- user\_id FK
- habit\_id FK
- quantity numeric
- co2\_kg numeric (computed)
- note text
- photo\_s3\_key text NULL
- logged\_at timestampz (when action happened)
- synced boolean default true (for server-side sync tracking)
- created\_at, updated\_at

Indexes: `CREATE INDEX ON habit_logs (user_id, logged_at);` and consider BRIN or partitioning by `logged_at`.

## goals

- `id` UUID PK
- `user_id` FK
- `target_co2_weekly` numeric
- `target_co2_monthly` numeric
- `start_date`, `end_date`
- `created_at`, `updated_at`

## badges

- `id` UUID PK
- `user_id` FK
- `badge_type` text
- `earned_at` `timestampz`
- `meta` jsonb

## social\_groups (private leaderboards)

- `id`, `name`, `owner_user_id`, `join_code`, `is_private` boolean

## group\_members

- `group_id` FK, `user_id` FK, `role`, `joined_at`

## notifications

- `id` UUID, `user_id`, `type`, `payload` jsonb, `sent_at`, `read_at`, `created_at`

## audit / event\_log

- `id`, `user_id`, `event_type`, `payload` jsonb, `created_at` — for analytics & debugging.

## chatbot\_messages

- `id`, `user_id`, `session_id`, `message_text`, `direction` enum(inbound/outbound), `intent` text, `response_meta` jsonb, `created_at`

## attachments

- `id`, `user_id`, `s3_key`, `type`, `created_at`

---

## 4 — API contract (high-level endpoints)

Use RESTful API (or GraphQL if preferred). I'll outline REST endpoints:

### Auth

- POST /api/v1/auth/signup — body: {email, password, name, timezone, locale}
- POST /api/v1/auth/login — returns access token (JWT) + refresh token
- POST /api/v1/auth/refresh — exchange refresh token
- POST /api/v1/auth/logout — revoke refresh token
- POST /api/v1/auth/magic-link (optional)

### Users & Profile

- GET /api/v1/users/me
- PATCH /api/v1/users/me — update profile, locale, baseline\_profile
- POST /api/v1/users/me/avatar — upload photo -> returns S3 upload URL

### Habits

- GET /api/v1/habits — user habits + pre-set suggestions
- POST /api/v1/habits — create custom habit
- GET /api/v1/habits/:id
- PATCH /api/v1/habits/:id
- DELETE /api/v1/habits/:id

### Habit logs (important)

- POST /api/v1/habit-logs — single or batch log (for sync). Body supports array of logs (for offline sync).
- GET /api/v1/habit-logs?from=&to=&category=&limit=&offset=
- GET /api/v1/habit-logs/:id
- PATCH /api/v1/habit-logs/:id — edit entry
- DELETE /api/v1/habit-logs/:id

### Sync

- POST /api/v1/sync — client pushes local DB changes; server returns server-side changes and conflict resolution hints.

## Goals & Badges

- GET /api/v1/goals
- POST /api/v1/goals
- GET /api/v1/badges
- GET /api/v1/leaderboards?group\_id=&period=week|month

## Chatbot

- POST /api/v1/chatbot/message — {message, session\_id} → returns {reply, actions[]} where actions might be create\_habit\_log with structured params
- GET /api/v1/chatbot/history?session\_id=

## Social & Sharing

- POST /api/v1/share/card — server generates a shareable image (returns S3 link)
- POST /api/v1/groups — create private leaderboards
- POST /api/v1/groups/:id/join — join by code

## Admin/Analytics (internal)

- GET /api/v1/admin/metrics — aggregated metrics
- POST /api/v1/admin/seed-default-habits

**Security:** All protected endpoints require Bearer JWT access tokens; refresh tokens stored hashed in DB.

---

# 5 — Non-functional & infra recommendations

- **Auth:** JWT access tokens (short lived, e.g., 15–60 min) + refresh tokens. Store refresh token hash server-side to allow revocation.
- **Offline-first:** Local SQLite (react-native-sqlite-storage or WatermelonDB) for habit\_logs + background sync endpoint /sync. Use optimistic conflict resolution: server compares client\_updated\_at and server\_updated\_at.
- **Photo uploads:** Use pre-signed S3 upload URLs generated by backend (POST /attachments/presign) and store s3\_key in DB.
- **Rate limiting & security:** API rate limiting (IP and user), helmet, CORS, input validation (Joi / zod).
- **Caching:** Redis for leaderboard caching, computed weekly reports, badge statuses.

- **Workers:** BullMQ (Redis) for background tasks: badge recompute, push notification scheduling, image generation for share cards, analytics ETL.
  - **Monitoring & logging:** Sentry for errors, structured logs to centralized system (ELK / Datadog). GDPR/Privacy: minimize PII storage, retention policy.
  - **Backups:** Daily DB backups; retention policy 30–90 days; snapshots for S3.
  - **Testing:** Unit tests (Jest), integration tests (supertest), E2E for RN with Detox or Appium.
- 

## 6 — Backend folder structure (Express / Node.js)

Use TypeScript for safety.

```
/backend
├── /src
│   ├── /api
│   │   ├── /v1
│   │   │   ├── auth.controller.ts
│   │   │   ├── users.controller.ts
│   │   │   ├── habits.controller.ts
│   │   │   └── chatbot.controller.ts
│   ├── /services
│   │   ├── auth.service.ts
│   │   ├── habit.service.ts
│   │   └── chatbot.service.ts
│   ├── /workers
│   │   ├── badge.worker.ts
│   │   └── shareCard.worker.ts
│   ├── /db
│   │   ├── index.ts (knex/TypeORM/Prisma client)
│   │   └── migrations/
│   ├── /models (if using ORM)
│   ├── /middleware
│   ├── /utils
│   ├── /config
│   ├── app.ts
│   └── server.ts
├── /scripts
├── /migrations
├── /docker
├── Dockerfile
├── docker-compose.yml
├── package.json
└── tsconfig.json
```

**Notes:** I recommend using Prisma for Postgres schema migrations and typesafety.

---

## 7 — Frontend folder structure (React Native — TypeScript / Expo or bare RN)

```
/mobile
├── /src
│   ├── /components          // small reusable components (Button, Card, Avatar)
│   ├── /screens
│   │   ├── OnboardingScreen/
│   │   ├── HomeScreen/
│   │   ├── HabitScreen/
│   │   ├── ChatbotScreen/
│   │   ├── GoalsScreen/
│   │   └── ProfileScreen/
│   ├── /services            // API wrappers, auth client
│   ├── /hooks               // custom hooks (useAuth, useSync, useHabits)
│   ├── /store               // redux or Zustand store
│   ├── /navigation          // react-navigation stacks
│   ├── /lib                 // utilities (date handling, co2 calc)
│   ├── /assets
│   ├── /i18n
│   ├── /styles
│   └── App.tsx
├── app.json (or app.config.js)
├── package.json
└── tsconfig.json
```

**Offline storage:** Implement a SyncManager that tracks local changes (queue) and posts POST /api/v1/sync periodically / on network.

---

## 8 — Example API payloads & sample validations

**POST /api/v1/habit-logs (batch)**

```
{
  "logs": [
    {
      "client_id": "local-uuid-123",    // client's temp id for dedupe
      "habit_id": "uuid-abc",
      "quantity": 2.5,
      "logged_at": "2025-10-05T12:00:00Z",
      "note": "Took bus",
      "photo_s3_key": "uploads/abc.jpg",
      "client_updated_at": "2025-10-05T12:05:00Z"
    }
  ]
}
```



Response:

```
{
  "synced": [
    {
      "client_id": "local-uuid-123",
      "server_id": "uuid-987",
      "conflict": false
    }
  ],
  "server_changes": { "habit_logs": [] }
}
```

---

## 9 — GitHub issues & project management (epics + tasks)

I'll create three milestones: **MVP (v0.1)**, **Polish (v0.2)**, **Launch (v1.0)**. Below are Epics and concrete issues ready to create in GitHub. Each issue should have labels: `backend/frontend`, `priority`, `component`, `estimate` (points or hours).

### Epic: MVP — Core backend (assigned to you)

- **Issue:** BE: Setup project skeleton & CI — TypeScript + ESLint + Prettier + GH Actions. [backend, high, 8h]
- **Issue:** BE: Auth (signup/login + Clerk) [backend, high, 16h]
- **Issue:** BE: Users endpoints + avatar presign — profile GET/PATCH, presigned upload URL. [backend, medium, 8h]
- **Issue:** BE: Habits CRUD + default suggestions seeding — migrations, seed script. [backend, high, 16h]
- **Issue:** BE: Habit-logs endpoints (batch + query) — ensure atomic inserts and validation. [backend, high, 20h]
- **Issue:** BE: Sync endpoint (/sync) & conflict strategy — implement server diff & merge. [backend, high, 20h]
- **Issue:** BE: Attachments (S3 presign) + photo storage policy [backend, medium, 6h]
- **Issue:** BE: Chatbot endpoint (basic) — route to LLM/mock — return structured actions. [backend, medium, 12h]
- **Issue:** BE: Setup Redis + BullMQ + worker skeleton — for queue operations. [backend, medium, 8h]

### Epic: MVP — Frontend components (assign each to one of 4 frontend members)

## Frontend Member A — Onboarding & Profile

- FE: Onboarding quiz screens & API integration [frontend, high, 16h]
- FE: Profile & baseline profile UI [frontend, medium, 8h]
- FE: Motivation hub placeholder + feed [frontend, medium, 12h]

## Frontend Member B — Daily Habit Tracking

- FE: Habit list, quick-add, default suggestions [frontend, high, 20h]
- FE: Quick-add voice-to-text integration (native module) [frontend, medium, 12h]
- FE: Photo attach & local storage [frontend, medium, 8h]
- FE: Local DB + offline queue [frontend, high, 20h]

## Frontend Member C — Chatbot

- FE: Chat UI & message flow [frontend, high, 16h]
- FE: Chatbot integration with /api/v1/chatbot/message [frontend, medium, 12h]
- FE: Action handling (create habit log from chat) [frontend, medium, 8h]

## Frontend Member D — Social, Goals & Sharing

- FE: Goals UI + progress visualization [frontend, high, 16h]
- FE: Badges & streaks view [frontend, medium, 12h]
- FE: Shareable card generation flow (request server image) [frontend, medium, 12h]
- FE: Private group / leaderboard UI [frontend, medium, 12h]

## Epic: Ops / infra / polish

- Infra: Staging & production deploy pipelines [ops, high, 12h]
  - Infra: DB backups & restore playbook [ops, medium, 8h]
  - Polish: Add analytics events for key flows [backend+frontend, medium, 10h]
  - Polish: Accessibility audit + fixes (screen reader, alt text) [frontend, medium, 8h]
  - QA: E2E test habit flow [qa, high, 12h]
  - Security: Pen test checklist & implement rate limiting [security, medium, 8h]
-

## 10 — Developer handover checklist (what you should push to repo & CI)

- README with architecture overview + local dev instructions.
  - `.env.example` (no secrets).
  - DB migration scripts + seed for default habits.
  - Postman / OpenAPI spec for APIs or a Swagger file.
  - Scripts to create S3 buckets + IAM roles (or docs).
  - GH Projects board with issues linked to epics & assignees.
  - PR template with checklist (tests, lint, security).
- 

## 11 — Helpful implementation tips & quick patterns

- **CO<sub>2</sub> calculation logic:** keep canonical formula server-side and store `co2_per_unit` on habit. Also compute `co2_kg` at ingestion so historical changes don't retroactively change past entries.
- **Optimistic UI for logging:** show entry in UI before sync, mark pending; reconcile on server response.
- **Chatbot actions:** return `action` objects from chatbot endpoint that contain `type` (e.g., `create_habit_log`) and canonical fields to avoid parsing on client.
- **Badge recalculation:** run worker on `habit_logs` insert events; update `badges` table and push to user.
- **Rate limit for chatbot:** throttle per-user LLM calls to control costs.
- **Data retention & export:** create `GET /api/v1/users/me/export` to allow export of personal data in JSON/CSV for privacy compliance.