

Likely Interview Questions

- **Given YiRI's mission to blend tradition and technology, how would you approach leading a multidisciplinary team that might have diverse perspectives on cultural preservation versus technological innovation?**

- %P Highlight your experience in leading Agile teams (Data354, Orange) and mentoring cross-functional groups (Orange, GIBT).
- %E Emphasize your ability to foster collaboration, bridge technical and non-technical viewpoints, and ensure alignment with a shared vision.
- %C Connect to your "passion pour la culture africaine" from the job description and how you'd integrate cultural sensitivity into project methodologies.

- **The role involves supervising a budget of 3.8 billion FCFA. While your resume doesn't detail specific budget figures, describe your experience with financial oversight, resource planning, and ensuring project impact and transparency.**

- %E Discuss your "resource planning, risk management, and stakeholder alignment" skills as mentioned in your resume's 'Project Management Expertise' section.
- %E Explain how you've optimized processes (Orange) and managed projects to ensure high-quality, impactful outcomes within constraints.
- %E Refer to your experience with "financial reporting, KPIs" from GIBT, demonstrating an understanding of tracking performance against financial goals.

- **YiRI aims to deploy digital platforms and deliver a "modèle IA révolutionnaire." Detail your most relevant experience in end-to-end AI product development and deployment, specifically highlighting any work with LLMs or RAG.**

- %E Draw heavily on your "Lead Data Scientist & Data Product Manager" role at Data354, specifically mentioning "ML and LLM implementations" for products like *Contract conformity analysis*, *Avia*, and *Alia* (which leverages RAG).
- %E Showcase your technical stack proficiency (OpenAI, LangChain, Azure, GCP) and experience in deploying models.
- %E Mention your experience at Orange with systems like *Infoview* and *Homologation*, which are AI-powered data validation and ML systems.

- **The project involves significant collaboration with multiple partners (ANSUT, UNESCO, ST Digital, etc.). How do you approach stakeholder management and coordination in complex, multi-entity projects?**

- %E Refer to your "stakeholder management" experience at GIBT and "cross-functional agility" at Orange.
- %E Describe your strategies for clear communication, defining roles and responsibilities, managing expectations, and resolving conflicts to ensure project alignment.
- %E Highlight experience in fostering industry partnerships (Zindi Ambassador) and cross-department collaboration (GIBT).

- **YiRI emphasizes building an "héritage" and that "l'Afrique ... l'invente à son image." How do your personal values and professional experiences align with this unique vision?**

- %E Connect your passion for African culture, as stated in the JD, with your roles in training (GIBT, DIT) and community building (Zindi Ambassador) across the continent.
- %E Discuss how your work in AI and data science can be leveraged not just for efficiency but for cultural preservation and empowering local innovation.
- %E Frame your experience in building solutions for real-world impact as directly contributing to this legacy.

- **Describe a complex project you managed that faced unexpected technical or logistical challenges. How did you adapt your approach, mitigate risks, and ensure successful delivery?**

- %E Use the STAR method (Situation, Task, Action, Result) to structure your answer.
- %E Highlight your problem-solving skills, ability to pivot, and leadership in navigating obstacles.

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Mention instances where you ensured "97% on-time delivery" (Orange) despite potential hurdles.

Key Talking Points

- **Extensive AI/ML Product Leadership & Delivery:** Emphasize your roles as "Lead Data Scientist & Data Product Manager" (Data354) and "Project Manager Consultant - Data & AI" (Orange). Showcase specific deliverables like *Contract conformity analysis* (LLMs), *Avia* (voice-enabled AI), *Alia* (RAG), *REMO*, and *Infoview*. Highlight your end-to-end involvement from conceptualization to deployment in Agile environments, ensuring "97% on-time delivery."
- **Strong Project Management Acumen for Large-Scale Initiatives:** While direct budget figures aren't on your resume, convey your capability to manage significant projects. Refer to your "Project Management Expertise" in your skills section (resource planning, risk management, stakeholder alignment). Discuss how you've led "Agile implementation of data-driven solutions" at Orange and optimized processes for "mission-critical tools," demonstrating experience with project scale and strategic impact.
- **Deep Technical Expertise & Innovation in Data/AI:** Highlight your mastery of "data/cloud/AI" as required by the JD. Emphasize specific advanced technologies you've worked with (Python, SQL, OpenAI, Azure, GCP, LangChain, DB & Vector Stores, Streamlit, Docker) and concepts like LLMs, RAG, and architecting a "Data Mesh." This directly aligns with YiRI's goal of deploying cutting-edge digital platforms and a "modèle IA révolutionnaire."
- **Leadership in Education, Mentorship, and Community Impact:** Leverage your experience at GIBT (Head of Data Science Academy, Program Lead) and DIT (Instructor), where you "trained 1000+ professionals" and led continent-wide training programs. This demonstrates inspiring leadership, communication skills, a commitment to empowering talent, and aligns with YiRI's vision of building an "héritage" and enabling Africa to "invent" its digital revolution. Mention your Zindi Ambassador role.

Questions to Ask the Interviewer

- Given the collaborative nature of this project with multiple partners (ANSUT, UNESCO, ST Digital, etc.), what are the key success factors for effective partnership management, and how will project performance be measured across these entities?
- Could you elaborate on the specific vision for the "modèle IA révolutionnaire" mentioned in the job description? What unique cultural or linguistic challenges do you anticipate in its development and deployment, and how does YiRI plan to address them?
- Beyond the initial 12-month contract, what is the long-term strategic roadmap for YiRI, and how do you envision this Project Manager role evolving within that broader vision of building an African digital heritage?
- What are the biggest anticipated technical or logistical challenges for a Project Manager in this role, and what resources or support systems are in place to help overcome them?