

# Tailored Resume

Esaïe Alain-Emmanuel KOUPOH

Project Manager | AI & Digital Transformation Leader | Cultural Heritage Advocate

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## PROFILE

Visionary and results-driven Project Manager with over 6 years of experience in spearheading large-scale AI, data, and digital transformation initiatives. Proven leader adept at orchestrating multidisciplinary teams, managing complex budgets, and deploying cutting-edge digital platforms and AI solutions. Passionate about leveraging technology to preserve and promote African cultural identity, aligning perfectly with YiRI's mission to build a lasting legacy where technology meets heritage. Expert in strategic leadership, stakeholder collaboration (including public-private partnerships), process optimization, and talent development.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Project Manager Consultant - Data & AI | Orange Côte d'Ivoire | 11/2024 – Present**

Spearhead the end-to-end implementation of decision-support tool projects, leveraging agile methodologies to ensure high-quality and timely delivery.

Coordinate cross-functional technical teams, fostering collaborative environments to achieve project milestones and strategic objectives.

Champion continuous process improvement initiatives, enhancing operational efficiency and project delivery frameworks.

Provide regular coaching and mentorship to team members, contributing to their professional growth and technical proficiency.

### **Head of Data Science Academy | German Institute of Business and Technology (GIBT) - Azubi Africa | 08/2023 – 05/2024**

Led the strategic planning and execution of continent-wide training programs, impacting over 700 trainees across diverse African regions.

Managed and developed a high-performing team of trainers and program coordinators, ensuring consistent delivery of educational objectives.

Oversaw comprehensive stakeholder management, including meticulous financial reporting and KPI tracking to demonstrate program impact and secure funding.

Collaborated extensively with marketing and product development teams to optimize program delivery and enhance market reach.

### **Data Science Program Lead - Senegal | German Institute of Business and Technology (GIBT) - Azubi Africa | 08/2022 – 07/2023**

Managed and successfully implemented large-scale training programs for over 500 university students and young professionals in software engineering and machine learning.

Designed and iterated curriculum to deliver cutting-edge content, serving as a Senior Trainer for advanced topics.

Engaged in critical stakeholder management and cross-departmental collaboration to optimize program delivery and marketing strategies.

### **AI Software Engineer | Baamtu Datamation | Dakar, Senegal | 12/2020 – 07/2022**

Developed and deployed innovative Machine Learning and Deep Learning solutions to address complex client operational challenges.

Pioneered the creation of a Wolof language data collection pipeline, enabling the development of robust Natural Language Processing (NLP) datasets – directly aligning with cultural preservation through AI.

Engineered and deployed the Ganeyi MRZ OCR tool for efficient information extraction from identification documents.

Developed the Wakanda OCR Signup form API to automate structured data extraction, enhancing digital platform efficiency.

Implemented an Email Classification and Actions Automation tool, streamlining ticket handling for insurance sector clients.

#### **Machine Learning & CS Instructor (Part-time) | Dakar Institute of Technology (DIT) | Dakar, Senegal | 01/2020 – Present**

Taught and mentored over 100 learners in core Computer Science, Software Engineering, Data Science, and Machine Learning principles.

Curated and delivered advanced lectures on Object-Oriented Programming, Data Analysis, Machine Learning (Scikit-learn), Deep Learning (TensorFlow, PyTorch), Computer Vision, and Natural Language Processing.

#### **Computer Science Intern | PSNDEA | Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire | 04/2019 – 09/2019**

Developed a Deep Learning model for agricultural mapping, focusing on the detection and identification of plantations from multispectral satellite images.

### **EDUCATION**

#### **Master of Artificial Intelligence | Dakar Institute of Technology | 01/2022 – 12/2025 (Expected)**

**Bachelor in Computer Science (IT Systems & Software Engineering) | Ecole Supérieure Africaine des TIC (ESATIC) | Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire | 2016 – 2019**

**High School Degree (Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology) | Collège Reference de Sinfra | Sinfra, Côte d'Ivoire | 2016**

### **SKILLS**

#### **Project Management & Strategic Leadership:**

End-to-end Project Lifecycle Management, Agile Methodologies, Scrum

Multidisciplinary Team Coordination, Inspiring Leadership, Coaching & Mentoring

Stakeholder Engagement & Collaboration (Public, Private, Academic Sectors)

Process Optimization, Risk Management, Resource Allocation, Budget Oversight (Program-level)

Strategic Planning & Execution, Delivering High-Quality Outcomes on Schedule

#### **AI, Data & Digital Innovation:**

Machine Learning (ML) & Deep Learning (DL) Model Development & Deployment

Natural Language Processing (NLP), Computer Vision, AI-driven Platform Development

Python (Advanced), API Development, Data Collection & Pipeline Engineering

Cloud Computing Fundamentals, Data Analytics & Visualization, Big Data Concepts

Scikit-learn, TensorFlow, PyTorch, Pandas, Plotly

#### **Cultural Preservation & Community Engagement:**

Development of Language-specific AI tools (e.g., Wolof NLP)

Advocacy for African Digital Transformation and Cultural Integration in Technology

## LANGUAGES

**French:** Native

**English:** Fluent (Duolingo English Test Certified)

## CERTIFICATIONS & AFFILIATIONS

**NVIDIA Deep Learning Institute:** Certified Deep Learning Instructor

**Zindi:** Volunteer Country Ambassador for Senegal (2021-Present) – Connecting data scientists to opportunities, fostering community growth in Africa.

**Applied AI with DeepLearning:** IBM

**Full Stack Data Science Training:** VIVADATA Paris

## TECHNICAL PROOF OF CONCEPT PROJECTS

**Predicting Customer Churn:** Developed an ML model for Expresso Senegal to predict customer attrition.

**Estimated Time for Arrival Hackathon:** Built an ML model to estimate ETA for motorbike deliveries in Nairobi.

**Detection of Swollen Shoot by Drone:** Developed a drone-embedded ML model for high-accuracy disease detection in agricultural settings.

## Cover Letter

À l'attention du Responsable du Recrutement,

En tant que leader en IA et données, dont le parcours est jalonné par la gestion de projets innovants et la volonté de préserver le patrimoine culturel à travers la technologie, j'ai été immédiatement captivé par la vision de YiRI. Votre appel à un "Project Manager visionnaire" pour "bâtir un héritage" résonne profondément avec ma propre ambition de voir l'Afrique non pas subir la révolution numérique, mais l'inventer à son image.

Mon expérience de plus de six ans en gestion de projet et en leadership technologique, notamment en tant que Project Manager Consultant chez Orange Côte d'Ivoire, m'a permis de piloter la mise en œuvre de projets Data et IA complexes selon des méthodologies agiles. J'exécute à coordonner des équipes multidisciplinaires pour assurer une livraison de haute qualité et dans les délais, tout en optimisant les processus et en développant les compétences de mes collaborateurs – un rôle que j'ai également tenu en dirigeant des programmes de formation à l'échelle continentale pour plus de 700 apprenants au German Institute of Business and Technology.

Par ailleurs, ma profonde expertise en Intelligence Artificielle et Machine Learning est une force directe pour l'innovation technologique que vous recherchez. En tant qu'AI Software Engineer, j'ai développé des solutions ML/DL sophistiquées, y compris la création d'un pipeline de collecte de données pour le Wolof destiné au traitement du langage naturel. Cette expérience me positionne idéalement pour déployer des plateformes numériques avancées et livrer un modèle IA révolutionnaire qui préservera et célébrera les récits africains, incarnant ainsi l'esprit même de la mission de YiRI.

Je suis convaincu que ma combinaison de leadership stratégique, de compétences techniques avancées en IA et d'une passion sincère pour les innovations à impact culturel fait de moi le "chef d'orchestre" que YiRI recherche pour cette mission historique. Je suis impatient de discuter plus en détail de la manière dont mon expérience peut contribuer à la construction de cet héritage inestimable.

Je vous remercie de votre considération et me tiens à votre entière disposition pour un entretien.

# Interview Preparation

## Likely Interview Questions

**"YiRI's mission intertwines tradition with cutting-edge technology, specifically AI, to preserve African cultural heritage. How do you see your background uniquely preparing you to lead a project of this nature and achieve its visionary goals?"**

Connect your AI/ML engineering experience and project leadership at Orange CI directly to the cultural preservation aspect.

Reference projects like your Wolof NLP pipeline or Zindi community work as examples of local impact and culturally relevant technology.

**"The Project Manager will oversee a significant budget of 3.8 billion FCFA. Can you describe your experience with financial oversight, budget management, or large-scale resource allocation, and how you would ensure transparency and impact for YiRI?"**

Elaborate on your experience with "financial reporting and KPI tracking" at GIBT, highlighting the scale and complexity of those responsibilities.

Discuss your approach to budget planning, monitoring, and ensuring measurable return on investment, and how you would adapt to this scale.

**"You have extensive experience in leading training programs and developing talent. How do you envision leveraging these skills to foster innovation and build a capable multidisciplinary team for YiRI, especially given the collaborative nature with partners like ANSUT and UNESCO?"**

Draw on your experience at GIBT (Head of Academy, Senior Trainer, team development) and as an NVIDIA instructor/Zindi Ambassador.

Explain how you'd assess skill gaps, implement training, and promote a culture of learning and cross-functional collaboration.

**"The role requires deploying digital platforms and delivering a revolutionary AI model. Can you walk us through a complex AI project you managed from conception to deployment, highlighting challenges faced and how you ensured successful delivery?"**

Choose a specific project from Baamtu Datamation (e.g., Ganeyi MRZ OCR or Email Classification) or a relevant POC.

Detail your project management methodology (Agile), technical contributions, and how you navigated technical hurdles and stakeholder expectations.

**"YiRI emphasizes that Africa is inventing its digital revolution. How do you approach leading technological innovation in a way that is sensitive to local context, promotes local ownership, and genuinely reflects African identity?"**

Reference your experience in Senegal/Côte d'Ivoire, the Wolof NLP project, and your role as a Zindi Ambassador connecting local talent.

Discuss how you would ensure AI models and platforms are culturally relevant, user-centric for local populations, and leverage local expertise.

**"The position is based in Abidjan with regional travel. Given your experience working remotely and in various locations, how do you manage distributed teams and ensure effective communication and project momentum across different geographical areas?"**

Discuss your experience managing "continent-wide training programs" at GIBT.

Highlight your strategies for remote team collaboration, use of tools, setting clear communication protocols, and adapting to local contexts during regional deployments.

**Proven AI/Data Project Leadership:** Emphasize your Project Manager Consultant role at Orange CI, demonstrating agile methodologies, end-to-end project delivery, and direct experience with AI-driven solutions relevant to YiRI's innovative goals.

**Extensive Experience in Developing & Deploying AI Solutions:** Showcase your technical depth as an AI Software Engineer at Baamtu Datamation (e.g., Wolof NLP, OCR tools) and your academic pursuit of a Master of AI, proving your capability to build and implement complex AI models.

**Strong Stakeholder Management & Team Development Skills:** Highlight your roles at GIBT and as a Zindi Ambassador, demonstrating your ability to coordinate multidisciplinary teams, manage diverse stakeholders (including financial reporting), and develop local talent and communities crucial for large-scale projects.

**Passion for African Innovation & Local Impact:** Connect your work in Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal, including projects with local linguistic relevance and your community building through Zindi, to YiRI's mission of leveraging technology for cultural preservation and empowering the African digital revolution.

#### Questions to Ask the Interviewer

What are the biggest anticipated technical or cultural challenges YiRI expects to face in deploying the AI model and digital platforms, and how does the team plan to address them?

Given the emphasis on collaboration with partners like UNESCO and ANSUT, what is the current structure for partnership engagement, and how will the Project Manager specifically contribute to fostering these critical relationships?

YiRI's vision is truly unique in combining technology with cultural identity. How does the organization measure the impact of its projects, particularly in terms of cultural preservation and community engagement, beyond typical technical KPIs?

Beyond the initial 12-month contract, what are the long-term strategic goals for YiRI's platform and AI model, and how do you envision this role evolving to support that growth?