Yao Adzaku

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I support technology businesses at scale and during the early stages, including operating a last-mile logistics business. I have managed teams in companies of different sizes (from scrappy startups to mature institutions) and developed production services for performance and growth.

I am an entrepreneur at heart and know the rollercoaster ride that comes with operating a business. I care deeply about how things are built and how people work. I enjoy hiking, swimming, and exploring new cities when I can.

Experience

FOUNDER & MANAGING PARTNER, PINELOOP, 2019 - PRESENT

Advise early to mid-stage startups on product strategy/management, monetization, engineering and go-to-market strategy. Coordinating directly with sales and clients in organizations around the world.

* Advising founders, CEOs, and product leaders; including writing product and strategy memos to support executive teams

* Building in crypto and blockchain: Solidity, decentralized apps, Ethereum smart contracts.

* Interview candidates conducted technical tests and screened candidate CVs.

PROGRAMMER / STARTUPS, 2006 - 2018

Early-hire for this fast-growth startup (Saya Mobile) building instant messaging and SMS service for emerging markets. The product was launched at TechCrunch Disrupt in San Francisco, and soon after exited through an acquisition.

Soon after, I remotely worked with UK-based Octopus Investments as Technical Lead on a lending product with £100m AUM. I helped Octopus recruit more people from Ghana, and did preliminary work on setting up an offshore extension for the firm in Accra. Left to start a restaurant delivery and logistics business in Lagos, Nigeria.

I recently developed software for Upvest, an NFT/Defi blockchain investment company; starting in a consulting role building developer tools in various languages to later working on core blockchain services.

Education

University of Cape Coast – 2009 - 2013

University of London - BSc. Economics (On Leave of Absence)

Skills

• Familiar with most programming languages, web programming, and UNIX system administration.

• Tools: Sketch, Figma, Tableau, MySQL, Excel, Balsamiq Mockups and more as needed.