

EKENEKISO UGBANAWAJI

TECHNOLOGY LEAD — SOFTWARE ENGINEERING & IT OPERATIONS

Lagos, Nigeria | senenerst@gmail.com | +2348077471000 | [LinkedIn](#) | <https://ugbanawaji.com>

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Technology Leader with 8+ years of experience driving software engineering, IT operations, and digital transformation in fintech and banking environments. Proven track record leading enterprise-scale platform modernization, managing cloud infrastructure and cybersecurity practices, establishing IT governance frameworks (ITIL), and overseeing vendor relationships and technology budgets. Skilled in microservices architecture, DevOps, core banking integrations, and building high-performing engineering teams to deliver secure, scalable financial systems in regulated environments.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Technology Lead — Software Engineering & IT Operations, Boctrust Microfinance Bank

Apr 2024 - Current | Lagos, Nigeria

- Led integration with BankOne core banking APIs and NIBSS Direct Debit, enabling automated loan repayment workflows and reducing manual recovery workload by approximately 50%.
- Scaled backend services to support over ₦200M+ in monthly transaction volume, while improving reliability and reducing system downtime from approximately 3 hours/month to 0.2 hours/month.
- Established enterprise-wide observability and incident response capabilities across high-traffic financial APIs, reducing mean time to resolution (MTTR) and strengthening production security posture.
- Developed and executed cybersecurity strategy including threat modeling, vulnerability assessments, and secure architecture reviews for cloud infrastructure and critical banking APIs.
- Led cross-functional stakeholder sessions to align enterprise technology strategy and digital transformation roadmaps with business requirements, utilizing enterprise architecture principles to drive data-driven decision-making and proactive risk management for core lending features.
- Implemented Kubernetes-based deployment strategies, including rolling updates and auto-scaling, to maintain 99.9% uptime for core financial services.
- Architected technology strategy by defining service boundaries and integration patterns across the lending platform, enabling faster feature delivery and reduced technical debt.
- Led strategic capacity planning and performance engineering initiatives, proactively identifying infrastructure bottlenecks to ensure platform scalability supporting 40%+ quarterly transaction growth.
- Established IT governance frameworks and IT service management (ITIL) standards, while overseeing annual technology budgets, vendor contract negotiations, and business continuity planning to ensure operational resilience and cost optimization.
- Owned enterprise-wide IT policies, governance frameworks, and compliance standards across the organization, ensuring alignment with regulatory requirements and industry best practices.

Backend Developer, Scnip Technology

Jul 2023 - Apr 2024 | Abuja, Nigeria

- Built backend services in Java and Spring Boot to support e-learning, payments, subscriptions, user management, and business workflow automation for 10,000+ active users.
- Integrated Stripe Connect payment infrastructure, processing ₦5M+ in monthly subscription payments by designing connector services with retry logic, error handling, and fault isolation.
- Improved API response times by 35% through SQL query profiling, Redis caching, and targeted backend refactoring across high-traffic endpoints.
- Reduced production regressions by 25% by expanding automated test coverage around core business logic and critical API workflows.

Software Engineering Team Lead, Harde Business School

Jan 2023 - Mar 2024 | Lagos, Nigeria

- Led the migration of a monolithic application to modular microservices using Spring Boot, improving scalability and maintainability.
- Designed and optimized high-throughput backend services for financial operations, academic administration, reporting, staff portals, and internal dashboards.
- Improved data integrity and auditability across business-critical workflows by strengthening backend validation, database structure, and service-layer rules.
- Reduced latency and improved system responsiveness through SQL optimization, Redis-based caching, and backend performance tuning.

- Provided strategic leadership to a team of 4 engineers, implementing change management practices and structured problem-solving frameworks to optimize sprint planning, code-review standards, and documentation, significantly improving delivery consistency.
- Architected scalable APIs and automated deployment workflows using GitHub Actions and AWS CodeDeploy to standardize releases across environments.
- Added unit and integration tests around core business logic, reducing regressions and improving production stability.

Full Stack Developer, Harde Business School

Jul 2022 - Jan 2023 | Lagos, Nigeria

- Built and extended backend services powering authentication, reporting, staff portals, and internal dashboards for 500+ staff and students.
- Reduced deployment cycle time by 60% by architecting scalable APIs and automated deployment workflows using GitHub Actions and AWS CodeDeploy.
- Cut regression rate by 30% by adding unit and integration tests around core business logic, stabilizing production updates across quarterly release cycles.

Contract Full Stack Developer, Pensuh Innovation

Oct 2018 - Dec 2024 | Anambra, Nigeria

- Engineered backend services for a multi-tenant school operations platform used by 12+ institutions, supporting 5,000+ students across enrollment, attendance, academic records, and tuition payments.
- Processed ₦10M+ in monthly tuition payments by integrating online payment gateways and cloud-backed storage, ensuring rigorous regulatory compliance (PCI-DSS) and high-availability architecture to protect sensitive institutional and student financial data.
- Reduced new school onboarding time by 40% by building reusable backend modules and internal libraries, accelerating deployments across multiple institutions.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Technology (B.Tech), Electrical / Electronic Engineering

2019

Rivers State University of Science and Technology

CERTIFICATIONS

Microsoft Certified: Azure Fundamentals - Microsoft

2022

https://www.credly.com/badges/a5e6ed3b-ab85-4980-97b8-d814d71c83b2/public_url

SKILLS

Languages & Frameworks:

Java

Spring Boot

Architecture & Design:

Microservices Architecture

RESTful API Design

Domain-Driven Design (DDD)

Distributed Systems

Cloud & Infrastructure:

AWS (EC2, RDS, S3)

Kubernetes

GitHub Actions CI/CD

AWS CodeDeploy

Docker

Terraform

Apache Kafka

GitHub Actions

CI/CD Pipelines

Databases & Caching:

PostgreSQL

Redis

SQL Query Optimization

Payment & Banking Integration:

BankOne Core Banking API

NIBSS Direct Debit

Stripe Connect

PCI-DSS Compliance