

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Job Title:	Sr Software Engineer, AfriScout
Department:	AfriScout
Reports To:	Managing Director, AfriScout
Location:	Nairobi, Kenya
Period of Performance Dates:	1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023. The Contract is intended to be renewable.
Supervisory Responsibilities:	No

JOB SUMMARY

The Sr Software Engineer will work as part of a small distributed team (US, Kenya, Tanzania, Ethiopia) to grow the AfriScout social enterprise, a young social impact startup on a mission to regenerate Africa's drylands while improving the livelihoods of its stewards. AfriScout leverages satellite imagery and crowd-sourced indigenous knowledge to empower pastoralists with the right digital insights needed to optimize their grazing practices to become more productive and climate-smart rangeland managers. We are on the cutting edge of both technology and ecology, building out advanced AI and ML solutions to rapidly scale what will be the largest regenerative grazing carbon project on the continent.

We are looking for a candidate with a strong understanding of computer science, excellent software engineering fundamentals, and a passion for solutions to climate change. This role is for someone who can not only own engineering and product development from beginning to end, but who can also grow into being a leader at our organization.

The Sr Software Engineer is responsible for defining the product strategy and delivering and operating our core software systems used by pastoralists, field agents, and staff. This includes the AfriScout android mobile app, administrator web dashboard, mobile apps for field agents to provide user engagement and support, BI solutions to analyze user engagement and field agent performance, and user-facing messaging services through IVR, SMS, and USSD. We use Java, PHP Laravel, and AWS Devops on the backend and develop our frontends for Android and React.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Product Strategy (30%)

- Define the product strategy and roadmap in close coordination with management and community engagement team
- Be able to analyze the competitive landscape, market trends, and latest technologies to influence product strategy
- Lead the functional and non-functional requirement gathering, clarification, and arbitration for new projects, delivering Market Requirements Documents (MRDs) and Product Requirement Documents (PRDs), prevent scope creep
- Build product awareness and satisfaction, by organizing demos and awareness sessions, maintaining product documentation, running user tests and managing product feedback and analytics

Software Development (70%)

- Design, build, and maintain all functional software solutions for AfriScout

- Oversee and delegate as needed to outsourced development team & ensure high quality output
- Document and demonstrate solutions by developing documentation, flowcharts, layouts, diagrams, charts, code comments and clear code
- Ensure software quality and maintain data security and integrity
- Brief and train community engagement team in any new builds
- Commit to learning whatever is required to get the job done. We don't expect you to know everything, but we expect you to be able to learn what you need to on the job.

Global Communities reserves the right to change and update this and all position descriptions at any time.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Minimum of 4 years experience in software development in one or more programming languages (e.g. Android, React, Java, etc.)
- Bachelor's degree in computer science (or equivalent practical experience)
- Demonstrated success leading product strategy as well as designing and implementing excellent products
- Previous experience building technology solutions for rural populations in developing countries preferred
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English, Kiswahili a plus
- Experience in communicating with users, other technical teams, and management to collect requirements, identify tasks, provide estimates and meet production deadlines
- Excellent analytical and problem-solving skills
- Excellent organization and time management skills with experience working in an agile environment
- Proven ability to influence cross-functional teams without formal authority

WORKING CONDITIONS

- Must have the ability to work remotely with a stable internet connection
- Must be able to travel to pastoral areas in East Africa to design and test with real users