Ian Ochieng

Full-Stack & Backend Developer

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PROFILE

Full-stack and backend developer working in Go, TypeScript/Node.js, PostgreSQL, Redis and Docker. I build APIs, payment integrations and data-driven platforms for businesses, with a focus on correctness: idempotent payments, atomic stock updates, and services that keep working when a dependency fails. Software development apprentice at Zone01 Kisumu. My degree in Public Administration and Sociology underpins civic-tech projects that target gaps in public service delivery, from bill tracking and public participation to civil registration.

SKILLS

Languages	Go, TypeScript, JavaScript, SQL, Python, Java, HTML5/CSS3
Frameworks	Node.js, Fastify, Express.js, Gin, Next.js/React, React Native/Expo, Spring Boot
Data & infra	PostgreSQL, Redis, SQLite, Docker, Linux, GitHub Actions, Prometheus, Grafana
Tools & APIs	Git & GitHub, gRPC, OpenAPI, Socket.IO, M-Pesa Daraja, Africa's Talking (SMS/USSD)

EXPERIENCE

Software Development Apprentice — Zone01 Kisumu

Mar 2026 – Present

Project-based, peer-reviewed apprenticeship (training programme)

- Backend contributor on Flexi-Ride, a team-built ride-hailing platform of 13 Java/Spring Boot microservices. I standardised the Docker builds, defined gRPC and OpenAPI contracts, locked down Actuator management endpoints, and set up Prometheus and Grafana monitoring.
- Built Clonernews (pair project), a Hacker News reader with live updates, request caching and retry with backoff, in plain JavaScript.
- Team member on Sortable, a searchable, paginated data table with unit-aware sorting.

Freelance Software Developer

Ongoing

Self-employed · Client work

- Work directly with business owners as sole developer, from scoping requirements through design, build, deployment and post-launch support.
- Built the production website, SEO and backend services for Ben's Tailoring, a Qatar-based tailoring business, including light automation of its operations.

PROJECTS

AuraRisk

`Go · PostgreSQL · React · Expo`

- Climate-risk platform with localised flood risk scores, early warnings and community reports, on web and mobile.
- Removed default credentials and made production fail fast on unsafe config. Added caching, retries, a circuit breaker and stale-data fallback for the weather API, plus rate limits, request IDs and graceful shutdown.

PayBridge

`TypeScript · Fastify · PostgreSQL · Redis`

- M-Pesa payments gateway API that can't double-credit: idempotent STK push, callback deduplication with a forward-only state machine, reconciliation of lost callbacks, and HMAC-signed webhooks. Live on the Daraja sandbox. github.com/iochieng1/paybridge

Boda Dispatch

`TypeScript · Next.js · Fastify · Socket.IO · Redis`

- Real-time delivery dispatch board (in progress), with versioned jobs for optimistic concurrency and an append-only event log that deduplicates offline rider updates. github.com/iochieng1/boda-dispatch

Civic tech

`Python · Node.js · PostgreSQL · SMS/USSD`

- Bunge Watch: tracks Kenyan bills and explains them in plain English and Kiswahili, linking citizens to Parliament's comment process.
- Public Participation Platform: lets residents comment on county bills and budgets by web, SMS or USSD, and records how each submission was considered.
- Birth & Civil Registration Assistant: document checklists, deadline reminders and appointment booking to reduce repeat trips and queues.

Other projects

`TypeScript · Node.js · SQLite`

- Soko Marketplace: headless marketplace with M-Pesa checkout that never oversells, using stock reservations and a transactional outbox.
- SemaKazi: skills-verification platform for informal-sector workers, built on photo proof of jobs, client ratings and peer-endorsed badges.
- Duka POS: offline point-of-sale and inventory system with atomic stock deduction and a 20-test suite.

WRITING

Technical articles on Dev.to and engineering notes on my portfolio covering security, reliability and observability work on AuraRisk, Flexi-Ride, SemaKazi and Clonernews.

EDUCATION

Software Development Apprenticeship — Zone01 Kisumu

`Mar 2026 – Present`

B.A. Public Administration, major in Sociology

`University of Nairobi`