

GEORGE KARANI

SOFTWARE ENGINEER

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SUMMARY

Software engineer and systems architect with deep expertise across the entire stack: from low-level hardware (RISC-V, ESP8266) and firmware to high-level agentic AI. Expert in applying first principles to design and deploy scalable systems and high-performance software engineering solutions. Focused on building strong, high-utility applications that bridge the gap between digital intelligence and physical reality.

EXPERIENCE

Founder

Aug 2020 - Present

frontforumfocus

Nairobi

- A media company with a highly engaged audience of impact founders, changemakers, and ecosystem builders across Africa and the global south.
- We have a podcast with 40+ episodes.
- You have a newsletter, relationships with WIF, AfriLabs, A+A Collective, DFIs, accelerators
- Leverage podcast hosting platforms and cross-channel distribution workflows to optimize content reach, generating 10,000+ cumulative views across digital networks.
- Grow newsletter subscriber base to 233+ and secure 5+ corporate partnerships and expert interviews, driving 3,000+ impressions per campaign using LinkedIn analytics.
- Implement data-driven data acquisition methodologies and content pipelines that convert ecosystem relationships into featured interviews and sponsored collaborations, strengthening community engagement.

Software engineer

Jan 2023 - Present

Afriorbit

Nairobi

- Developed <https://Afriorbit.space> website
- Showcased our Nano satellite at world space week 2024
- Worked with the team on internal research projects.
- Worked with the team on marketing strategies and also partnerships
- Engineered the company website using Squarespace, optimizing for rapid load times and generating 800+ LinkedIn impressions through targeted outreach.
- Led the application development of an internal tool to visualize nano satellite sensor telemetry (e.g., gyroscope data), building a data pipeline that enables students to interact with and analyze hardware metrics.
- Implemented Zoho suite for centralized email and cloud storage, streamlining team collaboration and project data management.

Chapter Director

Jan 2023 - Present

Startup Grind Kabarak

Remote

- Chapter Director at Kabarak, dedicated to building a premier resource hub for early-stage founders.
- I drive ecosystem growth by designing high-engagement programming, including competitive pitch battles and structured startup cohorts.
- By securing strategic partnerships with industry leaders like Zoho for Startups, I facilitate critical tech integrations and operational credits, providing founders with the essential infrastructure needed to scale from concept to market

Ambassodor
omi

- Driving the integration of Omi into the African builder ecosystem.
- I lead community-driven growth through hands-on sprints, product demos, and the documentation of real-world use cases.
- By bridging the gap between local operators and the Omi product team, I turn community feedback into product intelligence, ensuring Omi becomes a core workflow tool for the continent's most high-impact innovators.

Jan 2026

Nairobi

Chapter Director

CMX Connect Nairobi

- Leading the strategic development of CMX Connect Nairobi, focused on building a high-utility resource hub for the African tech ecosystem.
- I architect high-signal engagement models, including founder-expert collision events, technical workshops, and practical playbooks.
- My work focuses on transforming community engagement from vanity metrics into a tangible strategic advantage for founders, developers, and enterprise leaders.

Dec 2024

Nairobi

EDUCATION

Kabarak University

Bachelor of Science in Information Technology

Sep 2020 - Dec 2026

PROJECTS

Monologur
Creator

- An ambient intelligence layer for Omi hardware, moving beyond reactive commands to active, context-aware engagement through continuous-listening voice interfaces.
- designed the cross-platform mobile application using Expo 55, React Native, and Next.js, leveraging Zustand for state management and Zod for schema validation to ensure reliable performance.
- Engineered a high-granularity diagnostic engine capable of identifying 15+ distinct learning styles, enabling hyper-personalized student wellbeing and focus workflows.
- Implemented a "Task-First" mobile interface styled with NativeWind v4, optimizing the user experience to maximize student concentration and minimize cognitive load during active use.

Aug 2020

Greta-productivity-agent
Creator

- Applied rigorous software engineering to architect a Rust-based core engine integrated with Linux/Hyprland to track window states via xprop and system events, enabling real-time detection of productivity shifts.
- Engineered an AI intelligence layer using Venice AI and Deepgram for ultra-low-latency STT/TTS, designing a custom reasoning pipeline that generates targeted, sarcastic behavioral roasts rather than generic notifications.
- Developed a privacy-first local data architecture with SQLite and a React/Tailwind CSS frontend packaged in Tauri 2.0, delivering a secure, native-speed desktop application with an 'Organic Brutalist' interface.

Mar 2026

Hades-V
Creator

- System-Aware Desktop Intelligence Companion: Engineered a high-performance, scalable desktop agent using Rust and Tauri to provide active productivity guidance through disciplined software engineering.
- Features real-time screen awareness, voice-driven AI interaction (PTT), and a floating "sentient" UI widget to automate activity categorization and provide intelligent, context-aware user support
- Custom 32-bit Pipelined RISC-V Processor Designed and implemented a 32-bit pipelined RISC-V processor from scratch using SystemVerilog.
- Focused on low-level architectural optimization, instruction set implementation, and hardware-level performance efficiency

Jan 2026

Developer

- Student Wellbeing & Focus Platform Developed a student-centric wellbeing and productivity platform built with a "Task-First UX" philosophy.
- Designed to mitigate academic stress through concentration tools, curated resource libraries, and mission-driven daily planning, helping students maintain focus in high-pressure environments.

SKILLS & AWARDS

Technical Skills: React, Typescript, Nodejs, Expo, React Native

Languages: English

Certifications: Satellite engineering