**ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND**

Adeso is an expanding and vibrant African based international development and humanitarian organization. At Adeso, we work with African communities who are yet to realize their full potential; working inside these communities to create environments in which Africans can thrive. Our belief that economic, social and environmental security is the bedrock of a healthy community drives the nature and intent of our programming. We work to prevent and overcome situations that adversely affect community well-being by: reinvigorating the economy, developing skills for life and work, providing humanitarian aid, and influencing policy.

For over 30 years we have strengthened rural livelihoods through environmental awareness, training, technology transfer and innovative humanitarian projects in pursuit of a peaceful, self-reliant, and greener future. At present, Adeso has programs in Somalia and Kenya.

Adeso is an exciting and dynamic organization experiencing managed rapid growth. It offers sound employment conditions with opportunities for personal growth and development.

**PROJECT SUMMARY**

Over the past ten years, Adeso has developed an intimate understanding of the problems faced by both local and national NGOs on a micro and macro level. Adeso has a strong understanding of the barriers that local organizations face in accessing direct funding from donors and the challenges that donors face in partnering with local organizations.

Adeso seeks a Product Development Manager for its KujaLink platform. **KujaLink** – an online platform – is a critical component of Adeso’s five-year strategy that is focused on systems change and infrastructure development to support the creation of an ecosystem that supports more democratic and equitable resourcing and the strengthening of Global South civil society.
KujaLink allows direct donor access to local and national NGOs in countries receiving humanitarian and development assistance.

The solution aims to fulfill the following:

1. **Increase visibility** of local organizations
2. **Grow funding flows** to local organizations
3. **Create linkages** for both donors and organizations

**BACKGROUND FOR CONSULTANCY**

The Product Manager is a new position which will serve as the liaison between the KujaLink community and business teams and the platform engineering team. The role is integral in guiding and overseeing the development of KujaLink platform. The Product Manager will work closely with cross-functional teams including developers, designers, community facilitators, and project managers to ensure that KujaLink meets user needs and Adeso objectives. Overall, the Product Development Manager will be responsible for setting product goals and priorities, creating and managing tech timelines, coordinating team efforts, and communicating progress and updates to stakeholders and leadership.

This position is envisioned as a 3-month consultancy during which time the Product Development Manager will conduct an audit of the existing platform and manage the transition of the site from the existing engineering team to a new team. If those two milestones are successfully achieved the position will transition to an employment position.

**SCOPE OF WORK AND MAIN TASKS**

The KujaLink Product Development Manager will be responsible for overseeing the development and progressive implementation of the KujaLink platform. The Manager will also provide leadership, and motivation to the tech team and inspire them to develop and launch successful features on KujaLink platform.

**Specific Responsibilities**

- Work with the Business arm of the company to collect requirements, agree on the roadmap and schedule a prioritized list of features.
- Interpret these requirements and break them down into actionable tasks for the Platform Development Team to be delivered over development cycles.
- Validate the existing requirement specification and current platform as per the roadmap.
- Manage these requirements in documentation form which can be used to communicate to the Development Team and the project team as a whole.
- Ensure that the product will be delivered on time, within budget, and to the required quality standards.
- Use Agile Methodology to produce a scalable, maintainable and robust system and include stakeholders with regular updates and testing of modules.
Overall, the Product Development Manager plays a crucial role in ensuring that the platform will be delivered successfully, meeting the needs of the users.

This role requires a combination of technical knowledge, product management skills, and leadership abilities.

Other Key responsibilities

1. Leading the development team: The Product Development Manager will be responsible for leading the development team and running the software development cycles broken down into sprints and adherence to best practices (Coding and System Architecture) through daily stand ups, code reviews and testing.

2. Developing product specifications: Based on market research, input from subject matter experts and user feedback, the Product Development Manager creates detailed product specifications that outline the features, design, and functionality of the new product.

3. Defining the product roadmap: The Product Development Manager will be responsible for defining the product roadmap and ensuring that the development team will be working towards the goals outlined in the roadmap.

4. Managing the development process: The Product Development Manager will be responsible for managing the development process, including planning, design, development, testing, and deployment.

5. Identifying and managing risks: The Product Development Manager will be responsible for identifying and managing risks that may impact the development process or the final product.

6. Ensuring quality control: The Product Development Manager is responsible for ensuring that the platform meets all quality standards, regulatory requirements, and customer expectations.

7. Mentoring team members: The Product Development Manager will be responsible for mentoring and coaching team members to help them develop their skills and progress in their careers.

8. Communicating with stakeholders: The Product Development Manager must communicate with key stakeholders, including executives, investors, and customers, to keep them informed about the progress of the product development process and address any concerns or questions they may have.

QUALIFICATIONS

- A bachelor's or master's degree in a relevant field such as computer science, software engineering, or business.
- More than 5 years experience as a full stack developer (Front-End and Backend).
- A strong background in product development, project management, and leadership.
- Demonstrated ability to work with a cross-cultural and remote based team
- Excellent communication, analytical, and problem-solving skills
● Strong technical skills, including proficiency in product design, engineering, and testing. Familiarity with software development methodologies, project management tools, and agile development practices.
● Good at communicating with a variety of stakeholders, including developers, designers, marketers, and leadership.
● Strong leadership skills, including the ability to delegate tasks, manage expectations, and make good decisions.
● Experience in developing product specifications based on market research and user feedback.

DESIRABLE

● Good understanding of technology and technical processes related to KujaLink platform.
● Strong analytical skills to measure and evaluate the success of the product.
● Should be user centric.

APPLICATION PROCESS

All applications should be sent to consultancy@adesoafrica.org by 10th May 2023 with Product Development Manager - KujaLink on the subject line. The selection committee will review all applications as they arrive. All applicants must meet the minimum requirements described above, and those unable to meet these requirements will not be considered.

Each application package should include the following:

● An application letter addressing the selection criteria including how the individual’s previous experience matches the consultancy objectives as well as the interest for the position. It should also indicate the candidate’s availability and consultancy rates. The letter should be no longer than two pages;
● Updated CV including relevant work experience and qualifications;
● Contact details of 3 references.

Applications not including all of the above information will not be reviewed. Adeso is an equal opportunity employer.