

PRINCE MOKUT

Staff Platform Engineer · Kubernetes, Azure, DevSecOps & Reliability

Lagos, Nigeria (UTC+1) · princemokut@gmail.com · +234 812 772 0886 · linkedin.com/in/princemokut

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Platform and DevSecOps engineer with 14 years across infrastructure management, software delivery, and cloud platforms in financial services, telco, and international development. Runs MTN Nigeria's AI customer-service platform on Azure AKS at 94% bot containment across 100,000+ conversations a month for a 95M-subscriber base. Previously cut \$125,000 from DAI Global's annual Azure spend and introduced CI/CD across 30+ critical apps at Zenith Bank.

SKILLS

Cloud: Azure (AKS, Key Vault, App Gateway, Cost Management), AWS (ECS, VPC, Aurora), GCP Cloud Run

Kubernetes & Infrastructure: AKS, Istio, Docker, Helm, Terraform, Ansible, Linux (RHEL, Ubuntu)

CI/CD & DevSecOps: GitHub Actions, Azure DevOps, GitOps, SonarCloud, OWASP Top 10, dependency scanning

Observability & Reliability: Elastic, Prometheus, Grafana, Azure Monitor, Dynatrace, incident response

Languages & Data: Node.js, TypeScript, Python, Bash, PowerShell, PostgreSQL, Redis, MongoDB

FinOps: Azure Cost Management, right-sizing, budget alerts, resource tagging

Networking & Middleware: F5, HAProxy, Application Gateway (WAF), TLS, PKI, IAM, WebSphere, JBoss

CERTIFICATIONS

Microsoft Certified: DevOps Engineer Expert

Microsoft Certified: Azure Administrator Associate

Microsoft Certified: Azure Security Engineer Associate

Microsoft Certified: Azure Solutions Architect Expert

ISO 22301 Lead Implementer (Business Continuity Management) · ITIL Foundation

GLOBAL AUTHORITY & THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

LinkedIn Learning Instructor · Remote

Four published courses on Azure, Kubernetes, CI/CD and Terraform

2021 — Present

- Trained **78,000+ engineers** across four published courses at 4.7/5 learner satisfaction, with the curriculum adopted at 10 US universities including the University of Florida.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Vennote Technologies (Client: MTN Nigeria) · Lagos, Nigeria

Senior DevSecOps Expert & Engineering Manager

2025 — Present

Platform architecture, delivery, and production reliability for MTN Nigeria's AI customer-service platform on Azure AKS.

- Shipped MTN Nigeria's AI customer-service platform to production in 4 months with a 15-engineer team across backend, frontend, ML, QA, and platform.
- Improved time to restore from over an hour to under 30 minutes by leading platform observability on Elastic and building proactive outage detection with synthetic-chat and dead-man's-switch CronJobs, replacing business-user reports as the first signal of failure.
- Diagnosed cross-pod message loss in a distributed chat backend and led the fix, moving Socket.IO session state into Redis so live agent handover worked reliably across replicas.
- Migrated 10 services across two environments to a new production domain with zero downtime, covering Istio gateways, TLS certificates, and DNS cutover.
- Cut lead time to production by 85% and raised deployment success to 98% by moving static analysis and dependency scanning into every merge on GitHub Actions and gating releases behind a pre-production environment.

- Fixed recurring pod restarts under peak load by rewriting Kubernetes liveness and readiness probes that were gating on a slow dependency-check endpoint.
- Built a second Vennote client's lending platform on AWS (ECS, VPC, Aurora, Route 53) with Terraform, now serving 1,000+ customers.

Rentflex · Side Project

Lead Engineer

2025 — Present

- Built and running a rental-installment lending platform on GCP Cloud Run (Node.js, Python, React, GraphQL), developed by specialised frontend, backend, QA, DevOps, and security agents orchestrated on Claude Code.
- Cut critical vulnerabilities by 70% with an agentic security scanner running continuously across the codebase during the spec-driven development instead of at release.

DAI Global · Remote (supporting 100+ country programmes)

Principal Manager, Software Development & DevOps

2023 — 2025

- Cut DAI's annual Azure spend by \$125,000 through off-hours auto-shutdown scheduling, service consolidation, and right-sizing Azure Virtual Desktop, under showback reporting with monthly budget alerts.
- Quadrupled production deployment frequency, from one release every two months to one every two-week sprint, by moving delivery off waterfall onto sprint-based iteration on a microservices architecture.
- Delivered 7 production applications on Azure AKS at 99.99% uptime, with automated testing in CI/CD cutting production defects by 30%.
- Avoided \$800,000 in vendor spend by scoping an in-house AI policy-search build and leading development and delivery to production, cutting research time by 90% for 5,000+ employees across 100+ country offices.
- Grew the software engineering team from 3 to 10 across backend, frontend, UX, data, and AI, with two internal promotions and no voluntary attrition over two years.

Principal Cloud Engineer

2021 — 2023

- Cut cloud resource provisioning from days to under 20 minutes by building Terraform landing zones and Azure DevOps pipelines.
- Cut development lead time by 40% by moving DAI onto Terraform-managed Azure infrastructure and AKS, replacing hand-built environments with reusable modules.
- Made all Azure spend attributable to a named programme owner by designing the resource-tagging standard and Cost Management dashboards behind procurement's chargeback model.

Zenith Bank Plc · Lagos, Nigeria

Systems & DevOps Engineer

2018 — 2021

- Restored horizontal scaling across internet, mobile, and corporate banking (JBoss) servers by diagnosing an F5 session-affinity failure and moving session state into Redis.
- Cut deployment time by 95% across 30+ critical applications by replacing manual deployments with CI/CD, securing CIO's backing for the change and training 15+ engineers.
- Provisioned Azure resources with Terraform, including ephemeral dev resources for testing.
- Removed recurring public SSL certificate cost across 200+ internal servers by building an internal PKI Certificate Authority to issue their TLS certificates.
- Validated post-failover availability of banking, card and SMS systems by running primary-to-DR switchovers in enterprise recovery drills.
- Automated Active Directory account placement across 300+ branch OUs with a PowerShell job running every 15 minutes, removing a manual support ticket from every onboarding and branch transfer.

User Support Engineer

2013 — 2017

Enterprise IT support and automated OS deployment (Windows Deployment Services); supported ISO 27001 compliance for managed print infrastructure.

EDUCATION: Bachelor of Science, Computer Engineering · Benson Idahosa University, Nigeria