

Gorka Llona

CTO | Software Architect | AI & Cloud Strategist

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Profile

CTO, software architect, and AI strategist with 25+ years building scalable, cloud-native SaaS platforms and AI-powered solutions across fintech, healthcare, social impact, services and human rights sectors.

Specialized in full-cycle product development, cloud infrastructure, and AI/LLM integrations that transform complex data into insights, automate operations, and deliver measurable outcomes. Combines deep technical expertise (Python, Java, Kotlin, AWS, N8N, AI) with business subjects (MBA) to align technology innovation with business strategy.

Professional Experience

Co-founder & CTO, Agile Impacts ✎

ImpactTech startup delivering AI-driven tools for social impact measurement and grant management.

12/2023 – present
Valencia, Spain

- Led architecture and development of SaaS platform on AWS (Python, Java, Kotlin, LlamaIndex, Quart, Spring Boot, Supabase, PostgreSQL, N8N).
- Designed and deployed AI-powered solutions:
 - Free-text-to-indicators matching engine using LLMs and clustering algorithms
 - Automated WhatsApp survey analytics pipeline transforming open-text to KPI dashboards
 - Grant-customer matching automation and application form generation integrated with Google Docs
- Built and maintain Talks Hippy, AI-driven chatbot framework (Telegram, Matrix, WhatsApp) for surveys and multi-channel engagement. Open source version available.
- Managed AWS infrastructure (99.9% uptime) and a 2-person tech team.
- Scaled the invite-only, freemium impact indicators app to 1K users in 6 months and the Grant Helper app to 20+ paid customers in 3 months with one client securing €250K in non-dilutive funding.

Java Architect / Tech Lead (Consultant), Globant ✎

Worked with clients like Glovo, Saks Fifth Avenue, and Parques Reunidos.

2019 – 2023
Barcelona, Spain

- Developed API and event-driven microservices (Java, Spring Boot, AWS).
- Developed the Globant's Java core library and microservice template for the Apache Drools rule-based engine.
- Led tech assessments and vendor selection for enterprise PIM/MDM solutions.
- Implemented the PayPal payments integration for Glovo orders. Helped Glovo to scale up and saw it becoming an unicorn.

Tech Lead / Backend Developer, Rappi ✎

Rappi is the leading Latam all-in-one-app and unicorn startup, covering from delivery parcels to online shopping to issuing credit cards.

2017 – 2018
Bogota, Colombia

- Led backend teams for the Markets vertical.

- Developed a massive data pipeline integrating shop and pricing data into PostgreSQL (AWS RDS, Lambda, S3, Kotlin DSL).
- Created OAuth2 authorization services and event-driven communication systems (SQS, Firebase).
- Promoted agile best practices and led technical onboarding processes.
- Helped Rappi to scale up and become an unicorn.

Founder, CEO & CTO, *Fluxus Soluciones*

2008 – 2014

- Conceived, built, and sold TEXTEAR, a cloud-based SaaS business providing SMS-based services.
- Designed a high-availability, dual-server & dual-channel platform (Java, MySQL, Linux, Bash).
- Processed 2.5M SMS over 5 years and sold the platform to the market leader.

Caracas, Venezuela

Education

MBA - Business Administration, *IESA Business School*

2008 – 2010

Caracas, Venezuela

Computer Engineer, *Universidad Simón Bolívar*

2004

Caracas, Venezuela

Skills

- SaaS platform design & cloud infrastructure (AWS)
- AI/LLM development (LlamaIndex, agentic AI, NLP pipelines, remote MCP servers)
- Backend: Python, Java, Kotlin, Spring Boot, Quart, Flask
- Microservices, event-driven systems, APIs
- Docker, AWS ECS/Lambda/S3/RDS/SQS/Kinesis, Supabase, databases, Redis
- Workflow automation (N8N), Google Workspace API
- Data processing (pandas, scikit-learn, LLM embeddings)
- Agile product management, team mentoring

Languages

- Spanish
- English

Open source

Traversera, *Python API client library*

Barcelona, Spain

Connect your Python code to external API services as easy as defining an endpoint with Flask, Quart or FastAPI.

Talks / Talks Hippy, *Multi-channel chatbot framework*

Barcelona, Spain

Open-source chatbot framework (Java/Kotlin) for Telegram, Matrix, WhatsApp with LLM/NLP integration and enterprise features.

Awards

5th place in the Venezuelan Mathematics Olympics,

1987

National Center for the Improvement of Science Teaching - Cenamec

Recognition for outstanding performance during the Engineering career,

1988

Universidad Simón Bolívar