openup:

OpenUp is looking for Product Owners.

We're always looking for talented people who can improve our team and organisation.

OpenUp is a civic technology organisation that seeks to empower people and government, through data, technology and innovative-thinking, to become active agents in creating positive social change. We partner with government, civil society, and industry leaders and to identify, gather and make accessible information that supports open communities and an empowered citizenry.

We are concerned that citizens may be inactive participants in civic life. This can be associated with a lack of adequate data and information of participation processes, services and recourse avenues. In addition, state actors may be closed off and uninformed of the real challenges or demands of citizens. As a result, or in addition, they are often ineffective at delivering services and engaging with the public.

Our belief is that data and technology can be used as tools to address both of these issues. An informed public better able to engage with the government on developmental and related issues. Correspondingly, an informed government is equipped to direct efforts and investment into the areas with the greatest need. Technology, if implemented correctly, can facilitate that creation of civic spaces which bridge the gap between citizens and government. The focus of much of our work is to remove barriers that they experience when attempting to solve their own problems or those of their loved ones.

We take the 'Open' component of our name seriously. As such everything we create is open source and is licensed using open licences. We don't believe in reinventing the wheel, unless the need calls for it. We are also careful to avoid building white elephants that divert funds away from where it

can do the most good. As such, our work heavily relies on user-centred design where technology addresses people's needs rather than existing for its own sake.

Jobs

OpenUp is currently looking for a talented Product Owner to join the team in a fixed-term, contract position. This job call is open-ended and the opportunity will close once we've found a suitable candidate.

Application instructions:

1. Carefully read through the job description below.
2. Apply by sending an email with your CV and a brief cover letter of no more than 300 words to jobs@openup.org.za. Please clearly indicate in the subject of the email the position you are applying to.

Product Owner

A fixed-term contract position. This role will work closely with organisational management, project managers, and project implementation teams, in order to create a product that fits the organisation's portfolio. **Please note that this is a senior position**.

The position of product owner encompasses, but is not limited to, the following tasks:

- Define product vision and strategy in line with the organisation's strategy and goals.
- Define and manage product roadmaps, including development cycles and release management.
- Make evidence-based decisions regarding the direction of the product.
- Determine product specifications, requirements and features based on strategic input, user feedback and organisational needs for both existing and new products.
- Continuous monitoring of product performance and meeting of product goals.
- Continuous improvement of products, based on monitoring and user feedback.
- Work closely with the implementation team to realise the product requirements.
- Develop the scope and define a backlog of items (epic/features/user stories) that guide a project team's implementation, solving product-related problems.
- Lead product planning sessions.
- Manage the product backlog in terms of prioritisation and grooming.
- Assesses the value, develops cases, and prioritizes stories, epics and themes to ensure work focuses on those with a maximum value that are aligned with the product strategy.
- Identifies and helps the client understand the business model, value and value proposition of the product.
- Develop metrics to assess the success of products and their features
- Demonstrates a fundamental understanding of end-to-end customer experience integration and dependencies.

Requirements

- Bachelor's degree or higher (preferably in a tech, programming, or data science field)
- At least 5 years experience as a senior staff member (manager, team leader etc.)
- Experience communicating at various levels.
- Proven track record in research.
- Excellent writing skills.

- Excellent computer skills (Google Drive and/or MS Office, project management tools, etc.)
- Strong communication skills.
- Fluent in English.
- Ability to self-manage.
- Ability to work independently as well as collaboratively.
- Has their own laptop.
- Access to a stable internet connection that can handle video conferencing
- Non-South Africans must have a valid work permit.

Start date: Immediately.

Salary: In line with experience and market related.

Location: Remote.