

Matias Aguilar Vega

Full Stack & Smart Contract Engineer | aaguilar1x@gmail.com | Costa Rica

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Product-driven Software Engineer building end-to-end systems across full-stack and blockchain with +3 years of experience. Experience leading teams across Latin America and delivering real-world solutions in high-pressure environments such as hackathons and production projects, with a strong focus on execution, scalability, and impact.

EDUCATION

Universidad Fidelitas, San José, Costa Rica
Bachelor of Software Development Engineering

San José, Costa Rica
Enero 2024 - Present

Centro Cultural Costarricense Norteamericano
Intensive English

Cartago, Costa Rica
January 2025 - Present

EXPERIENCE

Oppia Labs — Founder & Full Stack Engineer | [Link](#)

November 2025 – Present

Innovation studio focused on decentralized, open-source financial infrastructure with real-world impact across Latin America.

- Founded and led the development of a Web3-focused innovation studio, defining product vision and technical direction.
- Architected scalable full-stack systems using Next.js, NestJS, and smart contracts on Stellar (Soroban).
- Built and maintained open-source repositories, developer workflows, and contribution structures.
- Designed financial models (TAM/SAM/SOM), tokenomics, and go-to-market strategies for DeFi products.

Acta — Full Stack & Smart Contract Engineer | [Link](#)

February 2026 - Present

Verifiable credentials infrastructure built on Stellar focused on trusted digital identity and interoperable real-world applications.

- Built and scaled frontend, backend, and smart contract infrastructure using Next.js, Node.js, TypeScript, and Soroban (Rust).
- Designed scalable architecture integrating decentralized infrastructure with high-performance user experiences.
- Collaborated on protocol design, developer tooling, and blockchain integrations focused on security and usability.
- Contributed to the growth of Acta, which secured \$75K in funding from Stellar Development Foundation (SDF).

Web3 Builder & Hackathon Engineer (Multiple Projects)

November 2024 – Present

- Led and collaborated with international teams across Latin America in high-pressure hackathon environments.
- Built production-ready applications integrating full-stack systems and smart contracts.
- Delivered solutions in DeFi, RWAs, and financial infrastructure with real-world use cases.
- Worked across product development, system architecture, and rapid prototyping.

SKILLS

Programming Languages:	JavaScript, TypeScript, Rust, Cairo, SQL
Libraries / Frameworks:	React, Next.js, TailwindCSS, Node.js, Express, NestJS
Tools / Platforms:	Git, Docker, Figma, Supabase, Cursor, LLMs
Databases:	PostgreSQL, Firebase
Blockchain:	Stellar (Soroban), Starknet (Cairo), Ethereum

PROJECTS

Neko Protocol — Co-Founder & Creative Director | [Link](#)

November 2025 - Present

All-in-one Real World Asset (RWA) DeFi platform on Stellar focused on making tokenized financial products accessible through a seamless and user-centric experience.

- Led product vision, brand identity, ecosystem growth, and protocol direction across the Stellar ecosystem.
- Architected full-stack systems integrating frontend, backend infrastructure, and smart contracts on Stellar (Soroban).
- Designed intuitive user experiences simplifying access to RWAs, yield generation, and decentralized financial products.
- Collaborated on protocol architecture, financial infrastructure, and composable DeFi integrations focused on scalability and usability.
- Secured a \$5K ecosystem grant and participated in Código Alebrije Scale Track powered by Stellar Development Foundation and Stellar LATAM.
- Worked closely with Stellar Development Foundation team members and Developer Advocates, receiving technical feedback and ecosystem validation.

Numo — Founder & Full Stack Engineer | [Link](#)

May 2025 - Present

Modular Bitcoin DeFi platform on Starknet enabling automated strategies and yield optimization.

- Developed full-stack platform with integration to DeFi protocols
- Focused on simplifying complex financial strategies for end users
- Worked on product design, system architecture, and execution
- Secured \$25,000 in funding from the Starknet Foundation, validating product vision and execution

Pacto — Founder & Full Stack Engineer | [Link](#)

July 2025 - Present

Decentralized P2P platform for stablecoin trading using CRCX, a Costa Rican colón-backed asset.

- Built platform enabling fiat-to-crypto access for local users
- Focused on financial inclusion and real-world adoption
- Developed end-to-end system including frontend and blockchain integration

AI-powered financial education platform.

- Developed intuitive tools to help users understand and manage finances
- Focused on UX, behavior design, and product adoption

HONORS & AWARDS

- ZK Gaming Hackathon — Oppia ZkArcade** (2026)
- Developed a zero-knowledge arcade on Stellar with verifiable game logic
- Stellar Hack+ Buenos Aires — Innovation Award & Top 3** (2025)
- Recognition for Neko Protocol, highlighting product vision and execution
- Stellar Hack+ Buenos Aires — Innovation Award & Top 3** (2025)
- Stellar Builder House CDMX — 1st Place
- Starknet Re{ignite} Hackathon — Multi Award Winner** (2025)
- Won 3 awards including Best App and Pragma Award with Numo
- Ethereum Pura Vida Costa Rica — 1st Place** (2024)
- Built a decentralized financial tool for farmers improving financial inclusion

Recognition

- Stellar House CDMX** (2026)
- Expanded Neko Protocol's product direction and ecosystem integrations in collaboration with Stellar ecosystem teams, including the integration of Etherfuse tokenized Mexican government securities as operational on-chain RWAs.
- Código Alebrije Scale Track** (2026)
- Selected by Stellar Development Foundation and Stellar LATAM to participate in a startup acceleration program in Mexico City focused on scaling high-potential Stellar startups from MVP to funding readiness, refining Neko Protocol's strategy, positioning, and execution roadmap.
- Blockchain Acceleration Foundation (BAF) — Mentor & Team Lead, Medellín** (2026)
- Selected to lead a team of 18 builders across Latin America in a high-impact program with Corporación Interactuar (450,000+ entrepreneurs impacted). Delivered a real-world solution using verifiable credentials (Acta), coordinating diverse teams and driving execution under pressure.
- Meridian Hackathon — Top Winner (Brazil)** (2025)
- Competed against top international Web3 teams, delivering a high-impact solution under pressure with strong execution and product focus.

CERTIFICATIONS

- Certificate Development with AI — BIG School** (2025)
- SCRUM Fundamentals Certified — SCRUMstudy** (2024)
- Graduated from Starknet Foundation Basecamp 10 with honors.** (2024)