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# Africa Food System & Climate Connector

## Role at a glance

<b>The Role</b>	The postholder will support the following HLC and food systems national objectives, with the aim of bringing to bear distinctly African presence and active participation.
<b>Contract type</b>	Independent contractor
<b>Contract duration</b>	6 months
<b>Remuneration level</b>	In line with market rates, and commensurate with experience and location. Remuneration is inclusive of benefits and annual leave.
<b>Start date</b>	As soon as possible
<b>Location</b>	Based in East Africa
<b>Annual leave</b>	Up to 4 weeks unpaid leave
<b>Reporting to</b>	The post will report to the Global Food and Ag lead in the High Level Champions and WRI Global Vital Landscapes Director.
<b>Other</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The candidate is expected to work from home, with occasional travel as and when requested.</li><li>• In some locations, a collaborative office space may be available.</li><li>• The candidate is expected to provide and maintain their own ICT and work tools.</li><li>• The candidate must be comfortable operating within the HLC team IT systems including google docs and shared calendars.</li><li>• Out of town travel and other work related expenses will be reimbursed in line with the travel and expense policy</li></ul>
<b>Recruitment process</b>	<p>Please submit your CV and cover letter (no more than an A4 page) to <a href="mailto:opportunities@climatechampions.team">opportunities@climatechampions.team</a></p> <p><b>Please mention 'Africa Food System &amp; Climate Connector' in the subject of your email.</b></p> <p>Applications will be assessed on a rolling basis beginning 4 April, with virtual interviews taking place soon after.</p>

## About WRI

World Resources Institute (WRI) is an independent, nonprofit global research organisation that turns big ideas into action at the nexus of environment, economic opportunity and human well-being. We are working to address seven critical challenges that the world must overcome



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this decade in order to secure a sustainable future for people and the planet: climate change, energy, food, forests, water, sustainable cities, and the ocean.

The foundation of WRI's work is delivering high-quality research, data, maps and analysis to solve the world's greatest environment and international development challenges, and improve people's lives. WRI works with leaders in government, business and civil society to drive ambitious action and create change on the ground, and brings together partners to develop breakthrough ideas and scale-up solutions for far-reaching, enduring impact.

### **About the Climate Champions**

The Climate Champions Team provides support to the UNFCCC High Level Climate Champions to deliver on the mandate from Parties: to drive climate action and enhance ambition by non-state actors. Working with the Marrakech Partnership and other partners, we mobilise businesses, investors, cities, regions and civil society and act as a bridge between non-state actors and national governments to reach the goals of the Paris Agreement. At COP26, the two serving High Level Climate Champions launched [a five year plan](#) to deliver on the mandate from Parties. It sets out objectives and details of the tools employed to achieve them, across six key functions for the work of the Climate Champions Team for the period 2021 - 2025.

The global team is resourced to support the major campaigns [Race to Resilience](#), [Race to Zero](#) and [Glasgow Finance Alliance for Net Zero \(GFANZ\)](#), as well as sector-focused systems transformation using the [Climate Action Pathways](#), [2030 Breakthroughs](#). Alongside this, we are continuing to strengthen the accountability mechanisms of the campaigns and assess the overall state of systems transformation as we prepare to support the global stocktake.

COP27 offers a unique moment to drive transformational change, scaling action for climate-vulnerable communities, and mobilising finance to developing and emerging economies, to move from ambition to implementation and halve global emissions and protect four billion people from climate impacts by 2030.

### **Context**

In Dec 2020, a brainstorming session convened by the Climate Champions and non state actors based in Africa noted that there was an urgent need for greater participation and representation of youth and farmers voices in climate change dialogues and actions.

One of the themes the High Level Champions (HLCs) will lead on globally this year is - expanding the current 28% of food industry committed to net zero by 2050 to include more



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farmers, SME's and youth in agriculture voices from Africa and the global south, and contributing to deliver the Glasgow Breakthrough for agriculture agreed at COP26, with an emphasis on agriculture innovation and just rural transition.

In Africa, the focus will be on support to Africa based platforms, consultative forums and actions on food system transformation, within the lens of sustainable land management, farmer centred livelihoods, adaptation and resilience .

The postholder will support the following HLC and food systems national objectives, with the aim of bringing to bear distinctly African presence and active participation.

**Key responsibilities include:**

1. Engage with key stakeholders of the food ecosystem in Africa, from production and processing levels to retailers and consumers (eg. producers, retail, industry providers, fintech and digital entrepreneur community), with a deliberate effort to profile and address farmers' requirements and potential contributions in relation to the sustainable agriculture agenda.
2. Actively engage in and support relevant National platforms established by FOLU (Food and land Use Coalition) partners to bring more African farmer voices in food systems by ensuring the representation of local, national and regional farmer federations. These may include: Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFB); Plateforme Sous-Régionale des Organisations Paysannes d'Afrique Centrale (PROPAC); Réseau des Organisations Paysannes et de Producteurs de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (ROPPO); Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU); and Union Maghrébine et Nord-Africaines des Agriculteurs (UMNAGRI), among others.
3. Ensure the inclusion of women and youth voices and priorities in local, national and global agenda on food systems transformation agenda through FOLU platforms and UNHLC's initiatives.
4. Lead the organisation and execution of at least one workshop with the FOLU Kenya platform on Food Systems transformation and ensure the recommendations are taken up in Africa Food Systems Transformation Forum (formally AGRF) and COP 27.
5. Support the transformation lead on food and agriculture in at the HLC team ensuring inputs from Africa based initiatives, dialogues and groups including farmer organisations to inform the HLC global agenda and narratives on food systems transformation, as well as informing other key agenda leading coalitions such as FOLU.



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6. Ensure that the discussions, agendas, prototypes and standards informing food systems frameworks and initiatives (including Regen 10, SBTi FLAG, GLasgow Agriculture Breakthrough) incorporate the insights, experience of African food producers and farmers, including women and youth.
7. Support any eventual Loss and Damage on actions related to food and agriculture.
8. Maximise synergies between regenerative agriculture and R2R campaign.
9. Support on any briefing to HLCs and the strat comms team ensuring that farmers' and SME voices are included in food and agriculture messages and events.
10. Regular coordination with the expanding Africa- based Climate Champions team.

### About you

The successful candidate will have experience of working with/or as a smallholder farmer or in an SME food business in East Africa. You will be a highly motivated self-starter, willing to work across different time zones and cultures in a high-profile, fast-paced environment. A relevant undergraduate degree qualification is desirable but not essential to perform this role.

### The following requirements are essential:

1. Proactive, outward facing networker and farmers' advocate who is comfortable inserting her/himself into regional and local debates and forums involving a wide range of stakeholders (eg with corporate, media, investors, think tanks) to promote the voice and experience of smallholder farmers so as to create opportunities for further engagement with smallholder farmers and agri SMEs.
2. Understanding of the science and various forms of local knowledge involved with sustainable, nature positive, climate resilient agriculture
3. Excellent communication skills in English, and at least one other major African language (Swahili, Arabic etc) - with succinct writing skills.
4. Comfortable working in a fast paced, online global team operating across different time zones.
5. Candidates who come from a farming background are highly encouraged.
6. Commitment to the Climate Champion Core values (below)

### Core Values

- **Unite behind the science:** we commit to make the changes scientists tell us are needed.
- **Build upon the incredible work to date:** we will cross-fertilize and amplify the work of the many heroes who have already committed so much to addressing climate change.
- **Take into account different ideas and perspectives:** we're willing to be challenged and



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to challenge, we look for the best in people and the best, most sound and most credible ideas, wherever they come from.

- **Practice stubborn optimism:** we recognize the scale of the problem, combined with an absolute determination to build our way out.
- **Seek progress not perfection:** all of us can be criticised and many of those best able to advance this issue are currently the biggest causes of it. We can't allow cynical greenwashing, but all who are serious about tackling climate change positively will be welcomed.
- **Be humble and generous:** we keep our egos in check and work together for the good of the whole

### Code of Conduct

As a member of the Climate Champions Team you are required to adhere to the highest standards of conduct and behaviour, protecting the integrity of the mandate from Parties, the UNFCCC process, the UNFCCC institution and the COP presidency. Shortly after joining, there will be a number of mandatory induction meetings to ensure you have the information and tools needed to work to the highest standards.