

REGIONAL DIRECTOR: AFRICA

The Role at a Glance

The Role	The Regional Director for Africa will play a leading role in shaping and implementing the High-Level Climate Champions' plan for accelerating ambition and action in the region, and for delivering a transformative COP27. Working closely with the HLCs, colleagues across the Climate Champions Team and with a wide range of partners, the post holder will work in entrepreneurial and collaborative ways to drive change within, and strengthen the voice and influence of, the region.
Contract type	Independent contractor
Contract duration	12 months, with likelihood of extension
Remuneration level	In line with market rates, and commensurate with experience and location. Remuneration is inclusive of annual leave.
Start date	As soon as possible
Location	The postholder should be based in Africa, but the specific location is flexible. The postholder must have the right to live and work there. The role will require some travel, both within Africa and globally
Annual leave	Up to 6 weeks unpaid leave
Reporting to	Frances Way, Executive Director
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The candidate is expected to work from home, with occasional travel as and when requested. • In some locations, a collaborative office space may be available. • The candidate is expected to provide and maintain their own ICT and work tools. • The candidate must be comfortable operating within the HLC team IT systems including google docs and shared calendars. • Out of town travel and other work related expenses will be reimbursed in line with the travel and expense policy
Recruitment process	<p>Please submit your CV and brief cover letter to opportunities@climatechampions.team (no more than one A4 page)</p> <p>Please mention 'Regional Director, Africa' in the subject of your email.</p> <p>Applications will be assessed week commencing 25 April 2022, with virtual interviews taking place soon after</p>

The Climate Champions Team



Background

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](#) and [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.

The Regional Director for Africa provides an opportunity to work at what is arguably the most pressing challenge in the world today, and it will suit you if you are highly mission driven, entrepreneurial and thrive in fast-paced, ever-evolving and diverse teams. You will need to be outward facing, with excellent networks and relationships with pan continental institutions in Africa such as UNECA, AUDA-NEPAD and others. You will be experienced and comfortable juggling different priorities and balancing multiple - and at times - competing demands and work in ways which are highly collaborative and engaging with a wide range of stakeholders at all levels and across all sectors of the economy, policy and society. You are a good judge of opportunity and the possibilities of leveraging change with a diverse set of actors - including civil society organisations, farmers unions, investors, business leaders, African philanthropy

The Climate Champions Team



organisations, youth groups, Mayors and Regional Governors, as well as INGO partners.

Overview of the role

As the Regional Director for Africa you will take a lead in shaping and implementing the High Level Champions objectives and plans for the Africa region, working closely with the High Level Climate Action Champions and the Climate Champions Senior Leadership Team. With COP27 taking place in Sharm-El-Sheikh in November 2022, the successful candidate will be ready to hit the ground running, with the experience, capabilities and networks required to shape programmes of work and drive their implementation at pace. You will be working with a talented and committed team, comprising campaign managers, systems transformation teams in all major sectors across the economy, policy and engagement leads, and a strong communications team. In addition you will play a key role in co-creating results through and with our partnerships and networks including our Race to Resilience and Race to Zero partners, the GFANZ Africa Network and alliances such as the Africa Green Hydrogen Alliance and partnerships to further sustainable land use and regenerative agriculture.

Key responsibilities include:

1. **Provide overall strategic direction, shape plans and drive delivery of the High Level Champions' priorities and plans for the region**, in a way which delivers progress against the [five year plan](#) and create synergies with our global campaigns and the work plans for systems transformation and sector mobilisation, policy and sub-national engagement, and community engagement. It will be essential that the regional plan is contextually relevant in different areas across the large and diverse continent, and the postholder will play a key role in translating global initiatives to a local context, in a way which taps into - and amplify the work of - the wide range of partners in the region.
2. **Represent the High Level Champions in Africa**, engaging effectively and in accordance with the unique mandate from parties across the wide range of networks and fora. As part of the role, the postholder will have excellent ability to inspire, mobilise and accelerate action - making connections and building partnerships across a wide range of actors including Heads of State, Government representatives, and leaders from business, regions & cities and community, including youth groups.

The Climate Champions Team



3. **Advise HLCs and the Climate Champions Team** on the political, economic and societal context and factors affecting climate action in Africa. This includes facilitating access to and engaging with (a) political insights and diplomatically relevant perspectives to inform the HLCs' global positioning in the climate change agenda (b) core actors across the economy who are key to accelerated change, including financial institutions and city, regions, business, community and youth leaders.
4. **Support the Marrakech Partnership processes and key members in Africa**, as the representatives of NSA communities and sectors in the Continent, and the formal bridge between Non-State Actors and the Parties in the COP process. The successful candidate will be able to engage effectively to drive the ambition loop across both sides, raising ambition among non-state actors (businesses, investors, cities, regions, and civil society) emboldening governments to increase their own ambitions.
5. **Accelerate Systems Transformation in Africa** working with global sector and campaign leads and identify the opportunities for transformative breakthroughs, set the priorities and co-create the plan for the region to further our core campaigns of Race to Resilience and Race to Zero. The postholder will identify new, innovative Africa-based partners, including in the fintech and digital tech sector, to deliver a programme of work which catalyses partner-led accelerated climate action which secures a 1.5 aligned pathway in the continent in 3 main sectors. The work will build directly on the emerging plan for 2022, which includes focus on renewable energy (including green hydrogen and open waste burning), infrastructure (including green buildings and transport) and nature (including regenerative agriculture and carbon removals). A summary of the emerging plan for 2022 can be found [here](#).
6. **Support the work of the Africa GFANZ network**, supporting the Africa GFANZ director and advisory board in accelerating progress toward aligning the global financial system with the most ambitious goals of the Paris Agreement, and leverage the GFANZ team's technical knowledge and networks to further the systems transformation in the continent. This includes working with campaign leads to ensure accountability and impact of net zero pledges, mobilising finance for climate solutions in emerging markets and developing countries, increasing financial flows to adaptation, resilience and loss and damage, and working closely with the Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero secretariat and partners.

The Climate Champions Team



- 7. Build engagement with, and input to the HLC agenda on climate action campaigns**
engaging with a broad range of stakeholders across different areas of the continent and different parts of the economy to support multilateral action. Recognising that the work is still in its early stages, the postholder will be required to build awareness and buy-in to the agenda. Working with the Climate Champions Comms Director and team, the postholder will help inform the overall narrative and communications plan for the region.
- 8. Management and development** of the team in Africa, currently 5 FTE staff with the majority based in Nairobi. This includes working with the Executive Director and the Operations Director to ensure that the team is well resourced, high performing and happy. It also includes working collaboratively with the GFANZ lead who will have a different reporting line. More specifically, it will include support on fundraising, recruitment, objective setting and - for some staff specifically focused on driving the regional staff - line management.

As this is a new and fast evolving team, the responsibilities are not set in stone. Rather, we expect the post holder to be adaptable and help develop the function in line with the changing requirements.

About You

The successful candidate will have a successful and substantial track record of climate action and systems change in the region. You will be a highly motivated self-starter, willing to work across different time zones and cultures in a high-profile, fast-paced environment. You are able to exercise sound judgement with regard to engaging on opportunities to catalyse change and are experienced at building coalitions and fostering collaboration across a wide range of actors.

The following requirements are essential:

Candidates must already have the required authorisation to work and live in a location in Africa.

- Exceptional programme development and leadership skills
- Strong understanding of the climate action agenda in Africa and the contextual factors affecting change across economic, political and societal parameters
- Excellent networks across different areas and sectors in the region

The Climate Champions Team



- Experience working in the area of climate-related finance/investment, preferably including in emerging markets and developing countries
- Proven track record of engaging effectively with senior level/C-suite public and private sector leaders
- Strong analytical skills and attention to detail
- Excellent team, process and project management skills, with ability to juggle multiple priorities and deadlines, and bring out the best in a diverse team across a broad range of global geographies and time zones
- Excellent communications skills, verbal and written in English
- Fluent in at least one major language (Arabic, Hausa, Swahili etc).
- Collaborative and collegial working style, and a strong team player
- Ability to manage ambiguity and change
- Good understanding of the levers for change to achieve the objectives of the Paris Agreement
- Commitment to the Climate Champions 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 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 criticized 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

The Climate Champions Team



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.

Contract information

The Climate Champions Team is a programme of work under the not for profit administrative host body Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors (RPA). The contract for this role will be drafted within the Climate Champions Team and signed by the post holder and a senior representative of RPA. Find out [more about RPA here](#).