



COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

The Role at a Glance

The Role	The principal objective of the Communications Director is to converge non-state actors, governments & NGOs around a shared narrative that centres a positive vision of a resilient, zero carbon world, working closely with the High-Level Climate Action Champions and the Climate Champions Senior Leadership Team
Contract type	Independent contractor
Contract duration	1 year with potential to renew
Remuneration level	In line with market rates, and commensurate with experience and location. Remuneration is inclusive of annual leave
Start date	1st February or as soon as possible thereafter
Location	Flexible. We are a global team, so the role may require some travel
Annual leave	For contractors, 5 weeks unpaid leave. For sponsored secondments, inline with their employers leave policy
Reporting to	Executive Director
Recruitment process	Please apply via this link: Communications Director, Climate Champions Team Acre · Acre Applications will be assessed on a rolling basis.

Overview of the role

The principal objective of strategic communications is to converge non-state actors (NSAs), governments & NGOs around a shared narrative that centres a positive vision of a resilient, zero carbon world that feels desirable, achievable and inevitable, with NSA leadership action, impact & benefits at the core.

As the Communications Director, you will lead a small Communications and Events Team with primary responsibility for advancing how communications and events can drive the High-Level Champions objectives in the lead-up to and during the UN Climate Change negotiations (COPs). In this role, you will work closely with the High-Level Climate Action Champions and the Climate Champions Senior Leadership Team.

The Climate Champions Team



Key responsibilities include:

1. Develop a cohesive communications strategy that advances the priorities of the High-Level Climate Champions and the Improved Plan for the Marrakech Partnership.
2. Lead, manage and regularly convene the Champions' Communications & Events Team with a view toward achieving the communications strategy and maximising the team's impact. Guide and mentor Team members as appropriate.
3. Craft core narrative and script for the High-Level Climate Champions and the team, which elevates the role of non-State actors in order to spur greater government ambition and delivery under the Paris Agreement. This includes defining messaging sets for team and stakeholders on core topics and issues.
4. Plan for, and advise on, proactive media interventions with the High-Level Climate Champions, including a calendar of 1-1 interviews, background briefings, and open press roundtables. This proactive strategy is to be supported by a reactive and preemptive media strategy (for media and other stakeholders) as issues emerge.
5. Oversight of all core communications outputs for the Climate Champions Team, including website, digital, newsletter, headline speeches – as well as media partnerships and other collaborations.
6. Actively manage Communications and Events Team – incorporating team Managers, Associates and Youth Fellows – as well as relationships with external consultancies that support the Champions' media and digital activities.
7. With the Events Team, identify a series of 'moments' to inform an annual calendar of events (e.g. Climate Week New York and UNFCCC Regional Climate Weeks) as a means of cascading the narrative to target audiences. Ensure that events are produced to the highest standards, bringing to the fore a range of perspectives from all parts of the world.
8. Convene the communications leads within the Climate Action ecosystem to align around messaging priorities. This will include Marrakech Partnership Focal Points, Race to Zero and Race to Resilience Partners, UN and COP counterpoints, as well as key organisations that are sculpting a winning climate action narrative.

The Climate Champions Team



9. Ensure that Champions' communications are fully regionalised, elevating stories from across the world and deploying languages other than English when and where appropriate (i.e. Arabic content in the lead-up to COP28).
10. Work as a core member of the Senior Leadership Team to contribute to the overall strategic direction of the Climate Champions Team (CCT) and in support of the Executive Director.
11. Aside from core annual communications strategy, develop a COP28 Communications Plan that focuses on deliverables and approach for the 2-week period that encompasses the UN Climate Change negotiations.
12. Considering communications is cross-cutting, collaborate all relevant parts of the team, especially policy, stakeholder and sectoral leads to ensure that communications acts as a driver to substantive work.

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 significant years of experience in strategic communications and campaigns. 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 the finance sector and are experienced at building coalitions and fostering collaboration across a wide range of actors.

The following requirements are essential:

- 10+ years experience working in strategic communications and campaigning at a senior level, ideally within social impact organisations working with a high level of complexity and a broad range of partners and stakeholders
- Proven track record of managing teams at a senior level – and shepherding a broad range of stakeholders – preferably around intensive, time-bound projects.
- Robust understanding of working with and within international organisations and navigating the related political processes and the sensitivities.
- Superb written and verbal communication skills in the English language

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- Exceptional organisational skills with attention to detail, a sense of urgency and a drive to get stuff done
- Networking and negotiation skills with strong stakeholder management skills including the ability to communicate well and help manage a number of different partnerships
- Collaborative and collegial working style
- Commitment to our core values (see 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.
- **Practise 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.

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.

The Climate Champions Team



RPA helps social programmes achieve their vision of creating thoughtful, effective philanthropy, providing hosting arrangements and tailored services to serve as an organisational 'home' for new initiatives. Find out [more about RPA here](#).

Working Arrangements

- 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.
- Out of town travel and other work related expenses will be reimbursed in line with the travel and expense policy

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.

To help us deliver on our plan for COP28 and beyond, we now need a Communications Director. It is a role that 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 mission driven and thrive in fast-paced, ever-evolving and diverse teams. You will need to be comfortable juggling

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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.