



CARBON DIOXIDE REMOVAL LEAD

Role at a glance

The role	<p>As Carbon Removal Lead you will play a key role in the global carbon removal agenda, for the UN Climate Change High-Level Champions.</p> <p>The successful candidate will likely have +10 years of experience with a strong understanding of the issues related to the agenda and a good network of actors already working on carbon removals at a system-level.</p> <p>In this role, you will take ownership for shaping and delivering the work plan on Carbon Removals within the Climate Champions Team (CCT), under the guidance of the CCT Senior Team.</p>
Duration	Full time role, 12 months with high likelihood of extension
Start Date	1 February 2025 or as soon as possible thereafter
Location	Flexible, with some travel
Contract	One year consulting contract for 240 days per annum, with a day rate in line with market rates and commensurate with experience and location.
Annual leave	Up to 5 weeks of unpaid leave
Reporting to	Emmanuelle Pinault, Director of Systems Transformation
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. • As an independent contractor, 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
Process	<p>Please submit your CV and brief cover letter (no more than one A4 page) via this form.</p> <p>Deadline for applications is Mon 6 Jan 2025, followed by interviews with shortlisted candidates starting w/c Mon 13 Jan 2025</p>
Contract information	CCT 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 .
The Climate Champions Team	CCT operates under the host body Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors (RPA) with a collaboration agreement with the UNFCCC Secretariat. Funded solely by grants, the CCT is overseen by a Governance Committee comprising the HLCs, the UNFCCC Executive Secretary, a representative from each of the serving Presidencies, and a senior lead from RPA.



Background

The UN Climate Change High-Level Champions (HLCs) holds a unique mandate under the UN Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC): 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.

Each HLC is appointed by the COP presidencies and serves for a term of 2 years. In 2020, the then serving HLCs established the Climate Champions Team (CCT), to help HLCs deliver on the mandate. Fast-forward to 2024, the CCT is a global team of 85 FTE staff approximately 50% based in regions traditionally underrepresented in global climate action.

The work of the CCT is anchored in [a five year plan](#) welcomed by Parties at COP26. 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. Key pillars in our work include the global campaigns [Race to Zero](#) and [Race to Resilience](#), and related action frameworks [2030 Breakthroughs](#) and [Sharm Adaptation Agenda](#) - all in delivery of the science-based [2030 Climate Solutions](#).

The evidence is clear: we will not be able to deliver the goals of the Paris Agreement, without combining mitigation and adaptation efforts with carbon removals. According to the [State of CDR Report 2nd Edition](#) there continues to be a major gap between the amount of carbon dioxide removal required, and the amount of CDR in nationally determined contributions. To help address this gap, in collaboration with the growing community of non-state actors focused on progressing the Carbon Removals Agenda, the CCT is now looking for a Carbon Removals Lead.

Carbon Removals Lead

As the Carbon Removals Lead, you have primary responsibility for shaping and implementing the High Level Champions objectives and strategies for carbon dioxide removals. The successful candidate will lead the implementation of this important workstream, working with a talented team and partners across the sector, governments, investor networks and not-for-profit organisations.

Objectives include:

- Developing an overarching strategy for the CCT Carbon Removals programme, building on work to date, working with internal stakeholders and CCT leadership, leveraging the unique role and broader capabilities of the CCT and of CDR ecosystem partners
- Building the case for and securing further financial support for the Carbon Removals programme (most likely philanthropic) and, if deemed part of the strategy, to expand the team and secure ongoing funding beyond the initial term of your appointment



- Nurturing and strengthening relationships and partnerships with senior stakeholders across all segments of the removal sector (supply, demand, finance, policy and civil society).
- Help build a strong narrative and develop widespread discourse to increase awareness and understanding of the Carbon Dioxide Removals Sector. This may involve synthesising key evidence, identifying signals of change, developing presentation and drafting materials such as social media posts, OpEds and/or short publications.
- Elevate and amplify the potential of Carbon Removals on the road to COP 30 in Belem, engaging with non-state actors and serving - where feasible - as a bridge between national governments and non-state actors. You will act as the centre-point for carbon dioxide removals at the COP/Non State Actor interface.
- Support CCT's work with key stakeholders across the global climate action community to build understanding and buy-in for what good looks like for corporate activity in removals, and how carbon removals at speed and scale is essential to complement global action on the nature and reductions agenda.
- Work closely with the Senior Leadership Team, the Director for Systems Transformation, cluster and sector leads (e.g Industry, . Nature, Oceans, Agriculture and Land-Use) and our campaign teams on mitigation and resilience, Resilience, Race to Zero Campaign and others)
- Serve as CCT subject-matter expert on Carbon removals and contribute knowledge, key facts and figures to briefings notes, talking points, speeches and publications

This is a fast evolving team, and the responsibilities are not set in stone. The post holder will be required to be adaptable and help develop the function in line with changing requirements.

About You

You will be a highly motivated self-starter, with an intra/entrepreneurial spirit. You are happy working across different time zones and cultures in a high-profile, fast-paced environment. You will be able to engage with a wide variety of stakeholders, bringing humility and objectivity to the sector. You are able to exercise sound judgement in engaging the Carbon Dioxide Removal Sector and are experienced at building coalitions and fostering collaboration. You are focused on catalysing change and initiatives, not owning them.

The following requirements are essential:

- Strong strategic, systems-oriented thinking
- Exceptional programme development and leadership skills



- Proven track record of engaging effectively with senior level/C-suite public and private sector leaders
- Experience convening a wide range of actors across different sectors to implement change on the ground.
- Confident in fund-raising and building team resources.
- Excellent team, process and project management skills, with an ability to juggle multiple priorities and deadlines, and bring out the best in a diverse team across geographies.
- Excellent communications skills, verbal and written
- Collaborative and collegial working style, and a strong team player
- Ability to manage ambiguity and change
- Committed to systemic transformation and good understanding of the levers for change (supply, demand, finance, policy and civil society) to achieve the objectives of the Paris Agreement.
- Understanding of the carbon dioxide removal sector and/or a willingness to learn more.
- Commitment to the Climate Champions core values

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.