

REGIONAL DIRECTOR: AFRICA

The Role at a Glance

<p>The Role</p>	<p>The Africa Regional Director leads the Climate Champions Team work in Africa, setting and leading implementation of the Africa regional strategy each year in support of the two serving UN Climate Change High Level Champions.</p> <p>The role is focused on working with a wide range of partners, and business, investors, local governments and civil society, to accelerate voluntary climate solutions which in turn support governments to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement. The role requires expertise across a wide range of climate topics, and a proven ability to foster collaboration and mobilize voluntary leadership to accelerate climate and sustainable development in Africa, and communicate that in a way that inspires and informs others.</p> <p>The Africa Director works closely with other CCT Department and Regional Directors to effectively manage a highly matrixed work program, ensuring African priorities and perspectives are reflected in cross team plans and that global priorities are implemented in locally relevant and effective ways.</p>
<p>Contract type</p>	<p>Independent contractor</p>
<p>Contract duration</p>	<p>12 months, with likelihood of extension</p>
<p>Remuneration level</p>	<p>In line with market rates, and commensurate with experience and location. Remuneration is inclusive of annual leave.</p>
<p>Start date</p>	<p>As soon as possible</p>
<p>Location</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>Annual leave</p>	<p>Up to 6 weeks unpaid leave</p>
<p>Reporting to</p>	<p>Jen Austin, Strategy Director</p>
<p>Other</p>	<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, slack, and shared calendars. ● Out of town travel and other work related expenses will be reimbursed in line with the travel and expense policy
<p>Recruitment process</p>	<p>Please submit your CV and brief cover letter (no more than one A4 page) via this form.</p> <p>Applications will be assessed on a rolling basis, with virtual interviews starting 17 March 2025. Final round interviews will take place once COP30 HLC has been appointed.</p>

Background

The Climate Champions Team is an independently hosted team of experts dedicated to supporting the current pair of UN Climate Change High-Level Champions (HLCs). HLCs are appointed each year to act on behalf of the President of the annual UNFCCC Climate Conference (COP), and hold a unique mandate : to 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.

The work of the Climate Champions Team is guided by a [five year plan](#) published by the HLCs and welcomed by Parties at COP 26, which sets out a multi-year vision for the work, and an overview of the main tools and approaches. These include working with a diverse array of partners around the globe to align, activate, and accelerate action and climate solutions across adaptation, mitigation and finance. The CCT supports the HLCs to run the global campaigns of [Race to Zero](#) and [Race to Resilience](#), and to work closely with partners in the Marrakech Partnership and beyond to drive collaboration to achieve the [2030 Climate Solutions](#) - a solutions roadmap based on the [2030 Breakthroughs](#) and [Sharm Adaptation Agenda](#).

HLC and Climate Champions Teams priorities and work are further informed by the COP28 outcomes, in which Parties encouraged the High-Level Champions and Non-Party Stakeholders to consider the [outcomes of the first Global Stocktake](#) in their work with voluntary initiatives and coalitions. At COP29, Parties unanimously [renewed the mandate of the High-Level Champions for 2026-2030](#) and welcomed the continuation of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, recognizing the critical role of Non-Party Stakeholders implementing the Paris Agreement.

Overview of the role

The Regional Director for Africa is a senior member of the global team, working at the critical nexus of climate action and sustainable development. 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 Champions, the Climate Champions Senior Leadership Team, and other Climate Champions team Directors.

Key responsibilities include:

- 1. Provide overall strategic direction, shape plans and drive delivery of the High Level Champions' priorities, plans and communications for the region**, in a way which delivers progress against the [five year plan](#) and creates synergies between regional priorities and the HLCs global campaigns, systems transformation, policy and sub-national engagement, private sector and community engagement, and finance mobilization. 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 amplifies the work of - the wide range of partners in the region.

2. **Represent the work of the High Level Champions in Africa**, engaging effectively 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 senior Government representatives, and leaders from business, regions & cities and community, including youth groups.
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. **Connect the regional Marrakech Partnership members and other climate action partners in Africa to the Global Climate Action Agenda** activities throughout the year and at COP.
5. **Accelerate Systems Transformation in Africa** working with global sector and campaign leads and identify the most impactful and relevant opportunities for transformative breakthroughs on mitigation and adaptation solutions and 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 to deliver a programme of work which catalyses partner-led accelerated climate action.
6. **Rally and organize multi-stakeholder efforts to mobilize finance for climate solutions in Africa**, working closely with the CCT Finance team and public and private sector partners, to ensure that the continent can effectively address the challenges posed by climate change while promoting sustainable economic growth. Seek to grow the Regional Platform for Climate Projects, and work with private sector finance to support and inform public sector finance reform efforts to increase private sector climate finance.
7. **Management and development** of the team based in Africa. 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 key partners and seconding institutions. More specifically, it will include support on fundraising, recruitment, objective setting.

Due to the dynamic nature of the work, the responsibilities are not set in stone. Rather, we expect the postholder to be adaptable and help develop the function in line with the changing requirements.

About You

The successful candidate must reside in the region and have a minimum of 10-15 years experience of climate action and systems change in Africa. It will suit you if you are highly mission driven, entrepreneurial and thrive in fast-paced, ever-evolving and diverse teams.

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 regions and sectors, pan continental institutions in Africa such as UNECA, AfDB, SE4All and others.
- Comfort with a wide range of climate topics and deep experience working in one or more the topics of: climate finance, energy sector, food systems and land use
- Good judge of opportunity and adept at leveraging change with a diverse set of actors - including civil society organisations, farmers unions, investors, business leaders, African philanthropy organisations, youth groups, Mayors and Regional Governors, as well as INGO partners.
- Proven track record of engaging effectively with senior level/C-suite public and private sector leaders
- Proven track record of fostering collaboration and leadership action among non-state actors to drive change
- 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 (proficiency in French also a plus)
- Collaborative and collegial working style, and a strong team player
- Ability to manage ambiguity and change
- Determination to support ambitious climate action, and a commitment to the [Climate Champions core values](#)

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](#).

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.