



# AFRICA COMMUNICATIONS LEAD

## The Role at a Glance

<b>The role</b>	The Africa Communications Lead will play a pivotal role in the High-Level Climate Champions' Communications Team. Their responsibilities will include shaping and delivering communications in Africa – on behalf of the Climate Champions – which fulfill the objectives set-out in the core Communications Strategy.
<b>Contract type</b>	Independent contractor
<b>Contract duration</b>	12 months
<b>Remuneration level</b>	In line with market rates, and depending on experience and location. The remuneration is inclusive of pension, annual leave and all benefits
<b>Start date</b>	As soon as possible thereafter
<b>Location</b>	Flexible. We are a global team, so the role may require some travel
<b>Annual leave</b>	6 weeks unpaid leave
<b>Reporting to</b>	Matthew Phillips, Communications 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>• 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>Submit your CV and brief cover letter (no more than one A4 page) to <a href="mailto:opportunities@climatechampions.team">opportunities@climatechampions.team</a></p> <p>Please mention 'HLC Africa Comms Lead' in the subject of your email.</p> <p>Applications will be assessed on a rolling basis, with interviews taking place virtually.</p>



## 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](#), [2030 Breakthroughs](#) and the [Resilience Transformations](#).

To help us deliver on our plan for COP27 in November and beyond, we now need an Africa Communications Lead. 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 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

## Responsibilities

As the climate community readies itself for COP27 for what is being described as an 'all of Africa COP', we are recruiting a talented Africa Communications Lead who will take the initiative to deliver high impact outputs for Africa, which shape the narrative this year. Africa media is primarily country-focused and country-owned – meaning outreach and penetration has to be granular. As such, your strategy will need to be tailored to specific countries and priority audiences in Africa. You will develop and carry out communications strategies – drawing from the Champions' core Communications Plan – creating compelling, journalist-quality content, overseeing messaging, developing social media assets and other supporting materials, as well as pitching to journalists about the



necessity and opportunities to accelerate transformational changes across all sectors to tackle climate change and protect nature.

As the Africa Communications Lead, you will have primary responsibility for shaping and implementing the High Level Champions communications objectives and strategies for Africa, working closely with the Communications Director and the Strategic Communications Team.

1. Manage communications outreach in Africa leading up to, and during, COP27 in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.
2. Participate in weekly calls with the High-Level Communications Team and keep close contact with local groups in Africa, in order to steer communications outputs. You will, for instance, liaise with coalitions of Africa NGOs and think tanks, who have joined forces to move from ambition to implementation and halve global emissions and protect four billion people from climate impacts by 2030.
3. Design a forward looking comms activation plan for Africa around headline events, and design and implement outputs based on this.
4. Secure strategic media coverage – place influencer voices in top tier media, plant op eds in support of strategic outcomes before key moments
5. Coordinate comms activation for key moments, including the Africa Climate Week, AfriYOCCC
6. Identify and deliver paid-for opportunities, including ads in top tier media, digital advertising
7. Provide comms collateral for partner NGOs in the task force to utilise – to add value to their existing work in line with agreed outcomes
8. Monitor the landscape to identify reactive opportunities and implement rapidly
9. Review Africa Communications Strategy for fit in Africa, country-specific landscape, after developments during the first half of the year

### **About you**

You will have localised comms knowledge, an ability to persuade and win coverage, and a can-do attitude to help us make the biggest impact possible during this critical year. You will be a highly motivated self-starter, willing to work across different time zones and cultures in a high-profile, fast-paced environment.

### **The following requirements are essential:**



- Experience in a communications role, preferably at an environmental or sustainable development nonprofit or another mission-based organization
- Deep knowledge of media and audience landscape in Africa, particularly in target countries such as Egypt, South Africa, Nigeria, Kenya, DRC etc.
- Bachelor's degree in communications, journalism, marketing, or similar field.
- Deep subject matter expertise in climate change and sustainability issues which you can draw upon to produce well-informed content
- Proven record of exceptional writing, editing and messaging
- Experience in managing communications for digital data platforms, websites or other online resources
- Self-starter able to execute ambitious, comprehensive communication strategies, manage consultants and coordinate effectively with peers, partners and technical experts
- Ability to report to manage competing deadlines
- Ability to pursue long-term objectives by translating them into short-term goals
- Strong analytical skills and attention to detail
- Excellent communications skills, verbal and written
- Collaborative and collegial working style, and a strong team player
- Determination to support climate action, and a 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 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](#).