



High Level Climate Champions team: SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT LEAD

Overview

The High Level Climate Champions team is seeking a Safe and Sustainable Waste Management Lead based in Africa who will raise the topic of open and uncontrolled waste burning on the global climate mitigation and resilience agenda, leading to progress in reducing it. The role is funded by the Engineering X Safer End of Engineered Life programme.

Your application

Thank you for your interest in this opportunity. In the following pages you will find details of the role, timeline, and background information.

To apply, you should submit:

- An up-to-date CV (maximum 4 pages)
- A supporting statement (max 2 pages or 1000 words), covering:
 - Why you are interested in this role
 - How you meet the role requirements and expectations
 - Your preferred model for taking up the post (secondment, consultancy etc.)
 - Your available start date for this role (September 2021 is preferred)

Applicants must be based in Africa and have the right to work in their country of residence.

We are committed to diversity, and it is our policy to ensure that no applicant is disadvantaged or receives less favourable treatment because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender, and sexual orientation.

Submit your application to Hazel Ingham, Safer End of Engineered Life Programme Manager at hazel.ingham@raeng.org.uk by midday BST on Wednesday 14 July 2021.

Please get in touch if you would value a discussion before submitting your application.



HIGH LEVEL ROLE DESCRIPTION

Based in Africa, you will work on pathways to safe, nature-sensitive, climate smart waste management. You will use the unique role of the High Level Climate Action Champions office and the UN Marrakech Partnership, to raise the topic of open and uncontrolled waste burning on the global climate mitigation and resilience agenda, leading to progress in reducing it. The post will be responsible for building evidence and an action base, to inform and lead to a net zero pathway, creating system changes, international standards, and platforms for investment and innovation. The bulk of the work will be centred in Africa, the continent which will be hosting COP27. The role is funded by the Engineering X *Safer End of Engineered Life* programme¹, starting as soon as possible (August 2021 preferred) and running up to end 2022.

About Climate Champions

The two serving High Level Climate Action Champions, Gonzalo Muñoz and Nigel Topping are responsible for mobilising stronger and more ambitious climate action amongst non-state actors. They have a mandate both from the UK and Chilean governments (as part of COP25 and COP26) and the UN Marrakesh Partnership. COP26 is a key moment for the Paris Agreement and for global leadership in climate change. To deliver on our ambition to make 2021 the most impactful year for climate action, we have established a team of nearly 100 global experts. The Climate Champions focus on delivering six key objectives:

- Deliver a 10x increase in net-zero commitments from non-state actors and strengthen resilience for people and communities most vulnerable to climate change
- Deliver breakthrough momentum for industrial systems transformation in 10 sectors
- Support diplomatic efforts through non-state actor channels
- Enhance engagement and agency across Non State Actor groups
- Win the narrative battle on action and progress, and
- Refresh the Marrakech Partnership to drive a decade of climate action

¹ The SEEL programme is funded by Lloyd's Register Foundation and managed by the UK Royal Academy of Engineering. The role will report into the programme via the HLCC team.



We have launched two global campaigns to drive action at pace and scale: Race to Zero and Race to Resilience. We also have thematic workstreams supporting systems transformation across the economy. Alongside this, we are working on a series of cross-cutting special programmes and engage extensively with global leaders from across governments, regions, cities, businesses, and communities. We use our unique mandate from UNFCCC and the COP25 and COP26 presidencies to activate and amplify initiatives at a global scale.

The team, which is hosted by the Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, is made up of a mix of pro-bono secondments, sponsored roles, volunteers, and contractors.

High Level Climate Action Champions Support and Engagement in Africa

The High Level Climate Action Champions (HLC) are determined to support climate action in Africa and build a legacy for the future Africa Champion. This has three objectives:

1. Advance the HLC sectoral priorities on climate action (both resilience and mitigation) so that they support Africa organisation in four main areas:
 - a. clean air and equity in climate smart cities
 - b. land restoration and use,
 - c. access to renewable energy, and
 - d. young people's voice and agency.
2. Strengthen and build relationships and partnerships with key African organisations, including youth led organisations and movements in anticipation of the COP 27 in Africa.
3. Build a core HLC team in Africa to advance climate action and provide support for the incoming Africa Champion.

Overview of the role

The role will support the resilience and mitigation objective of clean air and equity in climate smart cities in Africa in the run up to COP26 through to COP27. It will be specifically focused on the issue of open and uncontrolled waste burning which contributes black carbon emissions and air pollution with the aim to develop safe, nature-sensitive solutions based on emissions reductions which do not displace waste pickers and provide improved, safer livelihoods.



You will act as the project lead:

- Working with the Engineering X Safer End of Engineered Life programme to align and converge the evidence base, shape the narrative, indicators and create a manifesto that will lead to a range of solutions which are locally context specific on this issue
- Strengthening the community of practice firstly within Africa and then the rest of the world; building networks studying or developing solutions to this problem with a view to developing a common platform which both informs and enables change both at the policy and the practice levels
- Building partnerships with the wider Marrakech Partnership community of non-state actors including the stakeholders in the Human Settlements/Built Environment pathway, and the Race to Zero Cities campaign to drive concerted action at pace and scale
- Develop a net-zero, resilient pathway or set of pathways for systemic change that will inform the development of best practices, international standards, and protocols to reduce open burning with the aim of raising the profile of pathways to reduce the open burning of waste in COP 27
- Inform the development of international standards and protocols on waste management with particular relevance for climate change.

It is a new and evolving programme of work, and you will be expected to shape the work and your role, in collaboration with leaders and peers within the Climate Champions Team and external partners including the Marrakesh Partnership.

You will provide leadership to a community of practice developing under the Engineering X Safer End of Engineered Life programme, and work with the programme to build on the findings of its work to date:

<https://www.raeng.org.uk/publications/reports/eng-x-burning-of-waste-workshop-participant-report>. This will include regular calls with the Programme Board and Engineering X team.

Key requirements

- Strong understanding of system transformation, and the levers that drive impact
- Knowledge and practical experience in the field of waste management in Africa, ideally with networks across the practical application of solutions



- Based in a country in Africa with the right to work in that country
- Experience of leading a new initiative, including design and development
- Ability to influence and engage with multiple types of stakeholder at all levels.
- Excellent analytical skills
- Excellent communications skills
- Collaborative and collegial working style
- Ability to manage ambiguity and change
- Commitment to our core values (below)
- Preference is full time; minimum commitment would be 3 days per week

Salary

Salary is flexible depending on location and level of seniority.

Contractual mechanisms

We are flexible when it comes to contracts and are open to the following routes:

- Secondment from your current employer (preferred)
- Consultancy contract for an individual or (lead) organisation

Other options may be possible, and we are open to discussion. Please highlight in your cover letter your preferred option.

The line management arrangements will be tailored to the specific type of appointment. For secondments, there are dual reporting lines: The seconded candidate will report to the Climate Champions Executive Lead for Africa and they will work together on a day-to-day basis to set the work plan and priorities. For longer term professional development and overall performance, the seconded candidate will remain accountable to the existing line manager in the seconding organisation. There will be joint meetings on a regular basis with the successful candidate, the line manager(s) and the funding partner (Engineering X Safer End of Engineered Life) to review the work plan, identify opportunities and set priorities. For independent contractors, the successful candidate will report to the Climate Champions Executive Lead for Africa. To explore synergies the candidate and the line manager will also meet with the funding partner on a regular basis and work collaboratively to deliver joint priorities.



We are committed to diversity and inclusion and are open to flexible working arrangements such as job shares. If applying as a job share, we encourage applicants to apply together. We welcome multiple applications per individual (e.g., one individual, one job share). If you are interested in a job share but do not have a co-applicant in mind, please indicate this in your application.

Core values

1. **Unite behind the science:** we commit to make the changes scientists tell us are needed.
2. **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.
3. **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.
4. **Practice stubborn optimism:** we recognize the scale of the problem, combined with an absolute determination to build our way out.
5. **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.
6. **Be humble and generous:** we keep our egos in check and work together for the good of the whole

Timeline

Application deadline	Wednesday 14 July at midday (BST)
Interviews	Wednesday 28 July 2021
Role to begin	September 2021
Role close	By end of 2022

Please indicate as soon as possible if you will not be available to interview on the given date.



Background information

Engineering X Safer End of Engineered Life programme and burning of waste

The decommissioning, dismantling and disposal of products and structures at the end of their life can damage the environment and squander scarce resources if not carried out responsibly. These processes can also be dangerous and harmful, especially as the waste and processes in question are often displaced to parts of the world least able to manage them safely.

The [Engineering X Safer End of Engineered Life programme](#) (£5million, 5 years) seeks to address these challenges and improve safety globally by: understanding and applying practical interventions; building diverse international communities to share evidence, knowledge, and good practice; and raising awareness and a broader understanding of the global challenges of dealing safely and ethically with the billions of tonnes of end-of-life materials, artefacts and structures that humanity produces each year.

One of the issues the programme has sought to address is the burning of waste.

The uncontrolled burning of waste takes place worldwide, particularly in low- and middle- income countries where there are often either limitations in the effectiveness of the existing waste management systems or there are no systems present. The evidence around the prevalence of this issue and its harmful effects are generally poor. The recently completed [Global Review on Safer End of Engineered Life](#) by the University of Leeds and partners identified open burning as a dangerous issue that needs urgent attention globally. The Safer End of Engineered Life programme sought to build on the Global Review began by convening free, multi-disciplinary workshops of diverse stakeholders in January 2021 in partnership with the International Solid Waste Association.

Now the programme and partners are developing a community of practice working to address this issue and to raise awareness of the issues at all levels. A funding programme is planned for late 2021.

Read the full workshop report here:

<https://www.raeng.org.uk/publications/reports/eng-x-burning-of-waste-workshop-participant-report>

Engineering X

[Engineering X](#) is an international collaboration that brings together some of the world's leading problem-solvers to address the great challenges of our age.



Founded by the Royal Academy of Engineering and the Lloyd's Register Foundation, our global network of expert engineers, academics and business leaders are working in partnership to share best practice, explore new technologies, educate, and train the next generation of engineers, build capacity, improve safety, and deliver impact.

The Engineering X community brings together partners from around the world, building on a network of global alliances to tackle the most pressing engineering, safety, and sustainability problems, and developing practical, sustainable, and accessible solutions for the engineering profession worldwide.

Engineering X has a further four missions, which are:

- Pandemic Preparedness
- Safer Complex Systems
- Engineering Skills Where they are Most Needed
- Transforming Systems through Partnerships

These missions will also draw on the outputs of this work and learnings will be shared across the portfolio.

Royal Academy of Engineering

[The Royal Academy of Engineering](#) is a UK charity that harnesses the power of engineering to build a sustainable society and an inclusive economy that works for everyone.

In collaboration with our Fellows and partners, we're growing talent and developing skills for the future, driving innovation and building global partnerships, and influencing policy and engaging the public.

Lloyd's Register Foundation

[Lloyd's Register Foundation](#) is an independent global charity with a unique structure and an important mission: engineering a safer world.

We reduce risk and enhance the safety of the critical infrastructure that modern society relies upon in areas such as energy, transport, and food. We do this by supporting high quality research, accelerating technology to application and through education and public outreach.

Our unique structure comes from the fact that we own a significant trading company, Lloyd's Register (LR). We share the same mission and work together to make the world a safer place.



Further information

For any questions on your application, please contact **Hazel Ingham, Safer End of Engineered Life Programme Manager** at hazel.ingham@raeng.org.uk

Thank you for your interest in this opportunity.