

Job Description

Director – Decision Metrics & Finance

Job Title: Director Decision Metrics & Finance

Reports to: CEO

Contract: Open-ended

Location: Any Climate-KIC office

Salary: Competitive

Start Date: ASAP

Apply by: 18th August 2017

Climate-KIC – the business context

Climate-KIC is the EU's largest public-private partnership addressing climate change through innovation, comprising of over 250 leading partners from business, academia, the public sector and NGOs. Our ambition is to contribute to creating a prosperous, inclusive, climate resilient society with a circular, zero-carbon economy.

We focus on levers of systemic change and a selection of priority areas where innovation is most needed to achieve deep decarbonisation (fossil fuels) and effective adaptation. We act as a platform to catalyse cross-sectoral, transformational change through innovation. This entails providing funding, composition of innovation consortia, working together with our partners to take a portfolio approach to innovation options, enrichment of business model design and implementation, tailored support for experimentation and scaling and support for very early stage ideation and pre-seed innovation

In order to make ourselves accessible to key actors and 'problem owners', we work along four priority themes: urban transitions, sustainable land use, sustainable production systems, and decision metrics and climate finance. A focus on entrepreneurship and innovation design, leadership and governance, capacity building for new skills and capabilities as well as policy evolution is threaded throughout. We run programmes for students, start-ups and innovators across Europe via centres in major cities and regions, convening a community of the best people and organisations.

We balance strategic innovation, aimed at driving systemic change, with a significant portfolio of bottom-up innovation – e.g. through our start-up accelerators – in order to achieve leverage, evaluate continuously and adjust our efforts to impact climate change. Ultimately, we aim to

become a leader in systemic innovation that contributes to a paradigm shift from a linear, industrial metabolism to a circular, regenerative model, harnessing the power of our unique community of innovators and inspiring change beyond it.

Climate-KIC is supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union.

The Purpose of the Role

As Director, Decision Metrics & Finance you will hold responsibility for the development and delivery of the strategy for Climate-KIC's Decision Metrics & Finance theme, together with partners and colleagues in the Climate-KIC network. See Annexe for background information on the current focus of the Decision Metrics and Finance team. You will be expected to build on the current project and partner portfolio and to shape and explore future models and partnership opportunities to deliver on our objectives for climate impact.

You will serve as a member of Climate-KIC's Executive Team (ET) and will lead a core internal team of around 8 persons, comprised of a Portfolio Manager, a Development Lead, Flagship program managers and their support, a business analyst and a team assistant.

The ability to work effectively in a complex adaptive system is essential for this role. You will need to bring an agile, emotionally intelligent approach to team work and leadership. The characteristics of Climate-KIC as a network and as a partnership necessitate fostering a culture of open feedback, empowerment and distributed leadership in a context of significant diversity. Jointly with the team, you will be responsible for leading collaboration across geographic boundaries, industry boundaries, thematic and disciplinary boundaries, and across organisational structures and cultural differences.

You will contribute to attracting and building global strategic alliances with a view to diversifying and growing Climate-KIC's funding streams and intensifying our impact in shaping systemic change. We would expect a successful candidate to be a credible, well-connected leader, with an interdisciplinary background and international experience who can contribute to these alliances through personal and professional networks and capabilities. An aptitude for entrepreneurship and/or intrapreneurship and experience of leading disruptive thinking and practice – 'hacking' the existing system – would be extremely helpful. Of particular interest is experience with the financial services industry, and links to relevant political and stakeholder institutions.

You will need to be willing and able to handle the juxtaposition of facilitating innovation with the constraints and expectations of public money given that the core business model of Climate-KIC is currently based on grant management. At the same time you will need to support Climate-KIC's business development through complex public-private partnerships, partnership with private foundations and the development of a multi-sided platform business model.

Summary of Key Responsibilities

Strategy development and implementation

- Understanding and capturing knowledge, challenges, needs of the theme stakeholders inside and beyond Climate-KIC
- Ensuring the development/updating/implementation of the strategy of the theme, in close coordination with internal stakeholders and Climate-KIC partners
- Ability to balance the need for innovation in helping large financial market actors shift capital with the need to innovate for mobilising, structuring and aggregating bankable assets from within the real economy.

Climate-KIC representation and connections

- Connecting Climate-KIC with relevant and important initiatives in the thematic area
- Engaging with European Commission initiatives and representing the theme in an appropriate way
- Overseeing and contributing to the Climate-KIC partnership and its further development for the benefit of the theme and growing the portfolio for maximum impact.

Climate-KIC financial sustainability

- Working with internal stakeholders and Climate-KIC partners to develop and implement a fundraising plan
- Developing commercial activities and Return on Investment opportunities in line with the overall Climate-KIC strategy
- Leading on business development efforts together with your team, partners and Climate-KIC's Executive Team

Governance & management

- Management of the thematic team
- Together with team ensure synergies with other parts of the organization are explored
- Participation in Executive Team meetings and activities
- Grant Management and Financial controlling of the theme related activities
- Ensuring cost and performance reporting to various funders
- Organising Governance of the theme with partners/stakeholders
- Participating in relevant Climate-KIC flagship programme steering committees relevant

Person Specification

Experience

- Relevant academic degree or qualification
- Extensive management and leadership experience (10 years as an indicator) incl. personnel, budgeting and financial administration and project management experience.
- Experience of working with/in private or public sectors, ideally in investment management and/or financial services. Experience of both public and private would be an advantage.

- Proven ability to develop and deliver strategy in a complex stakeholder environment
- Strong track record of leadership in complex, multinational organisations, including public-private partnerships
- Management experience within EU or international innovation, education and/or entrepreneurship projects desired

Skills and Qualities

- Experience of successfully working with board members and other senior management to deliver strategic objectives.
- Experience and management skills suited to working effectively within complex governance structures.
- Proven success in team leadership, ideally with a developmental approach.
- Fluency in spoken and written English and ideally at least one other European language.
- Excellent influencing and negotiating skills, and the ability to develop effective long-term relationships with internal and external stakeholders.
- Familiarity and proficiency in systems thinking and in working with complexity.
- Innovative thinker, entrepreneurial, familiar with human-centred design thinking.
- Aware and sympathetic to the mission and purpose of addressing climate change.

Application Process

Climate-KIC values diversity and welcomes applications from all suitably qualified candidates regardless of age, gender, race, disability, sexual orientation, religion or ethnic background.

Your application should consist of a full curriculum vitae and a covering letter describing concisely how your profile, skills and experience meet the criteria outlined in the person specification, and outlining your interest in and vision for the role.

Please send your full application to recruitment@climate-kic.org.

<http://www.climate-kic.org/about/careers/>



Annexe

Decision Metrics and Finance - background information

The Paris Agreement has emphasised the key role that metrics and finance play in enabling climate mitigation and adaptation through monitoring whether businesses and societies are on track and by providing mechanisms for scaling new solutions. One of the key obstacles to this contribution is not the lack of available finance but a lack of bankable green and resilient assets. Our Decision Metrics and Finance (DMF) team is therefore focused on fostering development of innovations to redirect and mobilise capital towards low carbon and climate resilient solutions, and on using metrics, finance and policy as systemic levers for change. Our objective is to scale up climate finance as a public-private instrument leveraging experimentation with alternative financial systems and financial technology solutions, new paradigms for using information and a willing community of practice.

The current Decision Metrics and Finance portfolio is structured along three dimensions.

REDIRECT financial flows by transforming financial markets and accounting: As highlighted by the G20 Financial Stability Board's taskforce, asset owners, asset managers and corporations require a deeper, forward-looking understanding of how physical and transition risks impact their business, incl. arising opportunities, and a responsibility to disclose these risks. Building on a strong project and partner portfolio and visible successes, we seed and spread the development, harmonisation and standardisation of the next generation of investment decision metrics, reporting standards, and financial mechanisms that will enable this transition.

Example: A key example is our project ClimPax that brought together CDP, Southpole and two academic institutions to develop and launch the world's first climate rating for equity funds: "Climetrics".

ANTICIPATE physical climate risks by developing a market for Climate Risk Information: With increasing loss and damage, preparing for the physical risks of climate change is high on the global agenda. To date the insurance industry has driven the understanding of risk, it is yet to harness the full potential of open data and model interaction. Non-insurance public and private stakeholders facing climate risk mitigation and adaptation decision-making, must also be supported with access and capability to use the best risk data and modelling tools.

Example: Our [Climate Risk Information flagship program](#) works closely with the OASIS community to address these challenges. OASIS Hub, an e-marketplace for trading environmental risk data and models was launched in London in June this year.

MOBILISE investors and developers to generate a sufficient pipeline of bankable green assets in the real economy: While the divestment movement has created significant dynamics, the challenge now is to create a sufficient pipeline of green assets for investors to direct their investments to. The DMF theme is looking at how to do this by working on insurance/risk transfer systems, and aggregation of small investments into scalable assets and fund structures.

Example: Our flagship program “Low Carbon City Lab” (LOCAL) aims at unlocking climate finance for cities. We strive to help cities become capable of identifying most climate beneficial projects, developing them into bankable propositions, and to help test and replicate a suite of financial instruments for low-carbon and resilient urban action

Executive education and capacity-building is a cross-cutting focus for the Decision Metrics and Finance theme, in close collaboration with our education experts. We work with a leading group of partners ranging from think-tanks and NGOs such as CDP, I4CE, CPI, CBI, WWF, Gold Standard; to innovative service providers such as Southpole Group, Carbon Delta, Carbone4; leading academic and research institutions such as ETH Zurich, Imperial College London, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research; and large financial service companies. In addition, we tap into partner networks e.g. working closely with leading cities such as Copenhagen, Gothenburg, Zurich, Bologna, Paris.

