



POSITION: Country Lead – South Africa
REPORTING TO: Manager – Director Programmes
REMUNERATION: Negotiable
LOCATION: Johannesburg or Pretoria (South Africa)
START DATE: ASAP

CLEAN AIR FUND

Background

Air pollution has emerged as one of the most complex environmental and public health challenges in countries such as SA. It is officially responsible for around 30,000 premature deaths per annum, with links to respiratory diseases, CPD, cancers, as well as anxiety and depression. It generates huge losses in economic productivity, and places pressure on the South African Health Service. The impacts of air pollution are not experienced equally, with those living in urban areas, and in Mpumalanga, particularly exposed. An active network of civil society organisations, universities and campaigners is working to address air pollution across South Africa. There are clear opportunities to support the implementation of national regulations and policies (for example through the Just Transition), as well as drive change in key Provinces and cities, such as Johannesburg, Tshwane, Ekurhuleni, and eThekweni.

Who we are

The Clean Air Fund is a global philanthropic organisation that brings together governments, campaigners, researchers, funders, and businesses to create a world where everyone breathes clean air.

We all need clean air. Yet 9 out of 10 people breathe harmful and dirty air, making air pollution one of our biggest health threats. Over 7 million people die prematurely every year as a result of air pollution – more than twice as many as from malaria, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS combined. The poorest communities living in the most congested areas are hit the hardest. Babies, children, and older people suffer most. It doesn't have to be this way. Cleaning our air can be a solution to some of society's biggest challenges, from public health to climate change, children's development to sustainable economic growth.

What we Offer

We are a growing organisation that is clear about what we offer and what we expect from everyone in the team.

We offer the opportunity to be at the heart of efforts to reduce air pollution across the globe, working with a high calibre team. You would be joining an ambitious organisation and would benefit from our commitment to your learning and career development.

Everyone who works with us is expected to share our values – collaborative, dynamic and evidence-informed - and to do their utmost to deliver our strategic objectives according to their role. As we are growing rapidly,

comfort with almost continuous change is vital as is the desire to learn, improve and grow with the organisation.

How we work

From grassroots to government, Clean Air Fund supports partners to accelerate action on clean air. We do this by:

- funding and partnering with organisations across the globe that promote air quality data, build public demand for clean air and drive action;
- influencing and supporting decision-makers to act on clean air and to strengthen the air quality cause; and
- working with communities that are disproportionately affected by air pollution.

Where we work

We work where both the need and potential for impact is greatest.

- Through our global programme, we raise air pollution up the agenda and encourage action. Our current global partners include C40 Cities, Climate Leadership Group, the World Economic Forum, the World Health Organization, and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- Our programmes in key geographies are designed to support and catalyse change. We are currently work in the UK, EU (including Bulgaria and Poland), Ghana, India, and shortly South Africa.
- Alongside our in-country and global activities, we focus on themes such as air quality data, health, and private sector engagement in order to build and support the clean air movement.

About the Role

As CAF enters its second four-year strategic cycle (2023-2026), we are intentionally moving from start up to scale up with a clear ambition to expand our geographic footprint, particularly in Africa. CAF's Board recently approved the establishment of a lighthouse geography and office in South Africa, so we are now looking to hire an experienced individual to lead all elements of this expansion. The Country Lead for SA will be responsible for providing overall strategic and programmatic leadership, including financial and managerial oversight and business development, to ensure start up and subsequently expansion of CAF's operations in South Africa. The postholder will lead on the design and execution of CAF's strategy in the SA, as well as the assessment and reporting on programmatic impact. The Country Lead will also be accountable for identifying and designing a diverse and comprehensive portfolio of grants across all thematic areas, supported by Analysts working in a matrix system.

Key Responsibilities

Strategy and vision 30%

- Design, deliver and undertake regular reviews of CAF's strategy for SA to ensure it achieves agreed objectives and uses CAF's resources for maximum impact. Work with the Programme Director, Executive Director, Chief Impact Officer, colleagues, and external partners to ensure that the SA strategy is reviewed and approved by CAF's Grants and Charitable Activities Committee and Board at regular intervals.
- Regularly assess whether CAF's strategic ambition in the SA is achievable, relevant, and innovative, and interrogate whether the hypotheses anchoring grants funded by CAF are valid.

- Establish and communicate strategic objectives for the SA portfolio which align with cascade targets and CAF's overall strategic framework for 2023-2026, as well as CAF equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) principles.

Policy and networking 30%

- Build strong relationships with politicians and policy makers at national and Provincial levels and in key cities, based upon an explicit influencing strategy.
- Work in close consultation and coordination with CAF's grantees, funders, partners, and other air quality donors to align goals, delivery mechanisms and communications.
- Alongside the Executive Director and the Director of Strategic Partnerships and Communications, identify, cultivate, and manage relationships with partners to increase funding, and to support adoption, replication, and scaling-up of Clean Air Fund programmes.
- Keep abreast of developments within the air quality field in the SA, establishing appropriate information gathering networks and channels to deepen professional knowledge and skills.

Programme development, delivery, and performance 20%

- Initially manage (and subsequently oversee management of) an active portfolio of live programmes and projects, assessing performance at six monthly intervals against annual portfolio objectives, including EDI principles, set at the beginning of each year.
- Communicate and manage risks appropriately.
- Identify project investment opportunities to ensure that CAF achieves measurable impact through existing and future grants.
- Provide leadership to CAF's grantees, partners, and the air quality field in general on strengthening air quality policies and their implementation in cities across the SA - convening stakeholders on a regular basis and facilitating partners to agree on collective courses of action and aligned messaging.
- Identify and leverage opportunities to actively build the field of organisations working on air pollution, for example, greater engagement of the private sector.
- With advice from CAF's MEL Team, identify and embed appropriate monitoring and evaluation processes in all projects and grants. Undertake ongoing learning and evaluation throughout and after the delivery of projects. Monitor and report on the performance of all grants in the portfolio – both individually and across themes.
- Build open, constructive relationships with grantees. Celebrate successes, share learnings, and assess performance - managing achievements as well as under-performance in a professional and engaged manner.

Team leadership 20%

- Establish and set up an Office for CAF in SA, ensuring compliance with national operating regulations, and building a positive working culture which align with CAF's core values.
- Set and monitor achievement of performance and personal development objectives for team members, so that a culture of continuous improvement and learning is embedded.
- Provide coaching and mentoring support to colleagues, as required, to help build skills, confidence and capability in particular areas, processes, or procedures.
- Support resource planning and management of people as required -this will include the potentially the ad hoc management of freelancers and consultants.

- Identify opportunities and options for improving processes, procedures, and programme management approaches within (and beyond) the team, and support increased organisational efficiency and effectiveness.

Required Skills and Experience

Essential technical competencies

- A successful track record of organisational leadership working on air quality or other environmental policies in civil society, academia, or within government institutions in the SA.
- Experience of strategy-to-implementation of a major programme or initiative. Comfortable with making rapid decisions in response to new opportunities or changing circumstances without losing sight of the strategic goal.
- Understands social change in theory and practice and is able to articulate a theory of change and the assumptions behind it.
- Gravitas. Experience of engaging successfully and influencing political leaders, policy makers, regulators, elected officials, funders, and others. Confidence and presence as a public speaker.
- Prior management of people and budgets. Experience reviewing and proofing contracts and seeking legal advice where needed.
- Experience of working in a range of cultural and socio-economic contexts, adapting style and approach appropriately alongside an ability to work collaboratively with partners located in multiple offices and time zones.
- Understanding best practice in NGOs leadership in the South African NGO sector.

Essential behavioural competencies

- Strong interpersonal skills and demonstrable success building effective partnerships and networks across sectors.
- Significant experience of using people skills to build trust and rapport with internal and external stakeholders to achieve outcomes.
- Strong written skills – experience of writing from scratch or editing strategy and briefing papers that meet the needs of the audience and have impact.
- Instinctive collaborator and partnership builder – low ego.
- A self-starter, with resilience and interpersonal flexibility.
- Analytical with the ability to see strategy through to implementation. Able to switch seamlessly between hands on details, management, strategy, and influencing.
- Able to work autonomously and with an instinctive pragmatic and problem-solving approach.
- Comfortable working at pace in a start-up environment.

Desirable behavioural competencies

- Ability to influence and engage policy makers and the general public through sophisticated communications and campaigning approaches.
- Willingness to travel in the SA and across Africa, with occasional international travel.

Job Requirements:

- Eligibility to work in the SA (e.g., citizen or work permit holder).
- Willingness to work initially from home whilst setting up a CAF Office in either Pretoria or Johannesburg.

How to apply

Interested applicants should submit the following by e-mail to thereza@ngorecruit.com Ref No. **NCF001**:

- A CV in word or PDF format (please include 3 references)
- A 1-page cover letter outlining how your skills and experience align with Clean Air Fund's mission and the unique qualities you will bring to this role.

Application Deadline: **16 October 2023**

Interested applicants are encouraged to **apply ASAP**. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. For more information about Clean Air Fund, visit their [website](#) and [LinkedIn](#) account.