

Terms of Reference

Regional Lead for the National Plastic Action Partnerships in Africa

BACKGROUND

The [Global Plastic Action Partnership](#) (GPAP), hosted at the [World Economic Forum](#) (the Forum), aims to shape a more sustainable and inclusive world through the eradication of plastic pollution. Through its multistakeholder platforms, GPAP brings public, private and civil society leaders together to develop joint solutions to the plastic pollution crisis, both globally and nationally. At the country level, **National Plastic Action Partnerships** (NPAPs) enable collaboration between national governments and other vital partners to turn plastic waste and pollution commitments into action. NPAPs are locally led and locally driven, bringing together diverse and inclusive communities of changemakers – business leaders, policymakers, academics, and international and civil society organizations – to collectively tackle plastic pollution.

GPAP has the ambitious goal to partner with 25 countries worldwide by 2025. The Ghana NPAP, the first partnership within the African region, was launched in October 2019, followed by the Nigeria NPAP which was announced in January 2021. Discussions are ongoing with several other African countries interested in joining GPAP to tackle the problem of plastic waste and pollution in their country.

To help facilitate effective and coordinated progress within the African region, **GPAP is looking for a Regional Lead** for NPAPs in the African region to support the identification and launching of prospective national partnerships, as well as to provide strategic direction and coordination for current NPAPs. Strong collaboration with multiple stakeholders from Government, private sector, and civil society is a key aspect of the role.

The timeframe for the position is **6 months** (1 February – 31 July 2022) at **40% (2 days per week)**, with the possibility for extension. Contracting will be implemented in collaboration with GPAP's supporting organization in the region, Impact Hub Accra.

ABOUT THE ROLE

Duties and Responsibilities

The Regional Lead's key roles include:

- Foster collaborative networks with stakeholders from Governments within the African region to help identify prospective nations interested in joining GPAP.
- Support with the identification and organisation of national/regional partners from the public, private, and civil society sectors. Engage with prospective countries' key partners in the plastics and circular economy field to increase endorsement and ownership of NPAP objectives.
- Support the development of strategic activities of African NPAPs in 2022 and beyond that accelerate progress reaching reduction/elimination of plastic pollution leakage goals through policy, business shifts, improved public awareness and sustainable financing mechanisms.
- Represent GPAP at high level events and relevant global/regional speaking engagements
- Take ownership of the GPAP regional working group for Africa, working closely with the GPAP Secretariat to set agendas, carry out work in between meetings, build relationships and moderate the sessions
- Support in identifying strategic investment partners and investment opportunities for plastic action, nationally and regionally. Seek out fundraising opportunities for GPAP activities in the region to ensure sustainable progress and impact, particularly with maturing NPAPs.
- Supporting the NPAP Lead to manage and monitor the progress of NPAPs, individually and regionally, to ensure the deliverables are aligned with strategic objectives of the region and deliver high quality recommendations.

The Regional Lead is expected to drive national and regional progress towards the following outcomes:

- At the national level, provide guidance in the establishment of national governance structures such as the NPAP Steering Board (senior leaders from the public, private and civil society sectors who help guide the strategic direction of the NPAP).
- Support the development of national and regional platform infrastructure and community including engagement of key stakeholders to increase regional ownership of the NPAP agenda by plastic producers, plastic users, consumers, collectors, pickers, governments and others, including but not limited to the private sector and civil society organisations.
- Enhance connectivity and communication of partners' initiatives at national and regional level, facilitating action-focused collaboration and learning opportunities.
- Identification of opportunities to accelerate action for a new plastic circular economy at the national and regional level.
- Provide strategic guidance to the development of key NPAP deliverables, such as the National Action Roadmap and the Financing Roadmap, tailored plans that summarize the recommended actions and milestones for solving country-specific plastic waste issues and provide strategies for incentivizing and de-risking investments.

Key Tasks

Under the guidance of the NPAP Steering Boards (particularly the chairpersons) and in coordination with the Director of GPAP, the Regional Lead will have the following responsibilities:

- Support the launch and development of NPAPs within the African region:
 - Support the build-out of new partnerships by identifying and developing partnership opportunities with governments and key partners at the national and regional level.
 - Contribute to the design and execution of an event to officially launch NPAPs
 - Support activities for the development of the NPAP Action Roadmaps, in collaboration with Government and key stakeholders.
 - Support the management of NPAPs and contribute to the strategic development and implementation of priority actions in collaboration with Government and key stakeholders.
- Provide oversight of national and regional strategic initiatives of NPAPs:
 - Support the NPAP Secretariats and NPAP chairpersons to facilitate NPAP activities that drive progress towards the NPAPs key deliverables.
 - Take leadership for organising and delivering regional working groups and workshops that bring together organisations focusing on mitigating plastic pollution to share best practices
 - Contribute to the preparation and execution of the national and global communication activities of GPAP (speaking events, case studies, white papers, etc).
 - Coordinate the input of regional activities in the GPAP Annual Report.
- Contribute to research and evaluation:
 - Collaborate in developing reports, and/or issue briefs for relevant stakeholders on plastic waste and pollution.
 - Synthesize lessons learned and experiences within NPAPs and across the region, publish findings in reports and/or issue briefs.
 - Review existing literature, studies, news, and events related to plastic pollution and waste in the region.

Coordination and Governance

- In performing the duties of the Regional Lead, s/he will seek the guidance of the NPAP Steering Board and others as recommended by the GPAP Secretariat.
- On an operational basis the Regional Lead will liaise with the GPAP and NPAP Secretariats to ensure coordination between the national, regional and global activities of GPAP.

- The Regional Lead is bound to report on a quarterly basis (financial, progress and impact reporting) to GPAP Secretariat at the WEF. In addition, regular communication with the GPAP Secretariat will be needed to help create visibility over key activities, outcomes and expenses, as well as to provide guidance and support in times of key events and milestone activities.
- The Regional Lead is expected to comply with reporting frameworks agreed on with GPAP Secretariat and provided by Donors.

Skills and Qualifications:

- Minimum 7-10 years of experience in project management
- Master's degree in sustainable development, public policy, or other related major is preferred
- Experience working in sustainable supply chain issues, preferably in plastics
- Strong public speaking skills, a proficient communicator and ability to engage with CEOs, Ministers and senior leadership
- Strong professional network and demonstrated experience working both with public and private sector
- Excellent English both verbal and written.
- Excellent organizational and facilitation skills
- Advanced skills of Microsoft Office, Internet, and virtual meeting tools

HOW TO APPLY

Kindly submit applications, including a CV and cover letter, to Annika Green at annika.green@weforum.org **no later than 7 January 2022.**