



Global Commons Alliance

Accountability Accelerator Director

Overview

The [Global Commons Alliance](#) (the GCA) is a network comprising almost seventy organizations working at the nexus of climate and nature to scale science-based action to protect people and planet. GCA member organizations contribute expertise, data, stories and skills via the four key pillars of the Alliance – the [Earth Commission](#), the [Science-Based Targets Network](#), [Earth HQ](#) and the [Systems Change Lab](#).

The GCA is looking to create a fifth pillar, provisionally known as the Global Commons Accountability Accelerator. The Accountability Accelerator will orchestrate the development of a global system of systems to hold non-state actors to account for their impact on the global commons: biodiversity, climate, land, oceans, water. The GCA is looking for a Director to play an ‘Orchestrator’ role to lead the Accelerator.

Accountability Accelerator

The Accountability Accelerator is framed by a set of principles: goal-based & impact-oriented; inclusive & just; transparent & verifiable; enforceable; contextual; accessible— and underpinned by an inclusive and ambitious culture.

The Accountability Accelerator is at a start-up stage. Since August 2020 a small team of GCA colleagues has mobilised a wide range of over 200 stakeholders around the accountability goal.

The current team ran an accountability workshop in April 2021, and has worked with stakeholders and strategy consultants to deliver a draft action plan. This role is for an initial 18 months for the design and build out phases.

Accountability Orchestrator

We are looking for a Director to drive the design, build and running of the Accountability Accelerator, and through it the development of accountability for the global commons in partnership with a wide range of actors. You will have the support of the core group that has mobilised efforts to date and will continue to support in the margins of their primary roles. In addition, you will be expected to build a lean and dedicated team with appropriate funding, and draw on external expert support as required.

As the Director you will be embedded into the overall Alliance Coordination Team, comprising the directors of the other pillars ([Earth Commission](#), [Science-Based Targets Network](#), [Earth HQ](#) and [Systems Change Lab](#)). This is a fixed-term consultancy position beginning with a 18-month contract with the anticipation of renewal after this period assuming a successful start-up phase and fundraising.

Experience, credentials and skills' requirements

The ideal candidate will have 10+ years' applicable experience, with a relevant Masters degree and experience in entrepreneurship, non-profits, and delivery of impact. Candidates will demonstrate the following aptitudes:

- **Entrepreneurial spirit and experience:** While the GCA has been running for two years, things continue to be dynamic and fluid, with moving goalposts requiring flexibility and nimbleness. Setting up this new Accountability Accelerator within the GCA will require the fortitude of a serial entrepreneur, motivated by generating impact.
- **Partnership experience:** The GCA is a partnership and not an organisation, and deep experience brokering, building and running multi-stakeholder partnerships with NGOs, think tanks, companies and international organisations is critical to success in this role.
- **Facilitative leadership:** The GCA core team comprises leaders who lead by mobilising and activating those around them. The Director will empower the Accountability Accelerator and the GCA to be successful through the actions of partners and members.
- **Network credibility:** While the GCA and the Accountability Accelerator team have extensive networks and contacts across the broader sustainability and nature domains, the ideal candidate will bring credibility and trust from key stakeholders.
- **Global Citizenship:** The Accountability Accelerator will only be successful if it engages with stakeholders around the world, especially the global south. Language skills to engage in key geographies where the global commons are most at stake are a plus.
- **Fundraising experience:** The Accountability Accelerator has a short pipeline of funding and the current team is in advanced discussions with a range of large funders. The Director will have a role in supporting the funding process and working with existing funders and the GCA fundraising team to ensure that there is more to come.

Expected Deliverables

Based on the outputs from the workshop, inputs from an interim steering committee, and the draft action plan, the Director will have responsibility to deliver the following:

1. A lean and effective Accountability Accelerator that seamlessly integrates with the other pillars of the GCA
2. A fully functioning and operating partnership model
3. Objectives, targets and approach for the system and necessary working groups, incl. long-term roadmap based on consolidated working group work plans

4. Funding mechanisms and pipeline of prioritised areas and associated fundable initiatives for accountability fund to consider
5. Communications and launch plan; internal and external partners are informed about progress
6. Further scoping and mapping of key stakeholders to be engaged
7. Convenings and prototyping sessions

Activities

It is anticipated that the main activities in the project for the initial 18-month period include the following:

1. Ensure coordination and provide appropriate support to different Accelerator elements and external organisations
2. Create culture of collaboration across the Accelerator and between partner organisations
3. Seek input on strategic questions and recommendations from (Interim) Steering Committee & Funding Committee
4. Work with Interim Steering Committee and Funding Committee to ensure Accelerator governance is appropriate
5. Define mandate & membership for a series of topical working group for different accountability mechanisms (e.g. Value Chain Feedback, Rewards & Incentives, Penalties & Alarm System, Data & Standards, Structural Reform)
6. Ensure the coherence of the overall blueprint for the accountability system-of-systems to which activity and funding should map
7. Actively identify and manage dependencies between working groups
8. Develop funding proposals coming from the working groups would benefit from the Accelerator's facilitation, and ensure corresponding project pipeline
9. Communicate about ongoing and planned activities of the working groups to internal and external stakeholders
10. Support working groups with analysis (e.g. on baselining & fact base, assessments)
11. Design and facilitate initiate working groups meetings
12. Design and facilitate co-creation processes to help deliver fundable initiatives

Additional information

The Directorship role will be a consultancy contract from Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors (RPA), which is the sponsor of the Global Commons Alliance.

Please send a brief letter of interest, consultant daily rate, and CV to Tania Charlton Christensen (tania@globalcommons.org) noting "GCA Accountability Accelerator" in the subject field by no later than September 17, 2021.