

Programme Manager: Regional Activation

Food Initiative

Cowes, Isle of Wight.

This is an outstanding opportunity for an experienced stakeholder manager to join our Food initiative team and spearhead regional demonstration efforts as part of our three-year Mobilisation phase. You should have worked across different geographies and demonstrate an understanding of food systems and the circular economy. Key to the success of this phase of the project will be to utilise your skills to build links between cities, amplify the key messages to emerge from our work and engage cities around the world to apply the circular economy for food vision.

The Food initiative is a multi-year programme triggering positive food system transformation based on circular economy principles. Our team works to spark this transformation by working with pioneering industry players and mobilising a diverse global network to demonstrate the circular economy for food vision. The three-year Mobilisation phase also focuses on local demonstration in cities and regions around the world. The Foundation is working closely with London, São Paulo, and New York as the three partner cities, as well as China and East Africa as focus regions on the Food initiative.

Role & Responsibilities

You will be part of the Food initiative team and will manage the regional demonstration efforts in the partner cities (London, São Paulo, New York) and other focus regions (China, East Africa), as well as engage the broader group of 14 cities that are part of the Food initiative's Mobilisation phase (finishes June 2022). You will be delivering these objectives through the following activities:

- Responsible for the overall successful delivery of regional demonstration efforts with the three partner cities, London, New York, and São Paulo and focus regions, China and East Africa.
- Develop the overall regional demonstration strategy and ensure alignment across geographies by coordinating team members responsible for activating each geography.
- Ensure regional demonstration spend is aligned with overall project budget.
- Create documents, both independently and collaboratively, to support relationship development with key stakeholders and partners.
- Work closely with our Institutions, Governments & Cities team to ensure Food activities are supporting overall geographic ambitions and ensure an integrated cross-Foundation team approach.
- Proactively identify potential scaling mechanisms that the Foundation can drive forward to maximise positive impact.
- Manage engagement and strategically develop a group of global cities engaged in the Food initiative light-touch knowledge exchange relationships.
- Coordinate day-to-day efforts with the Foundation's digital and communications teams to amplify stories and key learnings from the regional demonstrations.

- Develop relationships with key city networks to scale demonstration efforts.

Your profile

- Strong stakeholder management skills, preferably gained within a professional services environment or government/institutions with proven capability to coordinate internal and external stakeholders.
- Ability to think strategically and navigate complex project management in a constantly evolving environment working with multiple stakeholders.
- Experience of working in different geographies and across cultures, multiple languages would be a plus, with a willingness to travel.
- Evidence of managing small teams and collaboratively developing projects and strategies.
- An interest and/or background in food or agriculture systems.
- The intellectual capacity and analytical skills to understand the principles of the circular economy and to apply them to different contexts.
- The skill to view global challenges through a systems lens, zooming into details and connecting stakeholders and activities to the bigger picture, understanding the role they can take to generate impact.

Food Initiative background.

On January 24th 2019, the Ellen MacArthur Foundation published the [Cities and Circular Economy for Food](#) report at the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos, after a year-long analysis phase. The report aims to initiate a deeper exploration of the role that cities, and the businesses and governments in them, can have in the creation of a circular economy for food. The report, for the first time, provides a fact base identifying the main system challenges linked to the current linear, take-make-dispose food production system, and offers an alternative vision of a model based on the principles of a circular economy. During its preparation over the course of 2018, the team collected information from 200+ articles, publications, and reports; consulted 100+ experts; and engaged a global consortium of 80+ cross-value-chain businesses, NGOs, city authorities, academics, and policymakers.

On June 14th 2019, the Foundation launched the Food initiative, which over the next three years will mobilise its vision of a circular economy for food, stimulating a global shift towards a regenerative food system. The Foundation will build on its substantial research to date, its global network of food system actors, and its experience with systems level change gathered through its *New Plastics Economy* and *Make Fashion Circular* systemic initiatives. It will be the first global at-scale circular economy initiative ever to catalyse change in the food system by mobilising cities and the businesses in them as key drivers of change.

Cities have the power to trigger a shift to a healthy food system, and can take action in three ambition areas:

1. Source food grown regeneratively, and locally where appropriate
2. Make the most of food
3. Design and market healthier food products

Please apply with CV, covering letter and salary expectation to Barbara Calland:
(barbara@emf.org)

Desired starting date: As soon as possible

Salary package: Competitive within the Charity sector and dependent on experience with generous holiday allowance and gym membership.

Location: Cowes, UK.

What we do:

The Ellen MacArthur Foundation is an innovative not-for-profit organisation with a mission to accelerate the transition to a circular economy. The Foundation works with the world's largest organisations and the emerging innovators that are bringing a circular economy to life. If you would like to learn more about the Ellen MacArthur Foundation or the circular economy, please visit :

www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org