

Programme Manager: Fashion initiative

UK based

Fixed term contract for 3 years

We are looking for an exceptional Programme Manager to directly support our Fashion Lead to deliver multiple programmes within the fashion initiative, specifically contributing to the strategic development of The Jeans Redesign and our work on Circular Design for Fashion, working closely with our fashion and design teams.

Background

The Ellen MacArthur Foundation is a global reference point for the circular economy and in recent years our fashion team has worked with leading actors from across the fashion industry to create an ambitious vision for the future of fashion. Achieving our vision of a circular economy for fashion offers a significant opportunity to tackle the root causes of global challenges like climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution.

The fashion initiative works with an exciting range of stakeholders from global brands, innovative manufacturers and leading design schools and federations. Inspiring and enabling creatives in our network to lead the change is a crucial aspect of the Fashion programme. To date this engagement has taken the form of creating tools and guidelines to support fashion creatives to get started in taking action towards a circular economy. For example, In July 2019 we launched The Jeans Redesign building circular economy engagement across the global fashion supply chain and demonstrating that it is possible to make products fit for a circular economy today.

Role & Responsibilities

The focus of this role will be to lead key programmes in the fashion initiative, including the translation and dissemination of an upcoming milestone book on circular design, and to provide input to strategic thinking and thought leadership. Direct line manager responsibility is required to support team personal and professional development and ensure quality outputs. Reporting directly to the Fashion Lead, your role will be as follows:

- With a high degree of independence, leading a team to deliver The Jeans Redesign and Circular Design for Fashion projects in the fashion initiative, drawing insights from these projects to inform our overall fashion strategy.
- Taking ownership of the engagement strategy of stakeholders from across the fashion value chain, as well as academics and design schools and federations.
- Actively collaborating with the Fashion Programme Manager, Network Engagement Manager and Design Strategist to identify synergies to leverage existing projects and eliminate duplication of work.
- Actively contributing to the overall fashion team's strategy, and the continuous development of the Foundation's expertise, with a focus on the global fashion system.
- With support of the Fashion Lead and the broader team, leading the development of industry leading perspectives and research for the initiative.

- Representing the Foundation and the fashion team at international meetings, external workshops and events. Some travel both domestically and internationally will be involved.
- Line managing team members, taking responsibility to coach and support them in their personal and professional development.

Your profile

- This is a senior role in the team, requiring a minimum of 7 years of relevant work experience and a strong track record in managing teams and building and managing relationships with a wide variety of stakeholders.
- Experience of people management including taking responsibility to coach and support team members in their personal and professional development.
- Evidence of strong relationship management experience and excellent communication skills: the ability to interact effectively with individuals at various management levels across a variety of organisations and geographies.
- Ability to maintain a detailed working knowledge of circular economy principles and apply them to the global fashion system; experience in the fashion industry or with circular economy would be a distinct advantage.
- The analytical skills to extract key insights from data, analysis and discussions with a broad spectrum of stakeholders.
- Excellent written and spoken English; other languages would be a definite advantage.
- A good academic record and degree level qualifications in business, economics, science, political science, or other relevant discipline.
- An entrepreneurial mindset and comfortable with a high level of ambiguity.

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

Desired starting date: ASAP

Closing date: 12th November 2021.

Salary package: Circa £50k dependent on experience and including generous holiday allowance, gym membership, multiple training opportunities and flexible working.

Location: Our office is based in Cowes, Isle of Wight but there may be the possibility of initial remote working due to the current COVID-19 restrictions.

What we do

The Ellen MacArthur Foundation develops and promotes the idea of a circular economy. We work with, and inspire, business, academia, policymakers, and institutions to mobilise systems solutions at scale, globally.

Our mission is to accelerate the transition to a circular economy.

Our vision is a new economic system that delivers better outcomes for people and the environment. Business models, products, and materials are designed to increase use and reuse, replicating the balance of the natural world, where nothing becomes waste and everything has value. A circular economy, increasingly built on renewable energy and materials, is distributed, diverse, and inclusive.