



Board Member / Trustee | Job Description.

Role Title:	Board Member / Trustee	Reports to:	Chair of the Board
Country:	London, UK or Remote	Time commitment:	Approximately 4 days / year (for board meetings)

Overall Purpose:

Water Unite is an ambitious non-profit organisation that is partnering with the private sector to end water poverty, improve access to better sanitation and reduce plastic waste. By capturing voluntary micro-contribution on the products and services of partners, we aim to generate a significant, sustained source of funds to be used for targeted investments that provide sustainable water, sanitation services and circular economy solutions to those who need it most in the Global South.

Water Unite answers a real need for a catalytic private sector funding model, and investment vehicle, for projects that engages governments, civil society and other stakeholders, and provides comprehensive plans on how such funds could be deployed. It will draw on development, finance and industry best practice with a recognised, independent brand that assures partners of the highest levels of industry engagement and transparency.

Following extensive feasibility work, the adoption by large corporates including Co-op, Elixir and Britvic PLC signal Water Unite has now entered its scale up phase. As a key element of this phase, Water Unite is pursuing further long-term partnerships with both private sector players in the water industry as well as institutional partners in the public and philanthropy sectors. For more information please view the latest impact report '[2021/2022 - Investing in impact](https://bit.ly/3Qlr6zm0)' (at <https://bit.ly/3Qlr6zm0>).

As Trustees, all members of the Board are likely to be expected to have the following responsibilities:

- To provide leadership to the organisation in close co-operation with fellow Board Members and the Executive team, ensuring that all involved remain focused on achieving the Charity's mission within its values and ethos
- Ensure that Water Unite complies with its governing document, charity law, company law and any other relevant legislation or regulations
- Promote Water Unite's vision, mission and values and demonstrate Water Unite's values in all of the Board's work
- Ensure that the organisation's strategies and policies reflect its vision and principles
- Ensure that Water Unite pursues its objects and applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of these objects
- Approve annual plans, strategies and budgets
- Support the Chair in liaising with, and provide support to, the executive team with regard to Water Unite's affairs overall, with regular review of the long-term strategic aims
- Support the chair in conducting the annual appraisal of the executive team and support performance
- Ensure that Water Unite is and remains financially sustainable and that robust financial control and risk management systems are maintained; taking particular care when investing the funds of the charity, or borrowing funds for the charity to use
- Examine regular financial and operational reports to ensure the organisation is financially stable and effectively administered, seeking expert professional advice as necessary
- Ensure that appropriate financial accounts are kept and approve the charity's annual report and accounts
- Contribute specific skills, interests and contacts and support the organisation in its fundraising and advocacy activities
- Provide support and guidance to the Executive Team on the area of expertise they specialise in
- Together with other Trustees, establish and implement systems for the appointment, support and appraisal of the Chief Executive
- Represent Water Unite externally as appropriate and to act as a spokesperson

Further background information, including feasibility study reports, can be found at waterunite.org/page/resources-and-press



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Relevant Competencies and Experience

The Board has a comprehensive list of skills and voices needed around the table; this recruitment process is intended to help fill some of the gaps we have identified. We would particularly welcome applications from those with one or more of the following attributes:

- Passion for, and prior demonstrated interest in, creating positive social impact
- Management, organisational development and governance (particularly of non-profit organisations)
- Understanding of the motivations of multi-national corporates, particularly those in the retail or water sectors
- Finance and investment - particularly in developing countries: including public finance; corporate finance; impact investing; trends in blended finance
- Experience delivering technical assistance and investing in / scaling SMEs
- International development and the SDGs, overseas development assistance
- Public policy and international politics, especially as it relates to international development
- Fundraising and resource mobilization with the public sector and foundations
- PR, communications and marketing
- Specific technical skills and connections related to the following (preferably in the context of developing countries):
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene and Circular Economy

Governance Structure & Terms of Appointment

Water Unite is a UK non-profit, registered 501c3 in the USA and Stichting in the Netherlands. A copy of the governing documents and guidance on Trustee Roles and Responsibilities are made available to new Trustees as part of the Trustee induction.

This is a voluntary non-executive role. Term of office is three years, with a possible re-appointment to a total of three further terms of three years (i.e. maximum of nine years).

How to apply

Please submit a CV and short statement of interest to unite@waterunite.org. Please mention where you saw this advertisement in your cover email.

Your CV and statement of interest will be shared with the Chair and a sub-Group of Trustees who, after reviewing your application, may invite you for an informal interview (via Zoom with 2-3 Board members present).

Following that, if both parties remain interested, the Board would invite you to attend a Board meeting as an observer, so that you can meet other Trustees. After that, a formal appointment could occur, followed by our new trustee induction process.

Deadline for applications: September 30th 2022

Interviews likely to be held in September with a view to successful candidates attending a Board meeting in October/November to meet other Trustees.

For an informal discussion or any questions, please contact Lord Malcolm Bruce at unite@waterunite.org. Thank you.