Chairperson, Board of Trustees (p/t)

Organisation: Plan Vivo Foundation
Location: UK-based, proximity to Edinburgh an advantage
Closing Date: Until suitable candidate found
Remuneration: Voluntary position. All expenses reimbursed.
Contact Email: info@planvivofoundation.org
Website: www.planvivo.org

The Role
The Plan Vivo Foundation is seeking a highly motivated individual with a keen interest in the nexus of climate change, natural resource management and international development, to act as Chairperson of its Board of Trustees.

The Chairperson will ensure the Board of Trustees and Executive team fulfil their duties in delivering the Foundation’s mission and vision, providing leadership to the Board of Trustees and ensuring overall good governance. The Chairperson will also support and challenge the Executive team where necessary, working closely with the Head of Operations to achieve agreed objectives. He/she will act as an ambassador of the Foundation, and in partnership with the Head of Operations represent the Foundation at internal and external events. The role requires approximately 5-7 days per year and would suit candidates with reasonable availability.

About Plan Vivo
The Plan Vivo Foundation (PVF) is a registered Scottish charity, established in 2008 to independently oversee the Plan Vivo Standard and support Plan Vivo-certified projects. The Plan Vivo Standard (www.planvivo.org/docs/Plan-Vivo-Standard.pdf) is a certification framework for community-based Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) programmes, supporting rural smallholders and community groups in developing countries with improved natural resource management to meet basic needs. Projects can use the Plan Vivo Standard to access markets for ecosystem services, primarily the voluntary carbon market, by selling Plan Vivo Certificates representing Verifiable Emissions Reductions (VERs).

With a focus on land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF) interventions, PVF currently oversees 17 operational and 35 pipeline projects, spanning 26 countries. Through the issuance of 2.5 million Plan Vivo Certificates, a total of $17.5 million has been channelled into a range of innovative and award-winning community projects. These target climate services, biodiversity conservation, poverty reduction through livelihoods development activities, and the restoration, protection and management of terrestrial ecosystems, contributing to the delivery of multiple Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Further information on the Foundation’s charitable aims, mission and responsibilities can be found on our website: http://www.planvivo.org/about-plan-vivo/mission/
Candidate
This is a fantastic opportunity to join an innovative charity that is committed to investing in real and sustainable improvements of rural communities in developing countries. The ideal candidate will have a proven track record in a relevant sector, operating at a senior strategic leadership level. The Chairperson is expected to have a broad understanding of climate finance, natural resource management and the Civil Society sector. He/she will have experience of chairing meetings and events and representing organisations externally, while experience of working directly with a Board of Trustees is desirable. He/she will boast excellent interpersonal, written and oral communication skills.

The Chairperson will display strong leadership skills, relish the opportunity to contribute to shaping the strategic direction of the Foundation, and possess an ability to motivate staff and trustees. The Chairperson will have some financial management expertise and a good understanding of charity finance and governance issues.

Specific Responsibilities
See ‘Terms of Reference for the Board of Trustees’ available on the Plan Vivo website: www.planvivo.org/docs/Terms-of-Reference-for-PVF-BOT-Chairperson.pdf

Application process
If you would like to discuss this role informally, please contact the Foundation’s Head of Operations, Chris Stephenson: info@planvivofoundation.org.

To apply for this position, please submit an up-to-date CV and a cover letter at your earliest convenience (the application date has been extended), outlining your interest in the role, relevant experience and how you think you would add value to the Board of the Plan Vivo Foundation.