



ABOUT



The Opportunity

Emergent is a ground-breaking non-profit intermediary working at scale to mobilize private finance for the world's tropical forests.

Working at the intersection between tropical forest countries and the private sector, Emergent are building a global market for high integrity forest carbon credits. In just six months Emergent, through the LEAF coalition that includes Amazon, Nestle and Unilever, monumentally succeeded in reaching its \$1 billion target and are poised to mobilize billions more of new funding for the protection of tropical forests and sustainable development.

Emergent have created a historic step change in the voluntary carbon markets and are now looking for a passionate and driven Chief Portfolio Offer (CPO). This is an exceptional opportunity for a dynamic leader and team player to join this ambitious, mission-focused team working to create a plausible, market-driven pathway to zero deforestation.

With credits expected to become available in 2023 and initial transaction volumes in the tens of millions of tons (tCO₂e) building to hundreds of millions of tons within a few years, Emergent expects to receive substantial flows of private sector funds underwritten by sovereign guarantees.

As the organisation's first CPO, you will be an integral member of Emergent's Executive team and will lead and oversee Emergent's Portfolio team.

More information on Emergent is here [The LEAF Coalition](#)



POSITION

Chief Portfolio Officer

Scope of the role

Under the CPO's leadership, the Portfolio team will negotiate terms, structure agreements and execute transactions; deploy sovereign-backed purchase guarantees; and manage portfolio concentration and counterparty reputational risks. The role may be expanded to include oversight of a specialist team responsible for administering the flow of funds from credit sales to forest jurisdictions, including post-transaction reporting on the use of those funds.

Key Responsibilities

- Design and implement the resilient and scalable processes, policies, controls, infrastructure and partnerships Emergent needs to manage multi-million dollar transactions safely and with the confidence of its board, customers, suppliers and philanthropic/donor backers
- Maximise sales and minimise portfolio risk
- Oversee ERPA negotiations and contract finalisation, with external legal support as required
- Execute transactions once ERPAs are signed, including delivery of credits and receipt of funds
- Develop and manage Emergent's strategy for credit placement with buyers
- Establish, develop, and lead Emergent's Investment Committee
- Manage and report on Emergent's portfolio risks
- Develop and execute Emergent's strategy for use of its donor-funded floor price guarantee facility
- Work closely with Emergent's Origination and Commercialisation teams to ensure that transaction and portfolio management are effectively integrated across Emergent
- Work closely with Emergent's Chief Finance & Operations Officer to ensure integrated management of Emergent's financial position and risk



POSITION

Chief Portfolio Officer

About You

- You have the agility and resilience to work within a 'start-up' and predominantly virtual environment
- Proven ability to lead teams through complexity and ambiguity, and to act as an ambassador for the organisation
- Analytical rigour with exceptional interpersonal, presentation, and communication skills
- Decisive and pragmatic approach
- Significant experience of executing complex transactions, gained in investment banking, commodities, trading or similar
- Proven experience in managing a portfolio of assets, preferably carbon assets
- Experience or exposure to carbon markets
- Demonstrable affinity for the mission of Emergent

Preferred experience and attributes:

- English fluency required; Spanish, Portuguese, French or Bahasa a bonus
- Experience working with governments, especially in low/middle-income countries.
- Experience working with donors and/or multilateral development agencies.



POSITION

About Emergent

Chief Portfolio Officer

Forests are crucial to all life on Earth.

They capture and store carbon and are one of the most promising, large-scale, and cost-effective opportunities to combat climate change. Rainforests also sustain rainfalls, food supply, vital ecosystems, and livelihoods for over a billion people. Protecting them is not just a moral imperative, it is essential for a stable, prosperous, and sustainable future for us all. As the COVID-19 crisis highlights, we live in a fragile and interconnected world where sustainability cannot be taken for granted.

There is increasing recognition of the urgency of climate change.

The Paris Agreement in 2015 committed governments to keep the increase in global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels. 760 major corporations have committed to climate neutrality, and over 40 countries have implemented some form of carbon pricing scheme. After two decades of putting necessary, effective, high integrity standards and market mechanisms in place, The Emergent Forest Finance Accelerator (“Emergent”) has the historic opportunity to channel this momentum to solving the deforestation crisis.

Emergent helps safeguard the world’s tropical forests by building a global market for forest carbon credits.

Countries generate these credits by reducing deforestation and tropical deforestation (called “REDD+”). For forest countries, Emergent provides a guaranteed source of demand by facilitating access to a range of high-volume buyers, backed by a purchase guarantee from donors, giving countries the certainty need-ed to make investments in forest protection and chart a new course. For buyers, Emergent provides access to the highest-quality REDD+ credits, enabling them to meet their climate neutrality goals. Emergent is supported by the government of Norway, the Environmental Defense Fund, the Rockefeller Foundation and the David & Lucile Packard Foundation. Emergent is currently grant-funded, but will become self-sufficient through transaction

Sillman Thomas have partnered
with Emergent as their
managing search consultant



Sillman Thomas are a specialist executive search firm dedicated to building a more inclusive and sustainable economy. Operating internationally from our offices in London and New York, we have a focus on ESG and Impact in our work with the finance, technology and business communities across EMEA, Americas and Asia Pacific.

POSITION

How To Apply

EMAIL

emergent@sillmanthomas.com

Please contact Sillman Thomas before the 22nd April 2022 to express your interest in this opportunity. We will reply to all interested candidates.

Emergent provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment and prohibits discrimination and harassment of any type without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, disability status, genetics, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state, local or other applicable laws.

