



CALL FOR BOARD MEMBERS

Board members for the Mission Zero Academy

About us

The mission of [Zero Waste Europe \(ZWE\)](#) is to **empower communities in order to redesign our relationship with resources**. We campaign for zero waste strategies in Europe and beyond, and support local groups and change agents who have the potential to drive change in their region. Currently, ZWE is the only pan-European organisation specialising in waste issues from prevention to disposal and on local, national and European levels. ZWE is the European chapter of the [Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives \(GAIA\)](#).

ZWE is an independent, nonprofit association created in late 2013 in the Netherlands aiming to:

- Promote zero waste strategies in Europe and elsewhere;
- Act as a catalyst for European good practices in the field of circular economy, waste, and resources;
- Empower local groups to develop community-based strategies for the prevention, reduction, separation, recycling, and composting of waste;
- Promote a responsible treatment of waste and prevention of non-sustainable solutions such as landfilling and incineration;
- Increase awareness about the health effects of the current economy of waste disposal and promote non-toxic alternatives;
- Promote environmental and social justice.

About the Mission Zero Academy

[The Academy](#) is ZWE's knowledge and capacity building hub. Together with our members in Europe, we provide local decision-makers with direct experience and knowledge in order to assist the implementation of zero waste plans and policies at the city level.

The Academy gathers tools, resources, online and offline learning opportunities, which are delivered by the experts behind Europe's transition towards zero waste so far.

It started as a project in late 2018, and its development stage is currently in full swing with the upcoming launch of Zero Waste Certification & Label schemes and the structuring and development of the Academy itself.



As the Academy will be established as a separate legal entity, a Belgian ASBL, we are now looking for Board members to lead this process. This is an excellent opportunity to provide your expertise and contribute to making a positive change in Europe's transition towards zero waste.

About you

We are looking for two people to join the Board. To complement our existing expertise, we are particularly interested in people with skills and experience in the fields of technology and social entrepreneurship/start-ups. We naturally expect both Board members to share our passion for creating a zero waste Europe in a just and community-driven way and amplify our reach by sharing the Academy offers across their networks, and helping us connect with relevant organisations. Please find below descriptions of our ideal profiles, and note that having knowledge of Belgian non-profit associations ("asbl") is a plus.

Profiles

Technology-oriented Board member

You feel at home when digitising tasks and finding ways to use technology to make a difference, drive change, and bridge gaps in knowledge and workflow. Ideally, you would have expertise in acquiring software and in applying AI and blockchain.

Experience in ed-tech and online pedagogy is a huge asset as the Mission Zero Academy is looking to bring zero waste-related education to all corners of Europe and accommodate busy schedules through online solutions. Your experience can be either from a platform user perspective or as a developer/provider of online education.

As the Academy is currently in its formalisation and expansion phase, we would welcome experience in service development. We believe in the change we are making, but want to make the results visible and measurable for our customers, as well as using data-driven services to make the change. Therefore, experience in similar tasks, or a good understanding of suitable software solutions (or the requirements to develop one), are in high demand.

Business-oriented Board member

You know how to set up a business and get it up and running. Ideally, you would have experience in impact-driven business or social entrepreneurship and a good understanding of applicable financing for such organisations, as well as other financial management expertise. You also have experience in selling values and impact, as well as in branding of purpose-driven companies.



Since certifications and consultancy-style work will be the bread and butter of the Academy, you should have expertise in sustainability consultancy, certifications, and reporting. Experience in LCA will be considered an asset.

You are well connected with SMEs and business networks. You are used to discussing sustainability topics with them and would relish to represent the Academy's mission, as well as to bring back knowledge from the field.

About the role

The Board members provide the Academy team with strategic vision and guidance. They will be expected to provide high-level support when it comes to Academy development activities, fundraising and financial resilience, and service design.

As with any other Board, they are responsible for the good governance of the organisation and organising it in a legally sound way, as well as providing guidance on its operations. They will be also responsible for ensuring that finances and accounting activities are taken care of in a proper manner. The Board will also take care of any operation matters which are considered or far-reaching in relation to the regular operations.

The Board executes the decisions made in the Annual General Meetings and makes sure they are followed up. Ultimately, the Board can file for bankruptcy on behalf of the organisation.

The Board members are expected to participate in monthly meetings and 1-2 Annual General Meetings. In addition, there will be additional *ad-hoc meetings* to seek strategic guidance and according to the Board member's expertise. Altogether, the monthly workload is estimated to be around 5-15 hours. Remote participation is possible.

Start date: February/March 2021

TO APPLY:

Please send your CV and a short motivation letter (all in English) by filling in the following form: <https://forms.gle/fr5R8d8ixDYUnFp69>

As ZWE is committed to the principles of Diversity and Inclusion, and Opportunity for all, we strongly encourage people of diverse backgrounds to apply.

Deadline to apply: 18th January 2021, at 23:59 CET. Interviews will take place via Zoom in late January.