Open Position (w/m/d)

Global Partnerships and Programmes Lead

Position ID	**RISE-Team-2611-01**	**Extent**	80–100% (100% = 38.5 hours/week)
Start	February 2027 or as soon as possible	**Initial contract**	2 years
Applications	**Until 4 December 2026; review and interviews from 18 November 2026**	**Location**	Vienna, hybrid (see appendix)
Salary (min.)	Employment group F, Research CA: €4,868 gross/month FTE (14× a year)	**Contact**	Dr. Martin Röck, martin.roeck@riselabs.at

About us

RISE, the Institute for Regenerative Spatial Systems Science, is an independent research institute in Vienna. We model buildings and building stocks to show which options fit within the carbon budget and how the built environment can give back to people and planet. Our work informs the European Commission, UN agencies, national governments and philanthropic funders. RISE co-founded and co-leads GBDI, the Global Building Data Initiative, and the INDICATE building LCA data and policy accelerator framework. Beyond sustainability, towards regeneration. www.riselabs.at

GBDI, the Global Building Data Initiative is a community of experts from research, industry and policy working on open data for resource use and whole life carbon of buildings. Led by researchers from RISE, EPFL and USP, supported by GLOBE, it develops the Open Building Data Format (openBDF) and Platform. In April 2026, GBDI co-founded CLEAR – the Coalition for Life Cycle Emissions Alignment and Reporting – with RICS and WBCSD. www.gbdi.io

About the role

Turn evidence into decisions: you will lead the partnerships and global programmes that move whole life carbon from research into policy and markets worldwide. You will grow our cooperation in Asia (India, China) and Africa (South Africa, Kenya, Nigeria, Ethiopia), connect it to EU policy through the INDICATE network, and support GBDI's work in CLEAR with RICS and WBCSD. You will turn contacts into funded projects and help build the organisations that carry this work beyond 2028. You will work directly with the Director and our scientists.

This profile is tentative. We will discuss and design the final profile and the extent together with the person we hire, based on their strengths, interests and our project needs. We value initiative: if you see a better way to contribute, tell us.

What you will do

- Coordinate GBDI's cooperation in India and China, including advancing joint projects with CABR, Tsinghua University, CBMF and UNEP GlobalABC (co-creation workshops, webinars, a joint white paper).
- Build fair, long-term partnerships in Africa (Kenya, Ethiopia, Nigeria, South Africa) with our Senior Scientist for whole life carbon and LCA (RISE-Team-2611-02), in which local partners own their data and results.
- Support EPBD implementation and strategic engagement in European policy, finance and industry fora, and contribute to INDICATE's business model, governance and fundraising.
- Support GBDI's role in CLEAR with RICS and WBCSD: coordinate our contributions to developing the harmonised WLCA framework, the policy playbook and training packages.
- Help build up the new GBDI non-profit association, manage partner commitments and project plans, and track what our work changes – such as requirements adopted, datasets in use and funding secured beyond 2028.
- Identify and pursue philanthropic, multilateral, EU and private funding, and lead proposals from concept to budget and submission.

What you bring

- **Essential:** Experience building partnerships and coalitions with government, industry, research and philanthropy, ideally across countries and regions.
- **Essential:** Strong writing and presentation skills, and confidence in representing an organisation at high-level policy and industry fora.
- A Master's degree with at least 3 years of relevant professional experience, or a PhD, in the built environment, sustainability, climate policy, international development or a related field.
- A proven fundraising track record – for example successful proposals or grants. Please tell us which funds you helped raise and what your role was.
- A good understanding of whole life carbon, life cycle assessment (LCA) of buildings and the policy landscape for decarbonising buildings and construction, including carbon budgets and sufficiency-first approaches.
- Professional proficiency in English (spoken and written). German is appreciated but not required.

Nice to have

- A network in, or work experience with, one or more of our focus countries (India, China, South Africa, Kenya, Nigeria, Ethiopia), and a language spoken there.
- Familiarity with initiatives such as UNEP GlobalABC, the Buildings Breakthrough or CLEAR, and with international frameworks for whole life carbon reporting.
- Experience with impact monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) for research and policy programmes.
- Openness to occasional travel for partner meetings and events.

How we work

Hybrid in Vienna: office days are Tuesday to Thursday, Monday and Friday are home-office days by default, and the office is open all week. Our working language is English. We publish methods, data and code openly wherever licences allow.

Salary

Employment group F of the Research CA: minimum gross salary €4,868 per month full-time (38.5 hours/week), paid 14 times a year (€3,894 at 80%). We are willing to pay above this baseline, depending on your qualifications and experience; see the appendix for all we offer.

How to apply

Send your application as three PDFs to office@riselabs.at with the subject line **RISE-Team-2611-01 – [Your name]**. Applications without a Position ID in the subject line may not be considered. Applications are accepted until 4 December 2026. Reviewing and interviewing start on 18 November 2026 and continue until the position is filled.

1. **Motivation letter** (max. 2 pages), including names and contact details of three professional references (contacted only after an interview, with your consent)
2. **CV**, including a list of projects and publications
3. **Examples of your work** relevant to the position – you will know best how to present your work. For example, share a successful proposal, a partnership concept or a programme you built up.

Applying for more than one position? List all Position IDs in the subject line and tell us in your letter which you prefer and why. We don't expect anyone to meet every requirement: if you meet the essential requirements and the work excites you, please apply. We especially encourage women, people from the Global South and others underrepresented in our field, and we value non-linear careers (e.g. career breaks, care work, work outside academia).

Equal opportunities. We assess all applications against the same criteria. Tell us if you need adjustments in the process. First-round interviews are online; for the final selection we may invite you to an on-site interview in Vienna (travel costs reimbursed). We use your data only for this recruitment.

Appendix: Where you will work and what we offer

All positions are based in Vienna. In 2027 we plan to move our offices to Die HausWirtschaft, Bruno-Marek-Allee 5, 1020 Vienna, in the 2nd district (Leopoldstadt). Until the move, we work at Climate Lab, Spittelauer Lände 45, 1090 Vienna, and we keep our Climate Lab membership afterwards. If you are looking for housing, please take the new location into account.

Support for international hires

- Relocation support
- Help finding housing
- Career support for partners of mid-career and senior scientists via our research and industry network in Vienna

Financial benefits

- Salary following the Research CA
- Paid 14 times a year (summer and winter holiday payments)
- Employer social security contributions
- Contribution to German lessons

Work–life balance and family

- Part-time work arrangements
- Hybrid by default, office days Tue–Thu
- Up to 100 telework days within Austria
- 5 weeks of annual leave plus Austrian public holidays
- Consultancy leave for research scholars
- Paid parental leave (as per CA and social security)

Training and development

- Up to 2 trainings a year, up to 6 days in total (longer trainings by agreement)
- Framework for career progression
- Regular performance and development reviews
- International collaboration and exchange for early-career and postdoctoral researchers

Health and wellbeing

- Bike-friendly workplace with showers
- Small on-site gym and yoga studio (from 2027)
- Subsidised sports events and sponsorship options

Environment and atmosphere

- Diverse, international team and partner network
- A values-based work culture and gender equality
- Under 30 minutes from Vienna Main Station
- Sustainability practices and green initiatives

Die HausWirtschaft (our office from 2027)

- Cooperative house for working, living, leisure and culture
- Active community of small businesses and creatives
- Fresh organic lunch three times a week
- Yoga, shiatsu and more bookable in the house; table tennis and table football
- Low-energy building with its own solar power
- Pedestrian zone by the Freie Mitte park, with excellent public transport links

Climate Lab membership (continued after our move)

- 24/7 key card access
- High-quality meeting and event spaces
- Community events at Climate Lab, Impact Hub Vienna, Future Health Lab and Education Lab
- Global Pass: 3 days of coworking per year at Impact Hubs around the world

Living and working in Vienna

- A liveable city: ranked 2nd in the EIU Global Liveability Index 2026, with parks, culture and the Danube on your doorstep
- International and English-friendly: a UN city and research hub; English is our working language, and we support German lessons
- Getting around: excellent public transport and a growing cycling network
- Housing: the rental market is competitive, so plan ahead – we help you find housing, and Die HausWirtschaft is in a well-connected, central district
- Moving from the EU/EEA: no work permit needed; register your address and your residence after arrival

Talent pool. No open position that fits your profile? Send an unsolicited application to office@riselabs.at with the subject line **RISE Talent – [your field]**; we will review your application and may keep your details on file for up to two years.