

Research Associate

Professor Patrick Baylis at the University of British Columbia (UBC), Talha Naeem (UBC), and Guglielmo Zappala (Harvard University) are seeking a full-time Research Associate based in Pakistan for six months to support ongoing research projects related to climate and agriculture. The selected candidate will assist the research team in the design, testing, and evaluation of novel financial instruments through randomized controlled trials, in addition to supporting several other projects that leverage administrative and secondary datasets to study questions at the intersection of environmental and development economics.

Location: Remote (based in Pakistan)

Contract Period: 6 months

Start Date: March 2026

Compensation: Competitive

Key Responsibilities:

- Support work involving primary and secondary data, including preparing survey instruments
- Oversee field activities and coordinate with partner organizations
- Clean, synthesize, and analyze administrative, primary, and secondary datasets
- Conduct literature reviews and assist in briefs, grant applications, reports, and presentations
- Produce publication-quality tables, figures, and maps for research papers and reports
- Communicate progress and updates to the principal investigator(s)

Required Qualifications:

- MS/MA in economics, data science, computer science, quantitative finance, or a related field, with at least one year of research experience through an RAship or independent research
- Proficiency in Python/R and Stata
- Experience with geospatial tools
- Excellent communication, management, and organizational skills
- Ability to take initiative and work independently or as part of a team
- Strong interest in research on environment, finance, and climate change

Preferred:

- Prior field experience (ideally in a research setting)
- Experience with machine learning, prediction models, and web scraping
- Basic understanding of financial instruments

Candidates will work directly with Principal Investigator(s) at all stages of research. This position offers opportunities to gain exposure to and training in a broad range of economic research topics and methodologies, ideal for those planning to pursue graduate studies. To apply, please email your (1) CV (including GPA), (2) transcript, and (3) a 5-sentence cover letter explaining your motivation, why you'd be a good fit for this role, and how this aligns with your future goals to: **agrclimate@gmail.com**. The subject of the email should be **[Climate RA - 2026]**. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to two rounds of interviews and will receive a take-home task to complete within 5 days. All applications submitted by **February 28, 2026** will receive full consideration.