

# Executive Director – The Global South CDR Coalition

*Brussels-based | Part-time (estimated at 60%)*

## **The Opportunity**

The European Union has just set a 90% emissions reduction target for 2040 and crucially, left the door open to high-quality international carbon removal credits. For the Global South, which has already delivered 45% of all durable carbon removal globally, this is a defining moment. The question is whether that potential translates into recognised, regulated market access, or gets locked out of the frameworks that will shape climate finance for decades.

The Global South CDR Coalition exists to make sure it doesn't get locked out. Founded in January 2025 and based in Brussels, we are a non-profit business association representing leading CDR credit producers across Latin America, Africa, and Asia, spanning biochar, enhanced rock weathering, and direct air capture. Our mission is to secure the inclusion of high-integrity, Global South carbon removal in European regulated markets and policy frameworks.

We are now hiring our first Executive Director: the person who will build this coalition into a credible, influential force in European climate policy; starting now, while the policy window is still open.

## **The Role**

The Executive Director will be the driving force behind the coalition's professionalisation and long-term impact. The Executive Director will report to the Coalition's advisory board, composed of member representatives, and will work with the board to define annual priorities, budget, advocacy positions, and membership strategy.

This is a rare opportunity for someone who combines strategic thinking with a hands-on attitude; someone equally comfortable developing a high-level advocacy roadmap and drafting a position paper, attending a Commission roundtable, or managing membership administration. The role requires an entrepreneurial leader who is comfortable moving between strategy, advocacy, stakeholder engagement, team building, and the practical realities of running a young organisation.

The Executive Director will also play a foundational role in building the coalition's internal capacity. A first associate hire is planned for the near term, and the Executive Director will be responsible for recruiting, onboarding, and managing this person. As the coalition grows, further team expansion may follow, and the Executive Director will help shape what that team looks like.

## **Key Responsibilities**

### *Strategy & Policy Engagement*

- Develop and refine the coalition's strategic priorities, identifying the most relevant and impactful European policy files for engagement
- Lead advocacy efforts on key dossiers, with a current focus on the EU's 2040 climate targets and the inclusion of international carbon removal credits in that framework, as well as related files such as the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) and the European Emissions Trading System (ETS) revision.
- Translate strategic goals into concrete campaigns and activities, including the development of position papers, consultations responses, and public communications
- Represent the coalition in meetings with European policymakers, Commission officials, Members of the European Parliament, and other relevant stakeholders and opinion-makers
- Identify and attend relevant industry events, conferences, and policy forums

### *Stakeholder & Network Development*

- Build and maintain a high-impact network of relationships with EU policymakers in Brussels and, where relevant, at the level of national governments
- Develop relationships with allied and complementary organisations, including business associations, NGOs, research institutions, and other actors in the carbon removal and climate space
- Manage the coalition's relationship with its Brussels-based lobby agency and any other advisors or service providers engaged by the coalition

### *Membership & Fundraising*

- Serve as the primary point of contact and relationship manager for existing coalition members
- Drive new member acquisition, identifying and engaging prospective members from the CDR producer community in the Global South
- Lead fundraising efforts, including the management of member contributions and the identification of external funding opportunities from donors, foundations, or other patrons

### *Team Development*

- Lead the recruitment and onboarding of a first associate in the near term, providing day-to-day management and support for their professional development
- As the coalition grows, contribute to defining the team structure and staffing needs that will enable the organisation to scale its impact
- Foster a positive and productive working culture from the outset, even in a small team setting

### *Operations & Administration*

- A key objective in the first 6 months is the establishment of a legal entity for the Coalition.

- Oversee the day-to-day operations of the coalition, ensuring smooth functioning of all activities
- Support the advisory board in coordinating its work and preparing relevant materials
- Handle administrative tasks as needed, with the pragmatism and flexibility that comes naturally in a small, dynamic organisation.

## **Your Profile**

### *Required*

- At least 5 to 10 years of professional experience in public affairs, policy advocacy, or a closely related field
- Strong knowledge of and genuine interest in climate, sustainability, and/or energy policy, ideally with exposure to European institutions and legislative processes
- Demonstrated ability to develop and execute advocacy strategies, build relationships with policymakers, and communicate complex topics clearly and persuasively
- Strategic thinker with the initiative and resourcefulness to work autonomously in a small organisation
- Hands-on attitude and willingness to take on both high-level and operational tasks as needed
- Fluent in English (written and spoken) — this is the coalition's primary working language
- Based in Brussels or within 2 hours travelling distance from Brussels.

### *An asset*

- Knowledge of or prior experience in carbon removal, carbon markets, or carbon credits
- Familiarity with relevant EU policy files (2040 climate targets, ETS, CBAM, carbon removals certification)
- Proficiency in French, Portuguese and/or Spanish
- Affinity with or background connected to the Global South — whether through nationality, prior working experience in Latin America, Africa, or Asia, or other personal or professional ties

## **What We Offer**

- For an estimated 60% employment (24 hours/week), we offer a total annual remuneration of €100,000, which – initially - is to be invoiced to the Coalition. Hence, we're looking for candidates that are registered as independent consultant. Note that we foresee a transition from consultant to employee within 12 months.
- A genuinely exciting opportunity to be the founding Executive Director of a coalition with significant growth potential
- The chance to work at the intersection of global climate action and European climate policy; a space that is rapidly gaining in strategic importance
- Flexibility on full-time vs. part-time arrangements, to be discussed with the successful candidate
- A collaborative and committed membership community, and access to an established network of Brussels-based policy and advocacy professionals.

*The Global South CDR Coalition is committed to building a diverse and inclusive organisation. We particularly welcome applications from women and from candidates with personal or professional connections to the Global South.*

**To apply for the Executive Director position, please email your resume to [info@globalsouthcdr.earth](mailto:info@globalsouthcdr.earth). The deadline for receiving applications is May 31st 2026.**

**Also include a brief cover letter addressing the following questions:**

- Tell us about a specific legislative file you have worked on. What was your role, who did you collaborate with, and what was the outcome?
- What does your current network in Brussels look like?
- What do you expect to be the biggest challenges the Coalition will need to overcome in the next 12-18 months.
- Have you ever build a small organisation or company from the ground up?

**When sending your application, please:**

- Use the subject line: *Application: [Job Title] - [Your Name]*.
- Attach your documents as PDFs.
- Include your earliest available start date in the body of the email.