

LET'S MAKE RABWAH AN IT HUB

Building a **remote-first, AI-enabled
startup ecosystem** for Rabwah,
Pakistan. By 2045.

let's build the bridge

THE CITY

Rabwah.

A city built on empty land in 1948, by people who had to start over. My grandfather was among the first settlers. One year later, a thousand people lived here.

~80,000

people live in Rabwah today, in a city that has never had industry or major employers.

~1,000,000

people worldwide are estimated to have roots here. Many of them already support family in the city.

KEY CHALLENGES

Talent leaves the city

Too few companies to work for

Families depend on money from abroad



NUSRAT JEHAN COLLEGE · RABWAH

Rabwah does not only need aid. Rabwah needs **companies, jobs, and a future** where the next generation has more opportunity than the last.

They found safety. **They did not find work.**

Rabwah was built by people who had to start over. Since 1948, the city has taken in families from across Pakistan who lost shops, homes and safety where they lived. It still does.

Here they found a community that carries them. What they never found is work.

Most residents belong to a religious minority that Pakistan classified as non-Muslim by constitutional amendment in 1974. Applying for a national ID card requires declaring it, and that declaration follows every application for a job, a bank account or a university place. Outside the city, a Rabwah address alone is often enough to end an application.

So the pattern repeats. Women and children stay. Men look for work in Lahore, Islamabad or abroad.

THE PARADOX

In 2025, schools from Rabwah produced Pakistan's top candidates at the independent Aga Khan Examination Board. The city trains talent it cannot employ.

HOW THE MODEL HANDLES THIS

Remote-first. The work is delivered online, not on a shop floor that can be boycotted.

Customers and revenue sit outside Pakistan. The local market is not the constraint.

A German non-profit company carries the legal and financial structure, not a local entity.

The pilot footprint stays small on purpose. No one becomes a target for being visible.

The risk is not designed away. It is managed.

Rabwah2045 works with every resident of Rabwah, whatever their faith. The problem it solves is economic, and it is the same for everyone.

PROOF

This is not theory

ALREADY PROVEN

130

130 people in Rabwah once worked full-time, 100% remotely, for my company in Germany. Cross-border payments, delivery, management, power and connectivity: all of it worked, for years.

And here is what it did not do.

Those 130 people worked for a German company. Not one company was created in Rabwah. When the work moved, the income moved with it, and the city was left where it started.

That gap is the reason Rabwah2045 exists. Not jobs for a foreign employer. Companies owned in Rabwah.

Rabwah does not need another aid programme. **It needs companies.**

Rabwah2045 is not a traditional charity project. It is a city-focused economic transformation platform: founders, companies, mentors, capital, workspace, customers and governance in one place.

From dependency



to self-reliance.

Why now

01 The location constraint is gone.

Remote work and AI changed what a small team can sell. Software, automation and digital services can now be built in Rabwah and sold in Frankfurt, London or New York.

02 The talent is already there. The path is not.

Pakistan produced 72,952 IT graduates in 2024. Only 18.3 percent found a job in the industry. Among women with a university degree, nearly one in four is unemployed, against 4.7 percent for women with no schooling. The gap is not ability. It is access.

03 The model is still being written.

The Founding Circle is being built before the first pilot, not after it. What the first mentors and advisors decide now becomes the standard for every cohort that follows. That is only true once.

The question is no longer whether this can work in Rabwah. It is **who organises it.**

OUR VISION

Let's make Rabwah **an IT hub.**

By 2045, a **self-sustaining startup ecosystem**, built in Rabwah, serving the world.

When people can earn internationally while living in Rabwah, they don't need to leave. The co-founder model can also bring people back: pairing Rabwah-based founders with international co-founders, some of whom relocate to Rabwah for a period of years.

THE NEXT 12 MONTHS

Startup School running weekly · First Fellowship cohort selected · 3 to 5 teams in the pilot · Founding Circle at 25 members

talent is everywhere. opportunity is not.



- 01 Founder-led companies
- 02 AI-enabled businesses
- 03 Remote-first opportunities
- 04 Trained local talent
- 05 International mentors
- 06 Long-term job creation

Our strategic model

Remote work and AI made it possible to serve international clients from anywhere. What is still missing in Rabwah is everything around the founder. Rabwah2045 builds those five things in one place.

01

Capital

Pilot Support Pool today. Social Business Fund tomorrow.

Diaspora-led, not diaspora-only: donors today, investors tomorrow, plus grants, institutions and partners.

02

Mentors

Global expertise and guidance.

03

Talent

Founders and builders connected to Rabwah.

04

Place

A startup and coworking hub in Rabwah.

05

Trust

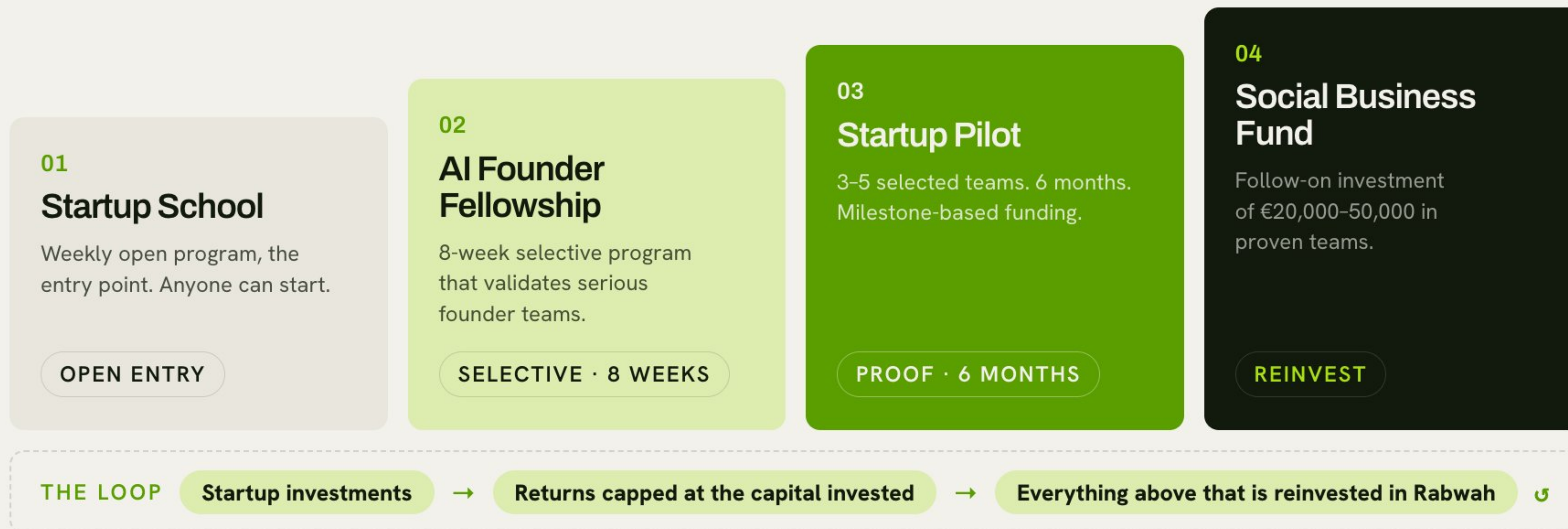
Transparency, governance, and accountability: managed from Germany, steered by an international team of advisors.

LEGAL STRUCTURE

Rabwah2045 is being set up as a German non-profit company (gemeinnützige GmbH): a transparent legal framework for donations, governance and long-term operations.

From open entry to permanent capital

The only causal study of a comparable program (Start-Up Chile) found that funding alone had no effect on startup performance. Capital paired with structured founder training did. That is why the school and the fellowship come before the money.



Successful teams return as mentors for the next cohort. The pipeline feeds itself.

The goal is not to fund one cohort. The goal is a permanent capital engine for Rabwah.

Rabwah2045, a German non-profit company (gemeinnützige GmbH), modeled on the social business structure of Professor Muhammad Yunus, Nobel Peace Prize laureate. The fund will be a separate entity, structure in preparation.

PHASE ONE

The first pilot

The first phase will be small, focused, and proof-driven.

PILOT TARGET

€50,000–100,000

PROGRAM Rabwah2045 AI Founder Fellowship

FORMAT 8-week founder selection program

NEXT STEP 3–5 teams → 6-month startup pilot

FOCUS

AI automation · AI-enabled sales and marketing operations · data and AI evaluation · vertical micro-SaaS · remote-first digital services

Service-first. Revenue-focused. Built for international markets.

SUPPORT INCLUDES

Mentorship

Coworking access

Tools

Business development

Customer discovery

Milestone-based funding

WHAT COUNTS AS PROOF

Paying customers outside Pakistan. Within six months: at least three teams with revenue or a signed pilot customer, each of them a registered company based in Rabwah.

The goal is not scale first. The goal is **proof first.**

Customer and market access

Our first customers come from **our own global network**.

01 PRIMARY

Mentors & connectors

Diaspora professionals guide founders and open doors. The core early role.



02 REFERENCE

First pilot customers

A diaspora-connected business gives a startup its first paid project: revenue, case study, reference.



03 CAPITAL

Investors

Pilot donors today. Social Business Fund investors long-term.

Of everything in this deck, this is the part where **your network matters most**.

EXAMPLE · THE GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP BRIDGE

An entrepreneur abroad hands a repetitive process to a Rabwah team, and becomes its first paying customer and international reference.

Target market: international · not local

your network is the market

Who is building this

We are not starting with a large public accelerator. First a credible base, then scale. The board comes from the Founding Circle itself: advisors with relevant expertise take direct oversight roles. Rabwah2045 does not depend on one person.



K. Nadeem Arif
Germany · Founder
Founder of CoreAIVideo. 30+ years as an IT entrepreneur in Germany, 200+ people led across 19 nations. Built 100% remote-first companies for 14 years, long before it went mainstream.



Dr. Ali Arat
Germany · Strategic Advisor
Ex-McKinsey, 14 years. Strategy and operations for a 700-person marketing division. 5 years in its AI practice, incl. Ex-COO Europe, McKinsey Analytics. Founder, Berblinger Investments: seed to Series A capital.



Jami Kiran
Netherlands · Strategic Advisor & Lead Mentor
EVP Innovation & Transformation at AdeptView. Ex-Global CTO and Global Head of AI & Data Sciences, Atos. 7 AI patents, PhD candidate, advisor to governments and enterprise.



Todd Moses
USA · Founder Mentor
Serial founder, 2 exits. Coached 100+ founders on scaling, pivots, and fundraising. Ex-advisory board member at NC Tech, North Carolina's tech industry association.



Brent Whistler
USA · Strategic Advisor
Founder of BuildRunKit, a Plan-Build-Run platform for founders and startup mentorship. Ex-Microsoft Senior Technical Account Manager. Fractional CTO and advisor to founders.

OPEN SEAT · FOUNDER-MENTORS

Founder-mentors

Operators who have scaled remote teams and can guide founders through their first pivots.

OPEN SEAT · CAPITAL & MARKET ACCESS

Capital & market access

Angels and partners who open doors to first customers and early funding.

WHERE WE ARE TODAY

7 Founding Circle members confirmed · Website and full document library live · German non-profit company in preparation · Founding Circle recruiting now

Where you fit

One strong mentor can change a founder's path. One connected ecosystem can change the future of a city.

A few hours a month. For years of impact.

If you would like to help build this from the beginning, send me a DM or connect on LinkedIn.

K. Nadeem Arif

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Some members also support the first pilot financially. If that is you, just say so and I will send the funding note.

Help us build **the bridge.**

LEAD FOUNDER MENTOR

2-4 hours / month

What you do: guide one founder team through customer discovery, product direction and their first pivots. Review their progress before each milestone.

First 90 days: one team assigned, monthly review, one milestone decision.

FOUNDER MENTOR

1-2 hours / month

What you do: targeted feedback on a specific founder problem, the occasional workshop, introductions where they fit.

First 90 days: two feedback sessions with one Fellowship team.

STRATEGIC ADVISOR

2-6 hours / quarter

What you do: help build the institution rather than a single startup. Governance, legal structure, fundraising, partnerships, long-term roadmap.

First 90 days: one call on the area you know best, and a review of the documents in it.

CONNECTOR

as it comes up

What you do: open doors. To a first customer, a mentor, a partner, or someone with a Rabwah connection.

First 90 days: one warm introduction.

No role is permanent and no one is asked to commit for years. Start with one team or one call, and expand only if it is worth your time.

Public document library

rabwah2045.com/documents

For those who want the full depth: strategy, programs, and funding model are documented publicly.

01 [Pilot Support Pool & Funding Framework](#)

02 [Founding Circle Deck](#)

03 [Why Rabwah? Why This Can Work](#)

04 [Founding Circle Handbook](#)

05 [Startup School Guide](#)

06 [AI Founder Fellowship Guide](#)

07 [Capital Strategy & Social Business Fund Framework](#)

08 [Community & Communication Guide](#)

09 [Impact & Ecosystem Vision 2045](#)

10 [Global Entrepreneurship Bridge](#)

Rabwah 2045

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The pilot budget

Working scenario at €75,000. Full framework in the Pilot Support Pool document.

Startup milestone funding		€30,000
Local coordinator		€12,000
Coworking hub & infrastructure		€8,000
Operations & administration		€7,000
Plus four smaller positions (Founder Fellowship, tools, legal, reserve)		€18,000

PER TEAM · QUALITY OVER QUANTITY

3 teams €10,000 max	4 teams €7,500 max	5 teams €6,000 max
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RELEASED ACROSS 3 MILESTONES

Company formation → MVP & customer validation → early traction

For scale: in comparable programs, every job created costs roughly 4,000 to 9,000 US dollars in program spending. Programs that work through investment promotion need 20,000 and more (GALI, World Bank). This pilot is built to sit in the first category.