

Regen10 Learning Partner

Request for Proposals

The purpose of this Request for Proposals (RFP) is to solicit proposals from suppliers (organisations or consultants) with expertise in providing monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) support to global multi-stakeholder food systems initiatives. This process will result in the selection of a supplier for the role of **Regen10 Learning Partner**, who will be invited to enter a contracting phase for a specific and detailed scope of work subject to final fixed pricing. The selected vendor will be contracted to provide support to the Regen10 initiative's MEL work as detailed below.

ABOUT REGEN10

<u>Regen10</u> is a global multi-stakeholder initiative working to support an inclusive, regenerative and equitable food systems transition. We aim to build global momentum for climate and people-positive food systems through convenings and driving collaboration and co-learning with diverse actors in the space. Regen10 was set up in support of the growing interest in regenerative food systems in different regions across the globe, and our team and partners are working to elevate existing efforts and engage with diverse food system actors to identify how policy, finance, business and technical assistance can support approaches that deliver positive outcomes for people, nature and climate.

Regeneration has been at the heart of indigenous and traditional food systems for generations, but we still lack a shared understanding of how to scale them in a way that benefits people, nature and the climate. Regen10 aims to change that through our work, including, but not limited to, the development and launch of the final version of our farmer-centric <u>Outcomes Framework</u> that is holistic and can be used to guide decision-making, collect data, and build an evidence base that will help farmers mobilize finance and be rewarded for positive outcomes; our <u>Landscape Partnership</u> and the co-development of strategies and tools to help strengthen, expand and multiply collaborative efforts in regions across the globe; an expanding <u>Regenerative Landscape Initiatives Map</u>, which showcases some existing landscape initiatives across the globe, aiming to help efforts connect with one another to drive a truly collaborative food systems' transformation; and <u>Transition Pathways</u> analyses which explore the costs of moving from conventional to regenerative agricultural practices, to help farmers and other food system actors understand the trade-offs and returns of embarking on this journey.

The Regen10 Secretariat is housed at Meridian Institute and has worked in partnership with the Food and Land Use Coalition (FOLU), the Global Alliance for the Future of Food, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), Sustainable Food Trust, 1000 Landscapes for 1 Billion People, IUCN, Leaders' Quest, Systemiq, and the World Farmers' Organisation (WFO). Regen10 has operated with funding support from the IKEA Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation, and McKnight Foundation. The Secretariat team and partners are located in Asia, Europe and the United States.

ABOUT MERIDIAN INSTITUTE

<u>Meridian Institute</u> is a mission-driven, non-profit organization that helps our clients and partners develop and implement solutions to complicated, often controversial problems—big and small, global and local for over two decades. We do this with an innovative approach that brings together three elements: our deep understanding of the issues at hand, as well as the people, politics, and power dynamics that surround them; our dedicated, expert team; and our ability to foster constructive discussions, manage decisions, and support actions that shape the world for the better. We work not only to shape meaningful consensus and action in the near term, but also to build our partners' capacity for cooperation that often continues for years, even decades.

We focus on five key services: collaboration, implementation, strategy, research, and philanthropic support. We bring our skills to bear on a diverse range of issues, including environment & natural resources, climate change, agriculture & food systems, forests, health, oceans & coasts, resilience, science & technology, and water. Across issues, boundaries, and systems, our work is a catalyst for powerful impact.

INSTRUCTIONS

The proposal should be submitted via email to <u>secretariat@regen10.org</u> and <u>amaggini@merid.org</u> no later than **5pm US Eastern Time Friday, May 2** and include:

- A brief narrative describing previous experience in similar projects, clients, and timeframe, as well as a MEL approach to this or similar programs;
- A description of relevant experience and qualifications of the individuals/ team members assigned to the project, describing the role each member will play during the project (CVs may be included as annexes); and
- A budget proposal for the elements included in the scope of work.

Virtual interviews of short-listed candidates will be set up in early May.

EXPECTATIONS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

Regen10 is looking for a Learning Partner who embodies the following principles:

- **Collaborative engagement:** Work in close collaboration with the Secretariat through a triangulated learning model, where all three roles Secretariat, Learning Partner, and Evaluator collaborate to align activities and deliverables, support collective sensemaking, and enable Regen10's strategic evolution through ongoing reflection, evidence use, and adaptive learning.
- Alignment with Regen10's goals: Demonstrate a deep understanding of Regen10's vision, principles, and multistakeholder approach. Ensure the MEL strategy, outputs, and processes reflect Regen10's commitment to farmer-centricity, equity, systems change, and contextual nuance.
- Capacity-building leadership: Build the MEL capacity of Regen10's Secretariat and partners by codesigning tools, providing targeted training, and embedding MEL into daily practice and decisionmaking.
- **Strategic contributions:** Use MEL insights and expertise to help shape Regen10's scaling plan and strategy, inform its long-term operating model, and define system-level indicators that speak to transformation at farm, landscape, and global levels.

- **Credibility building:** Develop compelling, evidence-backed narratives that demonstrate the value of systemic MEL and support advocacy, fundraising, and stakeholder engagement especially with funders and other external stakeholders.
- **Learning-driven and adaptive outputs:** Deliver high-quality MEL products that enable adaptive management, local-to-global storytelling, and continual iteration of Regen10's work.

Regen10 views MEL as essential for navigating complexity and driving aligned action — not just a reporting requirement. The MEL Learning Partner should help us listen better, learn faster, and course-correct effectively as we navigate complexity together.

Meridian Institute will evaluate proposals based on the following criteria:

- Qualifications meet the project needs and expertise requirements;
- Quality of work and track record of success supporting large collaborative partnerships in a fastpaced program;
- Previous experience of working with culturally responsive evaluation and/or in multiple regions covering low-, middle- and high-income contexts, and with diverse partners and stakeholders;
- References including the names, titles, and email addresses for three (3) previous clients who would be willing to speak to your work if contacted; and
- Cost of service.

Scope of Work

Regen10 sees Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) as a core approach for enabling transformative contributions. MEL is not only about tracking progress — it's a way to surface learning across geographies and stakeholder groups, reflect experiences and needs, and guide strategic evolution. As a multi-stakeholder initiative operating across diverse contexts, Regen10 requires a Learning Partner who can help us navigate complexity, learn adaptively, and build trust and credibility amongst food system actors.

Regen10 seeks a **Learning Partner** who will work alongside the Secretariat and a **Program Evaluator** in a triangulated monitoring and learning approach that will help shape Regen10's MEL strategy for 2025 and beyond, balancing rigorous evaluation with adaptability and emergent learning. The partners should also support Regen10 in building credibility for systemic MEL approaches and embedding them within both the Secretariat and Regen10 partner organizations.

Triangulated Learning Approach

Regen10's MEL approach is grounded in triangulated learning between the Learning Partner, a Program Evaluator and the Regen10 Secretariat. These roles are intentionally designed to be complementary, with distinct functions that reinforce shared learning, coherence, and strategic adaptation across the initiative.

While each role brings different expertise and responsibilities, we anticipate the following areas of collaboration:

- **Participating in joint reflection sessions** (e.g., quarterly or after major milestones) to surface learning and align on emerging insights.
- **Contributing to shared synthesis moments** that inform Regen10's strategic planning and adaptation processes.
- **Supporting the Secretariat in sensemaking** by bringing multiple perspectives to evaluation findings and their implications for implementation and strategy.

The **Evaluator** will provide retrospective insights and recommendations based on Regen10's Phase 1 activities. While these insights will inform future strategy and MEL design, the Evaluator will not lead these processes — instead working in partnership with the Learning Partner and Secretariat to support translation into future-facing learning and planning.

It will be the responsibility of the **Learning Partner**, in collaboration with the Secretariat, to take forward these insights and lead the design of Regen10's Phase 2 MEL strategy and approach. This includes supporting internal coherence, embedding learning into decision-making, and building capacity across Regen10's partners.

While we welcome co-design of how these roles collaborate in practice, we expect that both partners will commit to working in an integrated, transparent, and trust-based way to support Regen10's strategic evolution.

Activities and Deliverables: Regen10 Learning Partner

The **Regen10 Learning Partner** will be responsible for the following activities and deliverables to be executed **between June 2025 and December 2025**.

- Support the Secretariat and Regen10 partners in regular monitoring, learning, and reporting as well as improving documentation and tracking mechanisms;
- Recommend program modifications based on partners and key stakeholders' feedback, lessons learned through monitoring processes, and findings from the Program Evaluator;
- Build capacity for Regen10 partners to integrate MEL in their ways of working, tracking progress, and programmatic interventions; and
- Assist the Regen10 Secretariat in the development of a long-term operating model, governance structure, and MEL framework based on program activities, partners feedback and findings from the Regen10 Program Evaluator.

Deliverables:

- A proposed monitoring and reporting mechanism that suits the needs of the Secretariat and Regen10 partners, simplifies funder reporting, and facilitates decision-making based on MEL.
- A series of at least three learning sessions for the Secretariat and Regen10 partners on MEL best practices based on emerging needs.
- A set of recommendations that synthesizes lessons learned to date and findings from the Program Evaluator to develop suitable long-term internal processes and program strategies.

The expected qualifications for Regen10's Learning Partner include:

Essential

- **Experience and expertise in MEL, particularly in the context of systemic change:** Demonstrated experience in designing and implementing MEL frameworks for complex, multistakeholder initiatives that aim to shift systems rather than simply measure outputs.
- Adaptability and innovation: Ability to design MEL processes that respond to emergent needs, integrate shorter and longer learning loops, and align with Regen10's commitment to deep regeneration.
- **Capacity-building focus:** Proven track record of working with diverse stakeholders to co-create MEL processes, building capacity and fostering ownership among partners.
- **Understanding of funder expectations:** Familiarity with both conventional metrics and systemic indicators, and the ability to build funder confidence in innovative MEL approaches.
- **Global perspective with local sensitivity**: Experience working across regions, particularly in lowand-middle-income contexts, with an ability to adapt approaches and data collection methods to different cultural, linguistic, and geographic contexts.

Desirable

- **Storytelling and narrative-building:** Skill in translating MEL insights into compelling stories and narratives that connect local-to-global outcomes and demonstrate systemic impact.
- **Digital Proficiency:** Ability to engage through different data collection portals (i.e., AirTable and Excel) and administrative programs (Microsoft and Google Suite) is required, experience working with data analytics software is desired.

Contracting and Budget

This role is evaluated and contracted by Meridian Institute between June and December 2025, with potential for extension into 2026 pending performance, needs and resourcing. The expected workload corresponds to **24 days** within the contract period (~3-4 days/month). Please include your daily rate in the budget proposal.

Cost of Responding

All costs and expenses incurred by bidders in any way associated with the development, preparation, and submission of their responses to this Request for Proposals will be borne exclusively by the bidder.

Liability

This invitation is not an offer by the Meridian Institute, but an invitation for responses. No contractual obligation exists from this process unless and until a due diligence process is performed and a formal contract is signed and executed by authorized parties from Meridian Institute and the select bidder.