



for the health & wealth of the land

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Regenagri Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Framework (MEL)

Version 2.0

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Log of Updates

Version	Update	Update date	Effective date
Version 2.0	Outcomes update	25 August 2026	25 August 2026

Introduction

Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning (MEL) is a core component of Regenagri's scheme integrity and continual-improvement approach. It enables Regenagri to assess whether its strategies and activities deliver intended outcomes and to adapt its systems based on evidence and learning. This framework provides a structured, transparent approach to measuring progress against Regenagri's objectives and Theory of Change, ensuring claims are supported by credible evidence, and informing governance, risk management (see Regenagri Oversight procedure) and standards revision (see Regenagri Standard Setting procedure).

The Framework establishes the principles, scope, priority learning topics, review cycle and public reporting commitments for Regenagri's MEL system. Detailed methodologies, indicators, data-management arrangements, responsibilities and operational activities are maintained separately through internal MEL procedures and plans.

It is maintained as a living system, reviewed through annual MEL cycles and periodic strategic reviews.

1. Scope

This document specifies the Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning (MEL) framework and how Regenagri:

- monitors and evaluates the effectiveness, outcomes, and impacts of its standards, assurance system, claims and licensing model, and supporting activities;
- tests and updates its Theory of Change (ToC), assumptions, and causal pathways;
- generates evidence and learning to support continual improvement, risk management, and governance decision-making;
- safeguards the integrity and credibility of the Regenagri scheme through systematic monitoring and learning;
- governance bodies and staff responsible for standards, assurance oversight, risk and scheme integrity, and to personnel responsible for MEL.

This document is mandatory for:

- Regenagri management, governance bodies, and staff responsible for standards, assurance oversight, risk management, and scheme integrity;
- personnel responsible for Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning design, implementation, analysis, and reporting;

This document is not intended to replace or duplicate the requirements of ISO/IEC 17065 or other applicable accreditation standards. Where relevant, MEL activities rely on information generated through accredited certification and assurance processes and use that information for scheme-level analysis and learning.

2. Alignment with Regenagri's Theory of Change

Regenagri's Theory of Change shall provide the overarching framework for MEL.

MEL assesses progress along the Theory of Change pathway from activities and outputs to short- and medium-term outcomes and longer-term impacts. It also tests whether the causal pathways and assumptions underlying the Theory of Change remain valid.

MEL evidence is used to assess:

- whether Regenagri's activities and scheme components are working as intended;
- whether expected outputs and outcomes are being achieved;
- whether Regenagri is contributing to its intended sustainability impacts;
- whether the assumptions and causal pathways in the Theory of Change remain valid;
- whether unintended negative effects are occurring; and
- where learning indicates that the Theory of Change, standards, assurance system or other scheme strategies should be adapted.

Regenagri recognises that long-term sustainability impacts are influenced by multiple actors and external factors. MEL therefore distinguishes, where appropriate, between results directly attributable to Regenagri's activities and broader outcomes and impacts to which Regenagri contributes.

3. Scope and priority learning topics

MEL is intended to cover Regenagri's scheme components, strategies and relevant geographic and sectoral scope.

Where full coverage is not feasible or proportionate, Regenagri will document the rationale, associated risks and how these will be addressed.

MEL activities address, at minimum, the following priority learning topics:

- Scheme effectiveness – whether Regenagri's standards, assurance and other scheme components and strategies are working as intended.
- Client sustainability performance – whether participating organisations demonstrate improved practices and/or sustainability outcomes and impacts consistent with Regenagri's objectives.
- Unintended negative effects – whether implementation of the scheme creates or contributes to unintended adverse effects.

- Scheme sustainability performance – whether and how Regenagri contributes to the sustainability outcomes and impacts identified in its Theory of Change.
- Theory of Change validity – whether the causal pathways and assumptions underlying Regenagri's Theory of Change remain valid.
- Differences in effectiveness, reach and outcomes – whether there are material differences in scheme effectiveness, reach, outcomes or impacts by gender and/or other groupings relevant to Regenagri's scope, such as smallholders, regions or producer types.

MEL priorities may be adjusted in response to findings from the Background Assessment, risk management, stakeholder feedback, emerging sustainability issues and previous MEL findings.

4. Monitoring and evaluation approach

Regenagri uses appropriate quantitative and qualitative evidence to monitor performance and answer its priority learning questions.

Evidence may include certification and assurance information, environmental and farm performance data, scheme uptake and implementation data, stakeholder feedback and consultation, complaints and grievances, research and benchmarking, and other relevant internal or external evidence.

Methods are selected according to the question being assessed and are designed to generate sufficiently reliable and relevant findings.

Where appropriate, evaluations will consider causality and Regenagri's contribution to observed changes, recognising the influence of other actors and external factors.

Indicators used for regular monitoring are aligned, as appropriate, with the outputs, outcomes and impacts identified in the Theory of Change.

Detailed indicators, methodologies, data sources, quality controls, ethical requirements and analytical procedures are defined and maintained through Regenagri's internal MEL procedures and plans.

5. MEL cycle and evaluation of effectiveness

Regenagri monitors relevant indicators and evidence on an ongoing basis and reviews MEL findings and learning at least annually.

Annual MEL review considers relevant progress against the Theory of Change, emerging findings, data quality, unintended effects, risks and opportunities, and priorities for improvement.

At least once every five years, Regenagri undertakes a strategic evaluation of scheme effectiveness and sustainability performance. This evaluation assesses the evidence generated across the MEL priority topics and tests whether the Theory of Change's outcomes, impacts, causal pathways and assumptions remain relevant and supported by evidence.

The strategic MEL evaluation is coordinated, where practicable, with the five-year review of Regenagri's Background Assessment and Theory of Change.

Earlier evaluation or review may be undertaken where significant changes in the operating context, material risks, unintended effects, stakeholder evidence or other findings indicate that this is necessary.

Across each five-year period, Regenagri's MEL activities will generate findings and learning on each of the priority topics identified in Section 3.

6. Learning and continual improvement

MEL is used as a learning and decision-making function, not solely as a reporting mechanism.

Findings, learning and recommendations from MEL activities are used, as relevant, to inform:

- review of the Theory of Change and its assumptions;
- standards development and revision;
- assurance and oversight arrangements;
- risk management;
- stakeholder engagement;
- data and claims systems;
- capacity-building and other scheme strategies; and
- broader scheme improvement.

Relevant MEL findings, learning and recommendations are shared at least annually with Regenagri's Board, executive leadership and personnel responsible for the relevant scheme components and risk management.

Management considers the findings and determines appropriate responses and improvement actions.

7. Transparency and public reporting

Regenagri is committed to transparency about its MEL approach, sustainability performance and learning.

Regenagri makes its MEL Framework publicly available, together with information on planned and ongoing MEL activities and the indicators that are regularly reported.

At least once every two years, Regenagri will publicly disclose a summary of MEL findings, learning and recommendations together with a management response explaining relevant changes and improvements made or planned as a result.

Regenagri will also publicly report annually relevant outputs and outcomes from its Theory of Change, including progress against key sustainability indicators, through its impact reporting and/or other appropriate public reporting channels.

Public reporting will distinguish, where relevant, between:

- outputs generated directly through Regenagri's activities;
- outcomes observed among participating organisations or within the scheme; and
- long-term impacts to which Regenagri contributes alongside other actors.

8. Governance and review of the MEL Framework

Responsibility for implementation of MEL is assigned through Regenagri's internal governance and management arrangements.

The MEL Framework itself is reviewed periodically (at least every 5 years) and updated where necessary to remain aligned with Regenagri's Theory of Change, Background Assessment, scheme scope and applicable good-practice requirements.

Operational responsibilities, detailed indicators, evaluation plans, data-management controls, research protocols, ethics requirements, management-response tracking and supporting records are maintained through controlled internal procedures and records.