Eval*for*Earth
Evaluation for Food Security, Environment, Agriculture and Rural Development

Regenerative-focused Evaluation: The shift toward place-sourced and life-affirming practice...

11 November 2026 |15:00 GMT+1 /Rome time

SPEAKERS



Katie Boone, PhD.
Community Builder, Field weaver and Co-founder, Regenerative Evaluation Community of Practice



Jannik Kaiser
Co-founder and CEO of Unity Effect

MODERATOR



Innocent Chamisa
EvalforEarth

SCAN TO REGISTER

Regenerative-focused Evaluation: The Shift Toward Place-Sourced and Life-Affirming Practice

Jannik Kaiser
CEO and Co-Founder of Unity Effect, Co-founder of Regenerative Evaluation Community of Practice

Dr. Katie Boone
Community Builder, Field Weaver, and Co-founder of Regenerative Evaluation Community of Practice



Introduction to Co-Founders of the Regenerative Evaluation Community of Practice



Katie Boone, Ph.D., Community Builder and Field Weaver



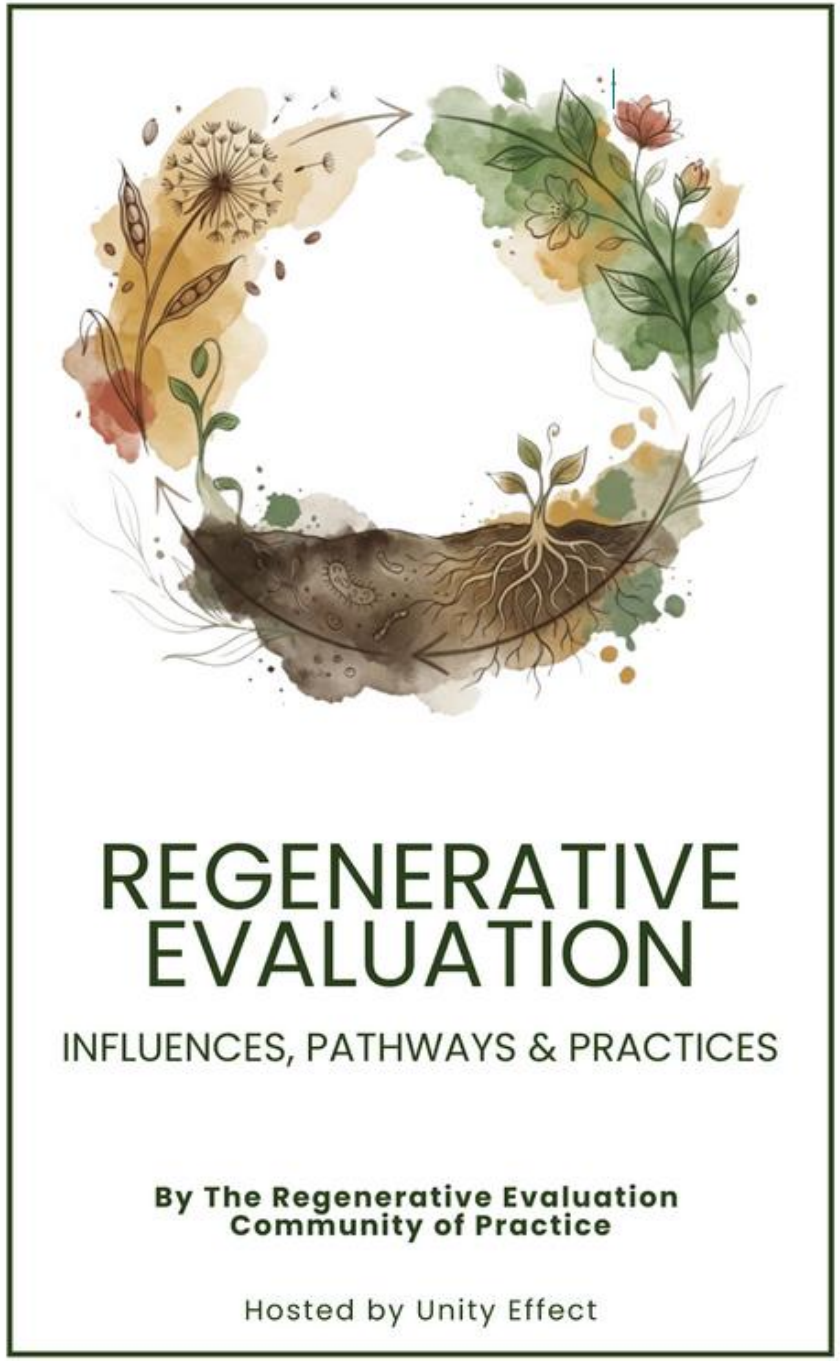
Jannik Kaiser, Co-Founder, CEO of Unity Effect

First online conversation

June 2022



We went live March 2026!

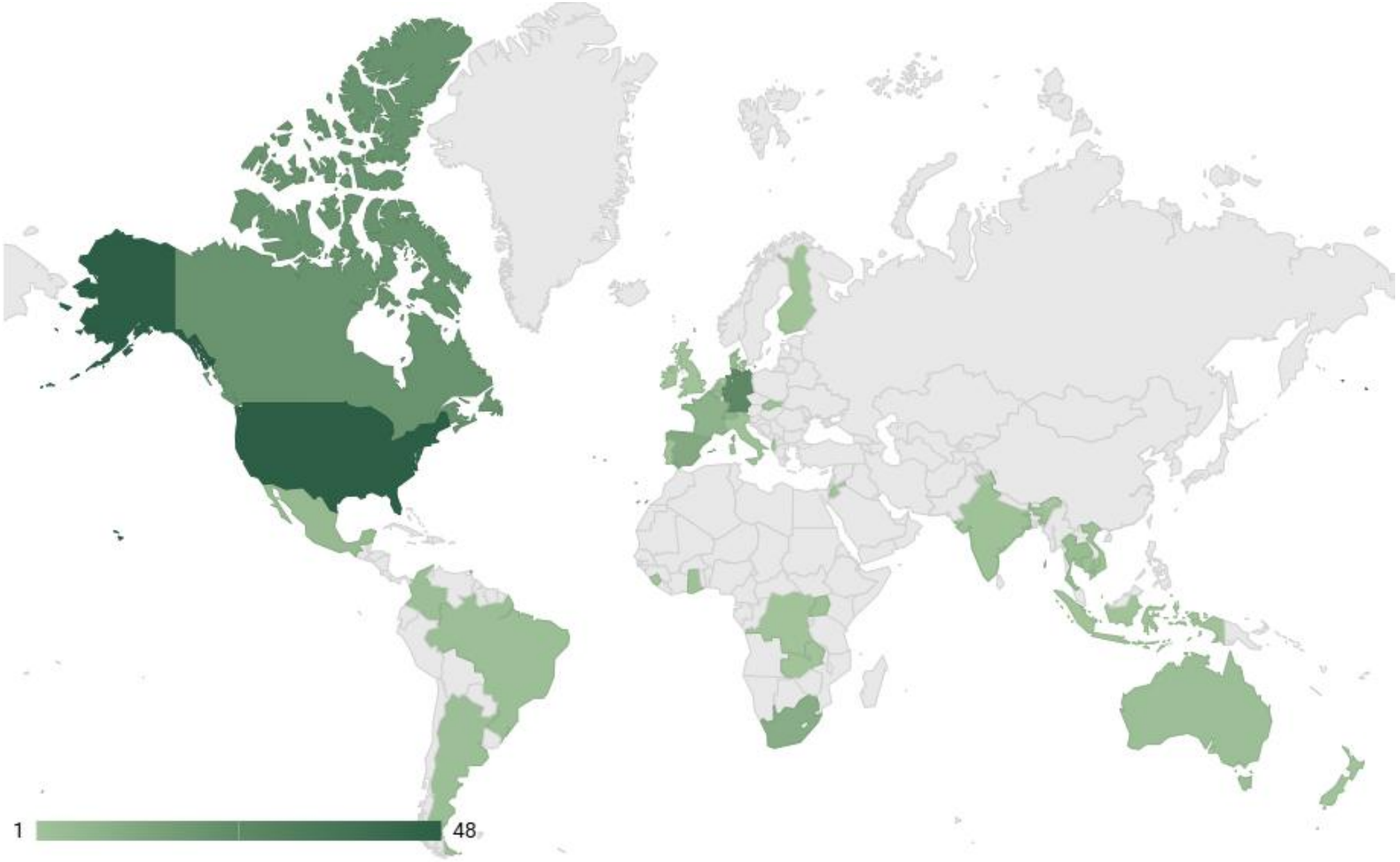


Where we are
November 2026

The Community of Practice at a glance

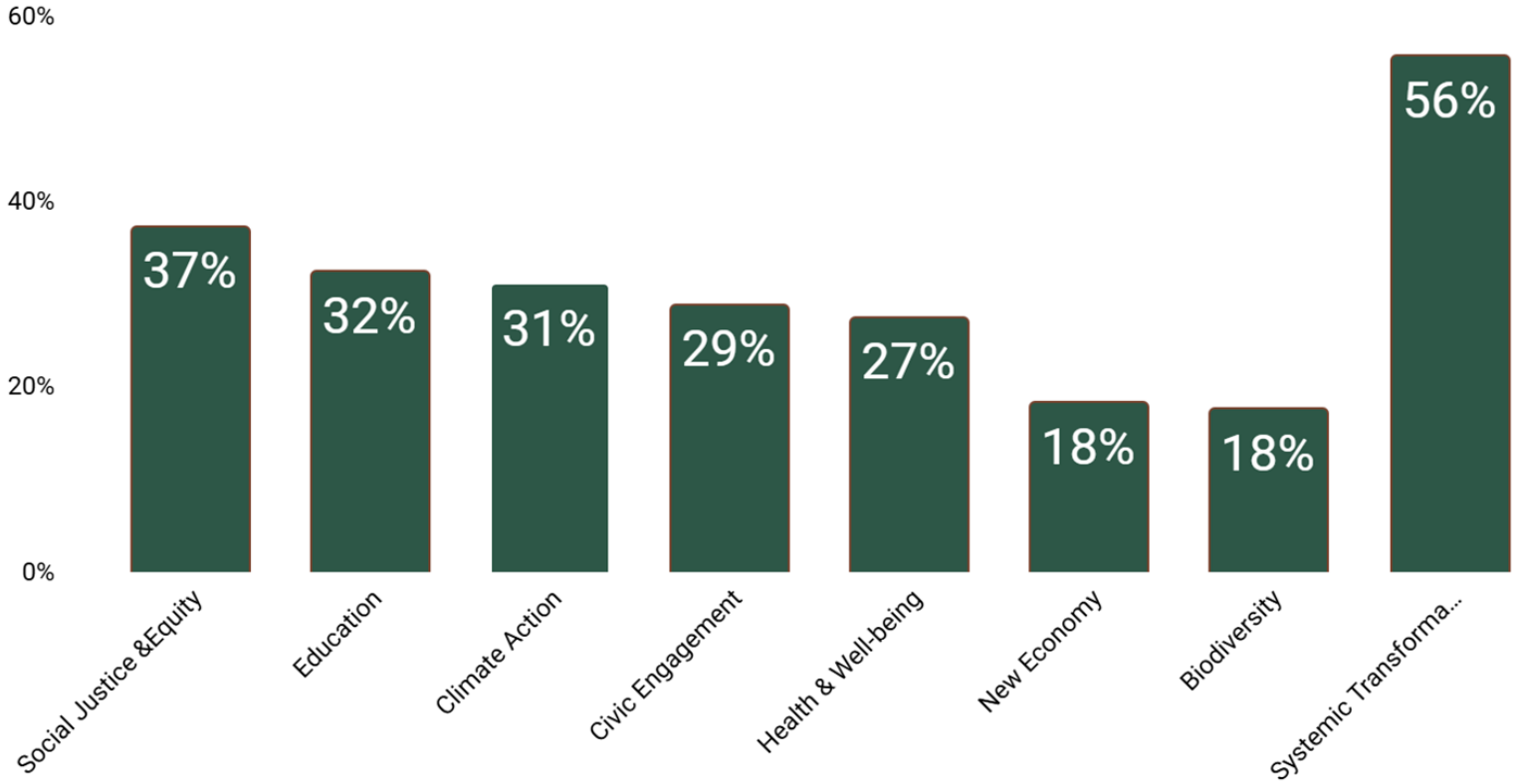
- Around 270 members, mostly senior practitioners working on systems change in various fields
- Regular community sessions and case clinics
- Hosting a 4-part public event series on “Experiments in Regenerative Evaluation” (approx. 600 registrants)
- Launch of our Regenerative Evaluation Festival on November 18.

Regional representation of community members



Who's in the community

Impact Sectors of Community Members



The Shoulders we stand on

With gratitude and acknowledgement to

- Wisdom and Indigenous knowledge traditions
- Decolonial, feminist, and critical scholars, evaluators and activists
- The pioneers of complexity science, developmental evaluation, and systems thinking
- Monitoring and evaluation practitioners

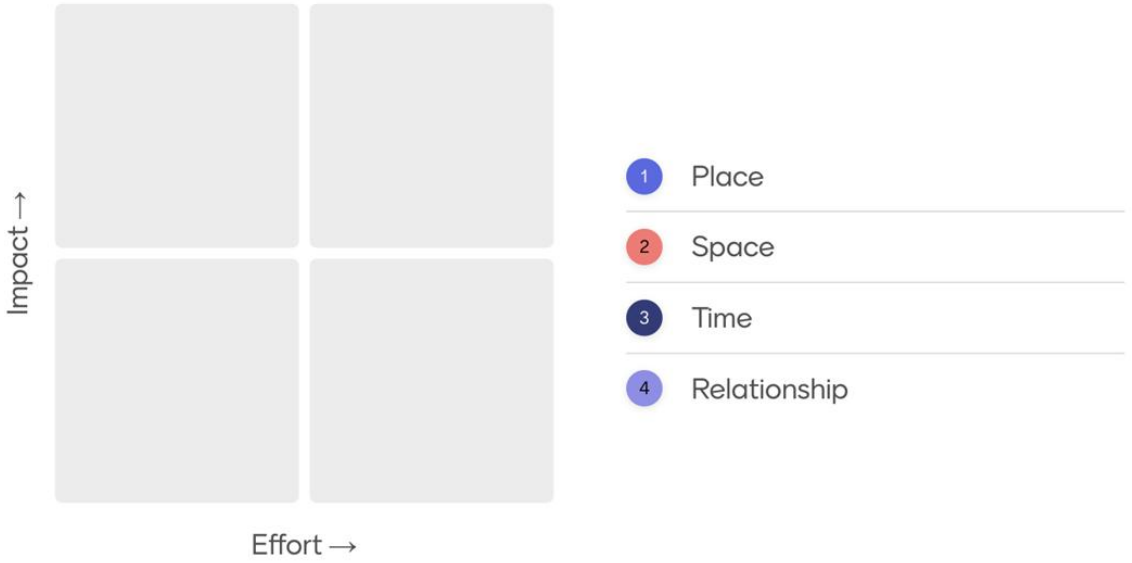
Let's Check-in

An Invitation to Co-Evalness:

Building Consciousness and Awareness for Regenerative-focused Evaluation



An invitation to co-evalness: Where would you rank your evaluation practice or conciousness around shared Place, Space, Time and Relationship?



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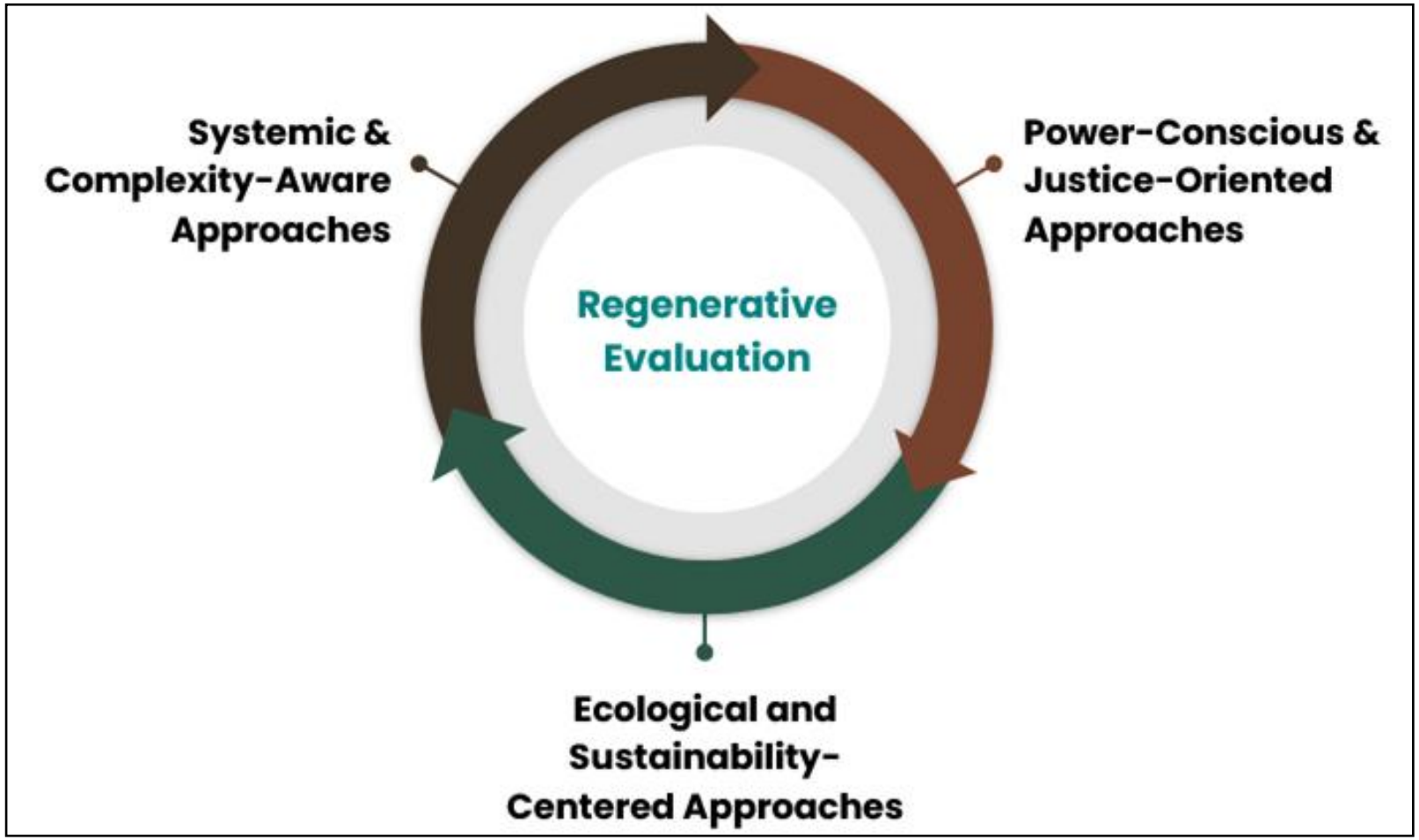
Welcome to Regenerative Evaluation



Evaluation can be much more than a retrospective measure of past performance. Rather than extracting data solely to look backward, it can be a living practice that helps a system sense its own health and navigate uncertainty.

Regenerative Evaluation is evaluation in service of life.

The Roots of Regenerative Evaluation



Two sets of questions

Evaluation in Service of Life

- **The System's Question:**
  "How can measurement contribute to better decision-making, learning, adaptability, and rigorous evidence?"
- **The Regenerative Question:**
  "How can the process of evaluation itself contribute to our mutual flourishing?"

The Shift

From Place-based to Place-sourced

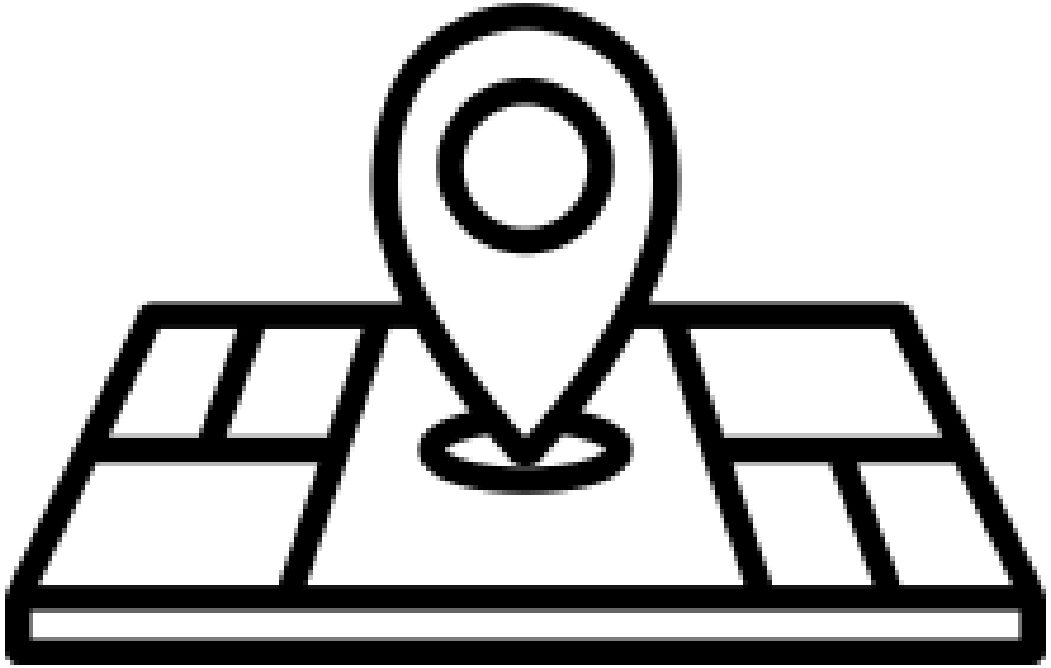


History is not about time, it is about Place.

from Vine Deloria and Daniel Wildcat in “Power and Place Indian Education in America”









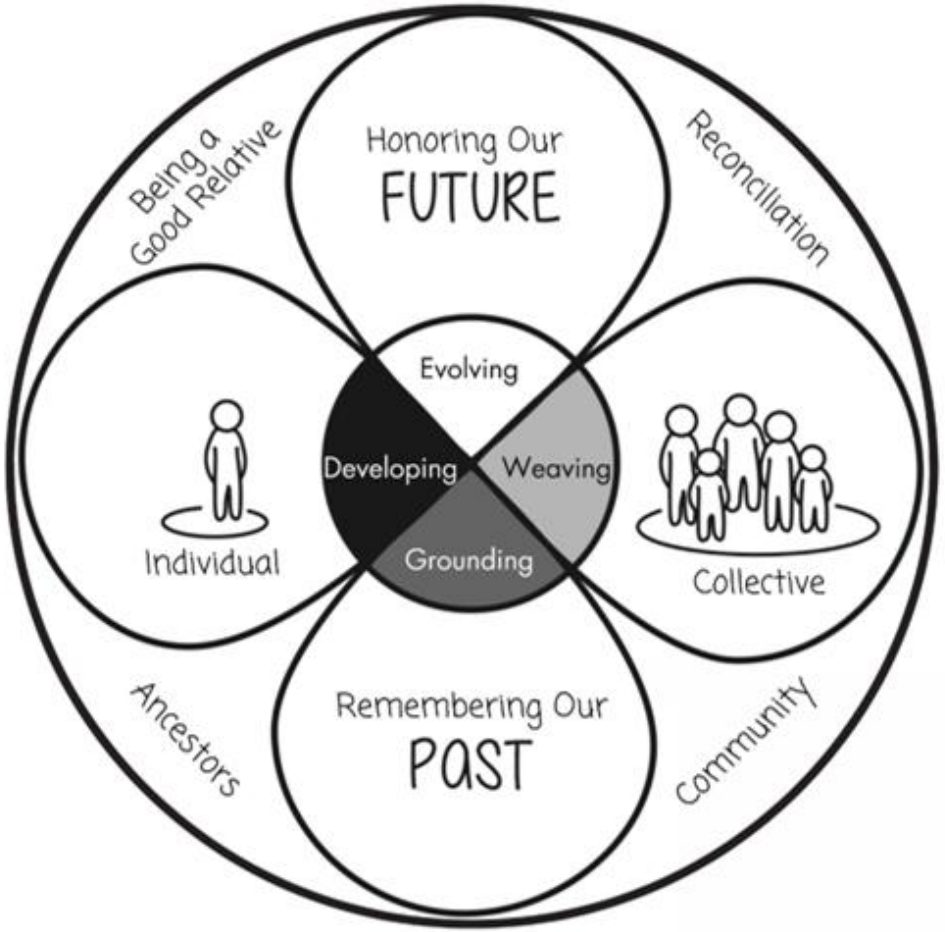
Place-based vs. Place-sourced

Place-based

Place-based evaluation, focused on man-made geographic boundaries, jurisdictional maps with man-made lines, man-made built environments, and
zip codes

Place-sourced

Place-sourced regenerative evaluation, grounds into the living-systems of a Place, nesting into the deep time and context of the planetary, social and cosmological essence or spirit of a Place.



Regenerative Evaluation Framework (Boone, 2025)

Guiding Principle:

Truth first, and Truth hurts.

Place-sourced Principles for Regenerative Evaluation Practice:

- Place as Participant
- Partnership as Praxis
- Potential > Problems

Story Sharing, Sensemaking and Meaning Making in support of Truth, Healing and Reconciliation



Photo source: Katie Boone

Regenerative-focused Evaluation is a Place-sourced Practice

On August 8, 2026, School Sisters of Notre Dame's Land Justice Futures Workgroup gathered together in Austin, MN with Dakota Elders and community leaders to return 454 acres of land back to the people who have experienced land loss, displacement and removal from their homelands. This gathering brought together Indigenous, Black, Immigrant and Refugee people to share their dreams and listen to what it is the Land wants and needs.

Watch the news story here:



Regenerative-focused Evaluation shifts historical and Institutional narratives through Place-sourced awareness and practice

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In 1862, Gustavus Adolphus College was founded, it was the same year that 38 Dakota warriors were hanged in Mahkato Mni Sota by order of President Lincoln. To this date, it is the largest mass execution ever committed by a sitting US President.

On November 7th, 2026, Gustavus Adolphus College gathered 250 participants to share what has shifted in the Institutional and historical narrative of the Institution after walking a journey learning alongside Dakota Elders and situating the Institution within the Dakota land it occupies and the history of the Dakota people that their previous Institutional history had erased.



Developing Relational Capabilities and Capacities

Principles and Practices



Principles
of Regenerative Evaluation



Practices
of Regenerative Evaluation



Phase 2: Tending & Inquiry (The Growth)

4. Evaluative Coaching
5. Meaningful Data Collection



Phase 3: Harvesting & Replanting (The Seeds)

6. Joint Sense-Making
7. Strategic Storytelling

Phase 1: Grounding & Design (The Soil)

1. Empathetic Understandings
2. Mapping Ecosystem Contribution
3. Intentional Regenerative Design

Developing capacities and capabilities

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Capacity



Capability

Regenerative-evaluation Practices

- Living Systems Thinking
- Power Conscious
- Systems-Aware
- Healing the Whole

Please rank the following, and it's ok to be honest: How much do you see your own evaluation practices utilizing these within your evaluation work?

Living Systems Thinking

Power Conscious

Systems-aware

Healing the Whole (People, Planet, All Living Things)

Still developing in practice — Always using in practice

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What is **one capability** or **capacity** that you would like to develop further to further your practice with Regenerative-focused Evaluation?



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Weaving

Lessons Learned

- Role of Source
- Weaving visions, ways of working, intentions, and perspective
- Acknowledgement of what and who has come before
- Importance of Place
- Visuals & Illustrations

Support Makatoh Reconciliation and Healing Youth Horse Ride!

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Youth on the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe Reservation will be starting the 16-day ceremonial horse ride from Fort Thompson, SD to Mankato, MN December 10 - 26th.



Photo Source: Personal photo, Makatoh Reconciliation and Healing Horse Ride, 2024

Thank you!
Wopida tanka!
(*Heartfelt thank you* in Dakota)

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