

INSPIRING FUTURES

A Declaration to Regenerate, Today and for the Future

Fundação Mendes Gonçalves was born from the conviction that care is both a verb of the present and a verb of the future. To care for what grows. To care for what nourishes. To care for what connects. To care for what may flourish.

Today, gathered in Golegã at the first Regenerar Forum, we affirm a belief and the conviction that we have shared throughout this day: **regeneration is both possible and imperative.**

Regenerating soils, ecosystems, lifestyles and eating practices, educational models, our relationship with the territory, and community ties. Regeneration, as we know, is more than repairing what has been or is becoming degraded. It is about sowing anew and restoring life and possibilities; valuing local resources, renewing relationships between people and organisations, and creating the conditions for a more resilient and sustainable future. Regeneration also means fostering confidence that it is possible to act differently and **to do better for everyone's future.**

We believe, however, that **there can be no regeneration without partnership, commitment and community.** Regeneration requires proximity, the sharing of knowledge and common goals. It requires collaboration and co-creation.

This declaration reflects our living and active commitment and our invitation to shared action, alongside all those who recognise that transformation begins within a territory, and that territories thrive when their communities move forward together, guided by purpose and care, collaborating with and inspiring one another.

Therefore, by 2028 and until the next Regenerar Forum, we commit to:

- **Educate with evidence and care:** advocate for and contribute to the development of a high-quality educational ecosystem for children aged 0 to 10, with particular attention to the 0-3 age group, by advancing the construction of the Fundação Mendes Gonçalves School and its Knowledge and Professional Development Centres, and by collaborating in the creation of replicable educational and training

resources and projects that directly and positively impact babies, children, educators, teachers and non-teaching staff, families and communities.

- **Nurture with equity and dignity:** promote food literacy, food security, and healthier and more sustainable eating practices and lifestyles among schools, Private Social Solidarity Institutions (IPSS), families and communities, because the right to healthy food cannot be a privilege, and because nurturing people is nurturing the future.
- **Regenerate soils, ecosystems and communities:** promote and disseminate regenerative agriculture practices grounded in scientific evidence, in partnership with farmers, schools, universities and local organisations, transforming the territory into a living laboratory for learning, demonstration and innovation.
- **Communicate, advocate and multiply:** share what we do, how we do it and why we do it, producing knowledge, influencing public policy, investing in high-quality communication and inspiring other organisations and territories. With the humility of those who learn while doing, but with the ambition to transform and to encourage and inspire others to do the same, alongside us.
- **Support regenerative impact projects:** prepare and launch an Impact Investment Support Fund, with contributions from Fundação Mendes Gonçalves but open to different forms of participation, as a financing and capacity-building instrument designed to accelerate projects aligned with this vision, with a particular focus on the transition towards regenerative agriculture practices and their connection to, and contribution towards, the regeneration of territories and communities.

We invite foundations and other social economy organisations, public and private entities, and all those working for the common good who share this vision, to partner with us in building this collective future.

By sharing and engaging with this declaration, and by committing to contribute to a culture of regeneration and to act, day by day and from within every territory, towards a future of greater equity, social cohesion and regeneration.

Together, we care.

Together, we regenerate.

*Together, we create and inspire futures. **For everyone.***

Regenerar Forum 2026

Golegã, 23th April 2026