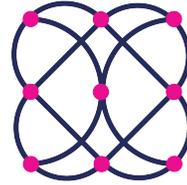




**MIT REAP**  
Regional Entrepreneurship  
Acceleration Program



**MIT REAP**  
Global  
Network

## **MIT Regional Entrepreneurship Acceleration Program**

**REAP Global Network (RGN)**

# MIT REAP GLOBAL NETWORK (RGN) OVERVIEW

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The MIT Regional Entrepreneurship Acceleration Program (REAP), an MIT Sloan Global Programs initiative, provides opportunities for communities worldwide to engage with MIT in an evidence-based, practical approach to strengthening innovation-driven entrepreneurial (IDE) ecosystems. We achieve this by translating research insights into practical frameworks, convening stakeholders focused on IDE, and educating regional leaders through team-based interaction to achieve economic and social impact.

## Mission Statement

The MIT REAP Global Network (RGN) enables REAP teams to continue engaging with and learning alongside one another (both as individuals and institutions) as well as directly with MIT. The RGN is an opportunity to continue developing shared insight and best practices across regions as it relates to accelerating innovation ecosystems.

## Objectives

- Build a global community of regional innovation leaders who have a continuing commitment to supporting innovation and entrepreneurship
- Continue to engage with MIT Sloan and MIT Sloan Global Programs
- Enable continuous intra-cohort and inter-cohort collaborations
- Track and (where possible) quantify the impact of REAP team activities post-program
- Increase awareness of the MIT approach as it relates to the science of innovation
- Share collective impact assessments through surveys & data from MIT REAP Alumni

## Description of Membership

MIT REAP Global Network members receive a combination of online resources provided by MIT staff, researchers, and faculty as well as content provided by other members of the community. MIT REAP RGN provides an online community where regional members can learn about the latest trends, research, and experiences from one another. It also creates an in-person presence when REAP Alumni travel to other member regions and attend occasional MIT-hosted convenings. Below is the full list of membership offerings as well as a detailed description of key aspects of the community.

Membership in the RGN is determined based on an individual's participation in at least one Workshop of the two-year program and participation in Action Phase calls with MIT REAP faculty. The individual must have also contributed to the work the associated team completed during Action Phases in their home region. Please note: to obtain MIT Sloan Affiliate Status, it is required that individuals participate in at least 3 Workshops and 3 Action Phases.

All requests for membership post-graduation will be reviewed by MIT REAP staff to determine eligibility. Please contact Sinan AbuShanab ([sshanab@mit.edu](mailto:sshanab@mit.edu)) for membership eligibility questions.

Summary of Membership Opportunities and Benefits (full detail Page 3-6):

	<u>Opportunity</u>	<u>Benefit to You/ Your Team</u>
1.	<b>Convenings and Reunions</b> <i>Relevant events in-region and at MIT/ Boston</i>	Opportunity for REAP Teams to re-engage with each other and learn from post-REAP efforts made in regions and to share/network
2.	<b><u>MIT REAP Innovation Diplomats Intern</u></b>	Ability to engage closely with students and the MIT ecosystem on advancing your region's innovation-driven entrepreneurial (IDE) ecosystem through the REAP Innovation Diplomats program
3.	<b>MIT REAP Team Mentorship Initiative</b>	Opportunity for REAP Alumni Teams and new REAP Teams to engage more closely with each other through collaboration and knowledge-sharing
4.	<b>MIT REAP Visiting Fellows</b>	Opportunity for select regional leaders (non-academic) to engage with MIT as full-time students to take classes that meet their academic and professional goals
5.	<b>MIT REAP International Faculty Fellow</b>	Opportunity for faculty or affiliate faculty from other institutions to engage with MIT faculty for a semester of teaching and research development
6.	<b>MIT Alumni Engagement</b>	Opportunity for REAP Teams to engage with <u>MIT Alumni Clubs</u> and alumni in their region
7.	<b>MIT Sloan Global Programs Conferences</b>	Opportunity to host or sponsor a major conference with MIT
8.	<b><u>MIT Innovation Ecosystem Web Application - Tracking Regional Economic Progress</u></b>	Access to relevant statistics to benchmark regional progress against others & provides case studies to learn from
9.	<b><u>MIT REAP Private LinkedIn Group</u></b>	Access to online professional profiles of all MIT REAP Alumni; open to both alumni and current teams
10.	<b>MIT REAP Alumni SloanGroup</b>	Access to private online community where alumni, and REAP faculty and staff can post latest content, research and events related to the program
11.	<b>MIT Sloan Affiliate Status</b>	Awarded MIT Sloan School of Management 'Sloan Affiliate' status upon completion of all four REAP Workshops and Action Phases

## 1. Convenings and Reunions

Faculty and staff will organize more formal REAP convenings and 'reunions' that will be open to all REAP Alumni and current REAP Teams from all regions. Events will be held one to three times a year in a variety of globally-accessible locations where REAP Teams and Alumni (including the broader regional network of stakeholders) can easily attend. Future RGN sessions will offer more opportunities for REAP regions to 'report out' by presenting their work and progress and exchanging knowledge and experiences.

Based on surveys covering multiple Cohorts, we have identified topics that are of interest for the wider RGN community. In future RGN sessions, we will also spend more time on new topics of interest to the community, which include:

- Challenges that arise in each Cohort irrespective of the region's background
- Impact assessments
- Deeper understanding of the mechanisms behind 'Collective Action'
- Latest research, activities, and observations from MIT REAP faculty and other MIT academics

## 2. MIT REAP Innovation Diplomats (Interns)

MIT REAP is extending the MIT Innovation Diplomats Program (iDips) to its global REAP teams. This is an opportunity for REAP Alumni and current REAP teams to engage more closely with MIT students on advancing their work to support the innovation-driven entrepreneurial (IDE) ecosystem of the region. MIT REAP iDip students are focused on working with a REAP Team to address gaps, engage stakeholders, implement a long-term MIT REAP strategy, and/or help win a specific 'Must Win Battle'. The MIT REAP iDips stay and work full-time in-region for three months to support the REAP team. .

**How to engage in MIT REAP Innovation Diplomats Program?** For more information visit [MIT REAP Innovation Diplomats](#) website. For inquiries, contact the MIT REAP team at [reap@mit.edu](mailto:reap@mit.edu).

## 3. MIT REAP Team Mentorship Initiative

The aim of the MIT REAP Team Mentorship Initiative is to offer a path for collaboration and knowledge sharing between REAP Alumni Teams (REAP Mentors) and REAP Teams (REAP Mentee). This is a flexible and project-based opportunity for collaboration, available during the 2-year REAP program.

REAP Teams can choose from different challenge areas to work on, including action-based challenges, workshop-based challenges, domain-based expertise, or stakeholder-based challenges. REAP has designed this initiative keeping in mind the needs of both REAP Mentors and REAP Mentees. The value expected to be gained from REAP Mentorship Initiative ranges from regional partnership opportunities, knowledge transfer, pilots, collaborative studies, regional and global convenings, and potential for future consultancy-based work.

**How to engage in MIT REAP Team Mentorship Initiative?** Contact the us at [reap@mit.edu](mailto:reap@mit.edu).

## 4. MIT Sloan Visiting Fellows

MIT Sloan Visiting Fellows are non-academic affiliates, students, or regional leaders who engage with MIT as full-time students for either one or two semesters to research innovation science and policy specific to their region. In consultation with an MIT Sloan faculty advisor, Visiting Fellows can choose courses to meet his/her academic and professional goals. They may take courses throughout MIT and enjoy cross-registration privileges at Harvard University. Visiting Fellows take between 36 and 54 credit units or about four to six courses per semester. They pay full tuition for participation in the program. Visiting Fellows may also decide to participate in an independent study with a faculty member on a specific topic of their interest.

**How to apply to MIT Sloan Visiting Fellows?** For inquiries, visit: <http://mitsloan.mit.edu/visiting-fellows/>.

## 5. MIT REAP International Faculty Fellowship

MIT REAP International Faculty Fellowship (IFF) is an opportunity for university faculty from MIT Sloan's international partner institutions and other collaborating schools to come to MIT for a semester of learning about MIT's teaching approach and MIT's Entrepreneurship and Innovation landscape. MIT REAP IFFs may also decide to do academic research on innovation policy specific to their region. They will be matched to a faculty advisor based on the area of research interest that is expressed through the application process. Specific project work conducted by MIT REAP IFFs will be aligned to Action Phases or Workshop Assignments and Milestones.

**How to engage in MIT REAP Team Mentorship Initiative?** Contact the us at [reap@mit.edu](mailto:reap@mit.edu).

## 6. MIT Alumni Engagement

We have identified three basic options from MIT Alumni engagement with MIT REAP Teams:

### ***Broader networking event***

- This is an opportunity for MIT Sloan Alumni and MIT REAP Teams to connect, brainstorm, and engage in action-learning gatherings.
- MIT REAP team would host the group somewhere in coordination with MIT Sloan Alumni and/or MIT Alumni Clubs.

### ***Smaller private event***

- Key Alumni of interest would host a dinner with the MIT REAP Teams with the aim to address/solve specific problems and to help the MIT REAP team in strategic ways.
- Small private gathering – like a dinner to help advise and to perhaps ultimately serve as an Advisor to the REAP Team.

### ***Event related to faculty visit***

- MIT REAP faculty leadership visit to attend the launch of a key event/program for your team (e.g., Fiona Murray in Tokyo, January 2017 spoke at a MIT Club of Japan event).

**How to engage with MIT (Sloan) Alumni?** Work with MIT REAP Director. Connect with your [MIT Alumni Club](#) and your local [MIT Sloan Alumni Club](#).

## 7. MIT Sloan Global Programs Global Conferences

MIT Sloan Global Programs (GP) hosts conferences to directly impact and enhance innovation ecosystems in regions throughout the world. MIT Sloan GP and MIT REAP work collaboratively with partners at MIT globally to periodically host events on specific areas of interest to a regional community. Members of the RGN are invited to attend these events to engage with the broader MIT community and hear from world-renowned faculty.

There are also opportunities to sponsor a conference in order for an organization to receive broader recognition and awareness of a REAP team's work. Interested in engaging as a sponsor or hosting a conference? Work with MIT REAP Director ([reap@mit.edu](mailto:reap@mit.edu)).

## 8. MIT Innovation Ecosystem Web Application - Tracking Regional Economic Progress

In an effort to understand individual MIT REAP Team progress, MIT REAP will gather relevant data and track the progress of REAP regions on an annual basis. REAP regions can identify and propose a set of 'entrepreneurial quality' metrics, relevant to regional success, that they can use in the future to track progress. MIT REAP can help regions to gather the data and provide up-to-date statistics to the REAP Alumni community. This allows regions to benchmark progress against other regions and inform future strategies.

Collecting data from the regions also allows MIT REAP to produce a database of successful stories; case studies and policy briefings. Each REAP region can present regional strategies, challenges and accomplishments in a case study. This collection of case studies from REAP teams allows for a broad spectrum of best practices and examples for other regions to use. In addition to case studies, MIT REAP strives to collect data about policy changes critical for supporting entrepreneurial quality.

**Questions about the Innovation Ecosystem Web Application?** Contact us at [reap@mit.edu](mailto:reap@mit.edu).

## 9. Open MIT REAP LinkedIn Group

MIT REAP - RGN's online engagement is currently through the [REAP LinkedIn](#) professional group. This platform's primary goal is for participants to have access to online professional profiles of all MIT REAP teams, and to create an online professional connection.

## 10. Private MIT REAP Alumni SloanGroup

REAP's MIT SloanGroup serves as the private community forum where members can ask questions and post articles related to what they're learning and implementing in regions globally. Members have access to this community of practice, to apply learnings from other regions. The content posted is contributed by current REAP faculty and research scientists who are using the REAP platform.

As RGN grows, this community continues to benefit from advanced knowledge of faculty and staff visits to certain geographic locations. If there is sufficient demand, REAP organizes REAP-alum events or even conferences, in key regions around the world – e.g., in London (for EMEA), Singapore (SE Asia), Hong Kong (East Asia) and Santiago (home to MIT Sloan Latin America Office).

This platform enables members to continue intra-cohort and inter-cohort exchange of information and collaboration. The platform will offer important benefits for its members as well as a toolbox of example strategic interventions and mechanisms to impact the regional innovation ecosystems. Benefits include:

- Quick and easy access to all REAP Alumni contact information and professional profiles
- A central source of content from MIT faculty and other researchers
- Pre-selected content based on the strategy, challenges, and needs of REAP Alumni regions – including overviews of strategic interventions and summaries of alumni team strategies
- Insight into REAP Alumni progress
- Ability to reach out to other REAP participants directly via direct message or email
- Create discussion forums and share photos
- Curated news from MIT including [MIT News Blog](#), [MIT Sloan Business Review](#), [MIT Technology Review](#), [REAP articles](#), & [MIT Innovation Initiative](#) including that includes trending research and breakthroughs (also posted [LinkedIn Group](#))
- Key questions posed by REAP and current cohorts to the online community, which encourages teams to think about other objectives they could pursue as a REAP team
- Access to team rosters from previous and current cohorts - provides the ability to engage other relevant regions

For more information please email [reap@mit.edu](mailto:reap@mit.edu).

## 11. MIT Sloan Affiliate Status

MIT Sloan School of Management awards an MIT REAP Certificate of Completion to REAP team members who have participated in all aspects of the program. MIT REAP Leadership tracks contributions from each team member based on Workshop and Action Phase attendance and participation. The certificate of completion enables participants to become MIT Sloan Affiliate Alumni and provides access to the MIT Sloan Alumni network. Beyond the certificate, there are also online MITx courses (<https://www.edx.org/school/mitx>), MIT Enterprise Forum conferences and continuing education courses ([mitef.org](http://mitef.org)) that are open to all participants.

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### Feedback?

We are continually looking for ways to make RGN relevant to all REAP regions. As we expand the membership of the RGN, its online platform and opportunities will evolve. In an effort to support the community please consider the following questions:

- How can we design a platform that serves the REAP regions best?
- How should the online RGN platform look?
- How do teams encourage their members to engage one another on the platform?
- How will teams exchange information and knowledge? What will teams share?
- How will teams contribute to events being held by MIT globally?

Periodically, we solicit feedback from RGN participants about ways to make the REAP Global Network relevant to them through regular surveys and qualitative feedback. Please share with us any and all opinions on how we can best serve your team moving forward through these surveys or by reaching out to us directly.

Email us at [reap@mit.edu](mailto:reap@mit.edu)