INSTITUTIONAL OVERVIEW

Public Research & Partnership Library

PROGRAM	Lab-wide
DOCUMENT TYPE	Institutional overview — orientation for funders, partners, and researchers
STATUS	Published — working document, revised in place
PUBLISHED	August 2026; revised October 15, 2026

PURPOSE

This document is the orientation point for anyone evaluating Altruism Lab: what the institution is, what stage it is honestly at, how the work is organized, how it reports, and the terms on which institutions, funders, and researchers can engage. It makes no outcome claims, because the Lab has none to make yet.

01

What Altruism Lab is

Altruism Lab is an applied research institution focused on measurable welfare. Its premise is that the hardest welfare problems — the ones that persist despite broad agreement that they matter — cross economics, policy, technology, markets, institutions, capital, and culture, while the organizations addressing them are usually structured around a single discipline. Research institutions often stop at publication. Program organizations often commit to one delivery model. Investment vehicles optimize for financial return.

The Lab is structured around problems instead. For each intervention it develops, it assembles the research, people, capital structure, and implementation capability that the specific problem requires, and holds all of it to a single published evidence standard.

Altruism Lab is operated by Empire Palace Group Inc., a Delaware corporation.

02

Where the Lab stands today

The Lab is new and is being built in the open. Because credibility is its core asset, the boundary between what exists and what does not is stated plainly, in every public document, before anything else is discussed.

WHAT EXISTS TODAY	WHAT DOES NOT EXIST YET
Two focus areas in development — Eradicating Poverty (New Economic System) and Animal Welfare — supported by a working paper and intervention briefs.	Verified outcomes. None are claimed in any Lab material, including this one.
A public document library, hosted on the Lab's own site.	Running pilots. Both focus areas are at the proposal, design, or research stage.
Free signups for the founding Coalition of Altruism Leaders, reviewed individually.	An acquisition fund, producer transactions, or facility buyouts of any kind.
A published measurement framework the Lab has bound itself to.	Meals transitioned. The 100 million figure is a long-term target, not a tally.

The left column grows only when something actually changes status. The rules governing status changes are public — see the Measurement & Impact Ledger Framework in this library.

03

How the work is organized

The Lab works across two focus areas: Eradicating Poverty (New Economic System) and Animal Welfare. Both share a commitment to testing proposed mechanisms before claiming results.

Eradicating Poverty (New Economic System) IN DEVELOPMENT

The Middle Layer Economy working paper proposes a technology-enabled layer connecting people with essential goods and services from local businesses, with funding settled in the background. Recurring purchasing and supported redemption are hypotheses to investigate, not proven benefits or an operating platform. Affordability, equitable access, business

viability, privacy, and fraud prevention require research. The original paper is available with a watermark and author credit from the poverty focus-area page.

Animal Welfare IN DEVELOPMENT

Factory Farm Exit

The supply-side program. It investigates whether voluntary asset-retirement and managed-transition mechanisms can permanently retire factory-farm capacity — whether some producers remain in industrial animal agriculture because they are economically trapped rather than committed, and whether a credible, dignified exit can be structured for them. The program is in mechanism design. There is no fund, no transaction, and no pilot; its brief states this explicitly.

100 Million Meals

The demand-side program. Rather than persuading individual consumers, it works on institutional food procurement — the contracts, menus, and defaults that decide what large numbers of people are served. Its long-term target is one hundred million meals shifted toward higher-welfare, plant-forward sourcing. That number is a target, not a forecast, and the count of verified meals transitioned to date is none.

The measurement foundation ACTIVE

Before claiming impact, the Lab published the rules it must satisfy to claim impact: a public status vocabulary, a tiered evidence ladder, and an Impact Ledger that fills from the bottom tier up. The 2026 Research Agenda sets out the animal-welfare questions and the measurement foundation as of August 2026. The Middle Economy working paper introduces the subsequent poverty proposal.

04

How the Lab reports

Every claim on the Lab's site and in its documents carries one of four public statuses: **In Development** (being designed; nothing has run), **Active** (currently operating), **Target** (a stated long-term aim, not a result), or **Published** (a released document). Outcome evidence, when it exists, will be reported on a three-tier ladder — Planned, Provisional, Verified — with the definitions, promotion rules, and display requirements fixed in advance by the Measurement & Impact Ledger Framework.

THE OPERATING RULE

Activity is not impact. The Lab does not report effort, reach, or intentions as outcomes, and it states "none yet" wherever that is the truthful entry.

05

The document library

All Lab documents are hosted at altruismlab.com/resources as freely downloadable PDFs. As of August 2026 the library comprises:

DOCUMENT	TYPE	PROGRAM
Public Research & Partnership Library (this document)	Institutional overview	Lab-wide
2026 Research Agenda	Research agenda	Lab-wide
Factory Farm Exit Intervention Brief	Intervention brief	Factory Farm Exit
100 Million Meals Program Brief	Program brief	100 Million Meals
Measurement & Impact Ledger Framework	Methods framework	Lab-wide

These are working documents released for public review, not peer-reviewed publications. Each is revised in place as the work advances, with its date updated; superseded versions are retired.

06

Ways to engage

Fund a bounded next step

The Lab raises against specific, bounded pieces of work — a mechanism design phase, a measurement build-out, a pilot — rather than against a general promise. Funders see what the money is for, what would count as the step succeeding or failing, and what gets published

either way. Contributions support the Lab's research and operations and are not tax-deductible.

Partner on program design or a future pilot

Institutions with relevant operations — food service, procurement, agricultural finance, policy — can engage while the programs are still being designed, when their knowledge has the most influence on what gets built.

Advise, critique, or collaborate on research

Researchers and practitioners are invited to engage with any published brief — especially to disagree with it. Serious critique is treated as a contribution. The 2026 Research Agenda lists the open questions where outside expertise is most valuable.

Join the Coalition of Altruism Leaders

The coalition is a supporting community for the Lab's research, now forming. Leaders, researchers, executives, and philanthropists can contribute expertise, introductions, and collaboration. Signing up and participating are free; each submission is reviewed, and receipt is not admission.

Coalition signups begin at **altruismlab.com/coalition**. Other inquiries begin at **altruismlab.com/contact**.

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