



Sustainable and resilient agri-food systems



Who we are

SNV is a global development partner, deeply rooted in the countries where we operate. We are driven by a vision of a better world: A world where across every society all people live with dignity and have equitable opportunities to thrive sustainably.

To make this vision a reality, we need transformations in vital agri-food, energy, and water systems. SNV contributes by strengthening capacities and catalysing partnerships in these sectors. We help strengthen institutions and effective governance, reduce gender inequalities and barriers to social inclusion, and enable adaptation and mitigation to the climate and biodiversity crises.

Building on 60 years of experience we support our partners with our technical and process expertise and methodological rigour. We do this in more than 20 countries in Africa and Asia with a team of approximately 1,600 colleagues. By being adaptable and tailoring our approaches to these different contexts, we can contribute to impact at scale, resulting in more equitable lives for all.



Our vision for impact



Our work to 2030 is defined by the intersections between nine SDGs, our three sectors of focus, and three core themes.

In line with SDG 2, we leverage our deep knowledge of local agri-food systems to deliver on these goals.



At SNV, we advocate for a coordinated and integrated approach to transform agricultural and food systems for sustainable and more equitable lives for all

Why a focus on agri-food

Food security is a pressing global issue, with more than 735 million people suffering from hunger and 3 billion people unable to afford a healthy diet.

The need to transform our agri-food systems is essential for a healthier, more sustainable and inclusive society, now and for future generations.

Feeding our growing population while ensuring food quality, safety and sustainability presents an unprecedented dilemma. This challenge

stems from an unequal and fragile food system exacerbated by population growth, social and gender inequalities, and environmental degradation. In addition, climate change poses a threat to food systems and sustainable development, potentially reversing recent progress in eradicating hunger, improving nutrition and enhancing food production, markets and investment.

How can we contribute

Our goal for the agri-food sector is to support an equitable transition to sustainable and resilient agri-food systems that deliver food security and adequate nutrition for people from all their diversity in such a way that the economic, social and environmental bases are safeguarded for future generations.

SNV takes a systemic and inclusive approach to strengthening capacities, catalysing partnerships and applying locally-led principles to transform the agri-food sector.

We are committed to driving an impactful transition by focusing on three key outcomes:

1

Sustainable agri-food production

By prioritising our efforts on climate-resilient production of nutritious food by farmers, pastoralists and agribusinesses, reducing food losses in production and restoring productive landscapes, we work to increase the sustainability of food systems.

2

Economic empowerment and social inclusion

By aligning markets and investments and focusing on climate adaptation and mitigation strategies that support resilient livelihoods and improve incomes for the most marginalised communities, we strive to promote inclusiveness, challenge harmful social norms and increase participation.

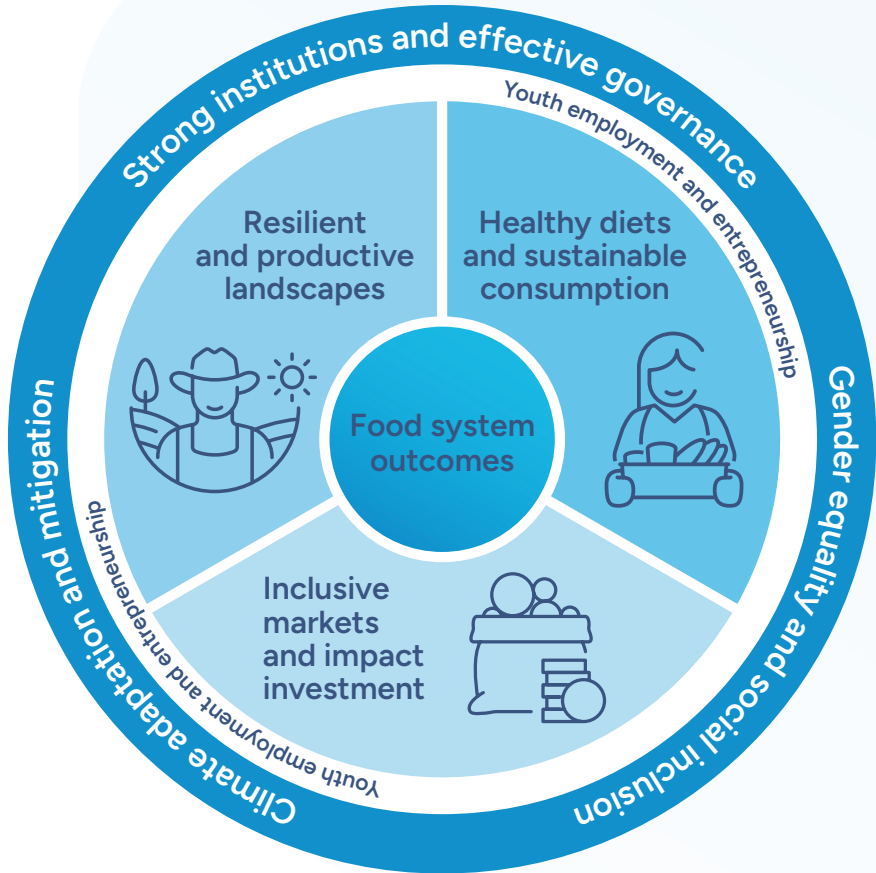
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Food security and nutrition

By strengthening resilience for nutrition of vulnerable populations, promoting the consumption of diverse, healthy diets and improving the availability and accessibility of nutritious food, we aim to empower households to make production, income and consumption decisions that promote healthy diets.

Our approaches

To catalyse progress on our priority outcomes, we employ three specific approaches



Youth and agri-food

Youth are key to creating sustainable, equitable and resilient food systems. In the agri-food sector, we pave the way for youth engagement as workers and entrepreneurs, with a particular focus on climate-resilient agriculture, nature-based solutions, climate adaptation technologies and nutritious food development. In line with Sustainable Development Goal 8, our initiatives equip out-of-school, underprivileged, underemployed and unemployed young people across Africa with essential tools, skills and networks. Our aim is to empower them to identify and seize opportunities for business development and employment in the agri-food sector.

Resilient and productive landscapes

SNV adopts agroecological practices, integrated landscape management, and nature-based solutions to halt and reverse food and livestock losses and restore the degradation of soil, water resources, and ecosystems, increasing resilience to respond to climate change shocks and stresses. As public funds are insufficient, SNV catalyses private sector expertise, innovation capacity, and financial resources to provide climate adaptation services for small-scale food producers.



Inclusive markets and impact investment

Implementing a market-based approach in the agri-food sector, addresses the vulnerabilities faced by smallholder farmers, suppliers, processors, retailers and traders. This increases the efficiency of agricultural and livestock supply chains, enhances nutritious food processing and product development, improves food quality and safety, reduces food losses and waste, and creates more business opportunities and investment.

Healthy diets and sustainable consumption

SNV promotes social and behavioural change interventions in nutrition while enhancing the choice of nutritious diets through a conducive food environment. In collaboration with local governments and the private sector, we operationalise national nutrition agendas and empower vulnerable communities to access nutritious food sources by increasing the availability, accessibility, affordability, acceptability, and attractiveness of healthy food.





Impact
that matters



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