2030 STRATEGY

Our contribution to accelerating and scaling SDG-aligned impact
OUR VISION FOR IMPACT
WHO WE ARE

SNV is a mission-driven global development partner, rooted in the contexts and societies where we work.

We contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through effective programme delivery and influencing, with a central focus on transforming agri-food, energy, and water systems to enable sustainable and more equitable lives for all.

We are one team of over 1,600 people, the vast majority coming from the more than 20 countries in Africa and Asia where we work.

OUR VISION

A world where across every society, all people live with dignity and have equitable opportunities to thrive sustainably.

OUR MISSION

To strengthen capacities and catalyse partnerships that transform the agri-food, energy, and water systems which enable sustainable and more equitable lives for all.
WHAT WE DO, WHERE, AND WHY WE DO IT

We are committed to collaboration and partnerships as key elements to enabling the accelerating and scaling of impact, as we contribute to the global transformation envisaged by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Our three sectors of focus are agri-food, energy, and water. We apply our strong foundations and technical expertise within and across these three inter-related sectors that are critical to enabling people to lead dignified lives and thrive.

Within and across these sectors of focus are three core themes: gender equality and social inclusion (GESI), climate adaptation and mitigation, and strong institutions and effective governance. Integral to the amplification of our core themes, we will explicitly focus on power dynamics, inequalities, and a rights-based approach.

Across these sectors and themes, we align our efforts with the relevant SDGs and measurably contribute to specific elements of nine SDGs.

In line with our commitment to reducing inequity, we focus our work in least developed and lower middle-income countries in Africa and Asia. We strive to strengthen the agency and capacity, and the rights and wellbeing, of those facing the most significant challenges of inequity and poverty, to enable sustainable and more equitable lives for all. Given demographics and persistent inequalities, we have a central focus on generating opportunities and strengthening the agency of young people.

We recognise that those living in extreme poverty are increasingly located within fragile contexts, and we commit to working alongside them wherever we are able to deliver the long-term commitment required to contribute to meaningful change.

We will always act in solidarity and partnership with communities, organisations, and institutions seeking to drive systemic, inclusive, and sustainable transformation towards achievement of the SDGs.

We aim to deepen partnerships with financial institutions, governments, and the private sector to expand our impact-driven finance portfolio. As a key pathway to scaling impact, we pursue innovations which enable us and other partners to extend our reach to more marginalised and excluded groups – particularly women and young people. We endeavour to do this with a range of innovative financing instruments and partnership modalities, and increased emphasis on digitalisation.

We embrace the requirement to be increasingly agile in an uncertain world. We seek to reflect our strategic approach in the way we work, ensuring that the principles we apply in our programmes are equally reflected in our culture, values, behaviours, and practices, including by setting and implementing ambitious targets.
OUR SHARED CULTURE

Our core values of people-centeredness and respect, equity and equality, and diversity and inclusion, are fundamental to who we are, and what we do. Wherever we are present, we seek to nurture a culture that is harmonious with our values and informs how we go about achieving our mission.

Our culture can be described in nine features that intertwine and which need to collectively work together to allow for effective delivery of SNV’s strategy. We are recognised consistently in this way across our collaboration with partners globally in furtherance of our mission.
HOW WE MAKE CHANGE HAPPEN

We are intent on accelerating and scaling-up our impact, building on our experience whilst affirming and deepening our commitment to contextual understanding, and local decision-making and leadership.

We are focused on the interaction of two key levers for change:

- effective and excellent project and programme delivery, integral to which are relationships and partnerships, facilitative approaches, and the sharing and strengthening of technical expertise and capacities; and

- harnessing contextual knowledge, evidence, and learning from our projects, programmes, and contexts to influence the policies, practices, and actions of partners, peer organisations, governments, and local, national and global institutions.

Together, the mutually reinforcing impact of projects and programmes and associated influence can transform systems. Our overarching focus is on contributing to a transformational level of change in agri-food, energy, and water systems - resulting in sustainable and more equitable lives for all.
We are committed to ensuring that we can measure and articulate our contribution to systems transformation, tracking how our programme and influencing levers for change, together, impact positively on:

- Policies – government, institutional and organisational rules, regulations, and priorities.
- Resource flows – how money, people, knowledge, information, and other assets are distributed and allocated, alongside development of new inclusive markets.
- Relationships and connections – quality of connections and communications among actors in the system.
- Power dynamics – the distribution of decision-making power, authority, and influence among individuals and organisations.
- Social norms, values, behaviours, and attitudes – beliefs, assumptions, and taken-for-granted ways of operating.

Reflecting our deepened commitment to partnerships and collaboration as central to accelerating and scaling impact, our strategy is grounded in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for transforming our world. We are committed to enabling others to lead, through approaches which equip and empower those we work with and for to determine their own priorities and harness their own opportunities.

We endeavour to strengthen capacities and catalyse partnerships wherever we work, and build more comprehensive, strategic, partnerships and alliances with governments, donors, local and international non-governmental organisations, civil society organisations, international organisations, and the private sector.