

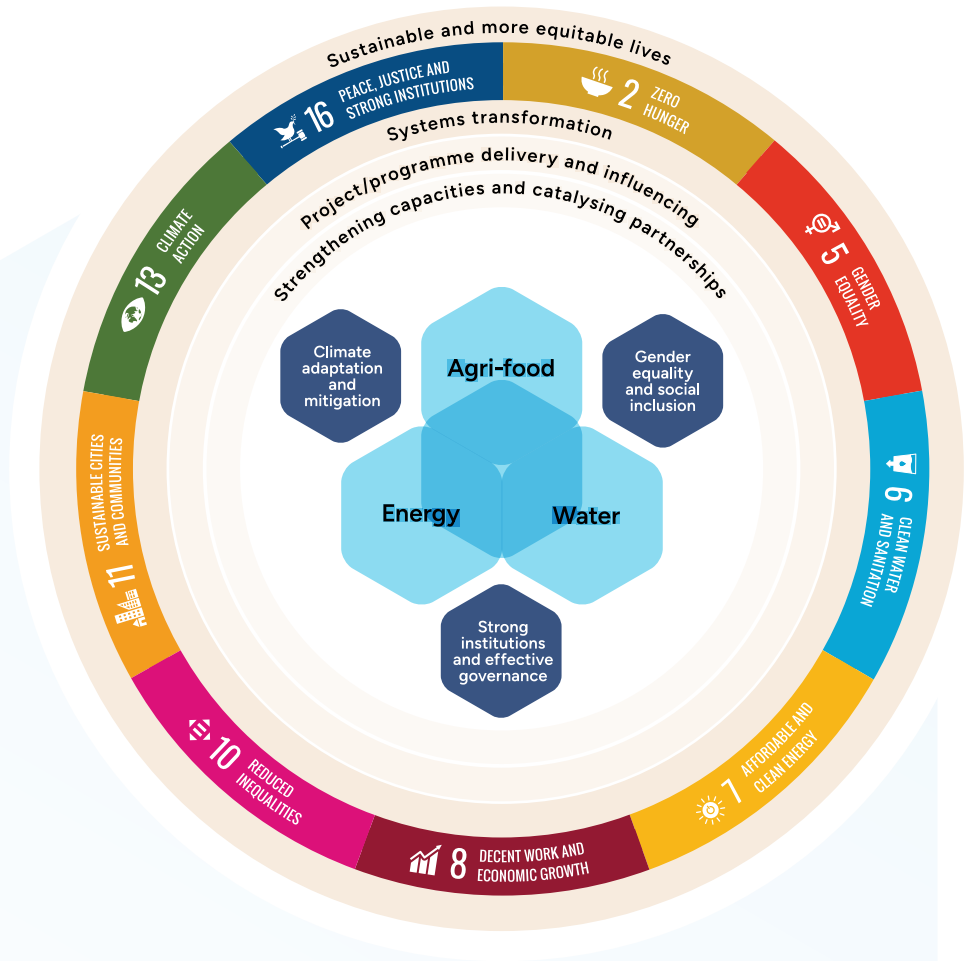
SNV



**Transforming
vital systems for
a sustainable and
more equitable
future 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.

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.

Addressing the root causes

For billions of people the world is unsafe, uncertain, and unpredictable. Inequity is increasing. The climate crisis is already deeply impacting the lives of those who are least resilient. More people are living in increasingly fragile contexts. Hundreds of millions of people still lack access to energy, food and water. To counter the challenges the world faces, we need to address the root causes of poverty and inequality, at scale.

Striving for systemic change

Today's problems are not just technical puzzles, they represent complex systemic challenges. That is why we strive for systems transformation that goes beyond surface solutions and fighting symptoms, and that we look beyond project boundaries.

True transformation is never just one change

It starts with curiosity – asking why a problem persists. This requires sensitivity to the local context, to power dynamics and the relationships and connections between stakeholders. By being deeply rooted in the countries where we work, we have developed a solid understanding of and strong relationships with these stakeholders. We partner with them in envisioning outcomes and the processes through which change can occur, recognising that change must be locally led.

That is why we facilitate inclusive and collaborative processes at different levels – linking needs to opportunities, delivering outcomes and enabling conditions for impact. We work with a wider set of system actors, blending their and our own capacities, knowledge and innovations to craft approaches that catalyse change. We see this as an iterative process, in which we pursue multiple options, and throughout which we reflect, learn and adapt – together with our partners.

What we do, where, and why we do it

We are committed to collaboration and partnerships to accelerate and scale impact, as we contribute to the global transformation envisaged by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

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

Within and across these sectors we have identified three core themes: gender equality and social inclusion (GESI), climate adaptation and mitigation, and strong institutions and effective governance. 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 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. To scale 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.

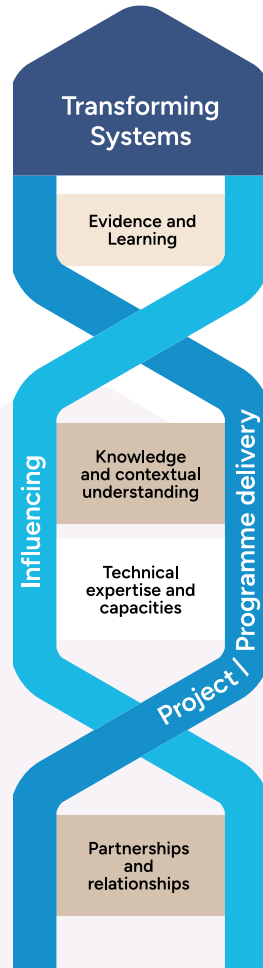
How we make change happen

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 concentrate 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. We aim to contribute 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.
- **Practices:** activities of institutions, coalitions, networks.
- **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 and attitudes:** beliefs, assumptions, and taken-for-granted ways of operating.

Reflecting our deepened commitment to partnerships and collaboration to accelerate and scale impact, our strategy is grounded in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We are committed to enabling others to lead, through approaches which equip and empower them 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.

Our core themes

Within and across all three of our sectors, we integrate three core themes:



Gender equality and social inclusion (GESI)

We embed GESI-responsive programming so that systems, structures, and markets are inclusive – enabling women, girls, men, boys and gender minorities to have equitable access, agency and voice in their lives. We prioritise inclusion as a core practice and outcome, we take an intersectional approach to understand and address persistent inequalities.

Climate adaptation and mitigation

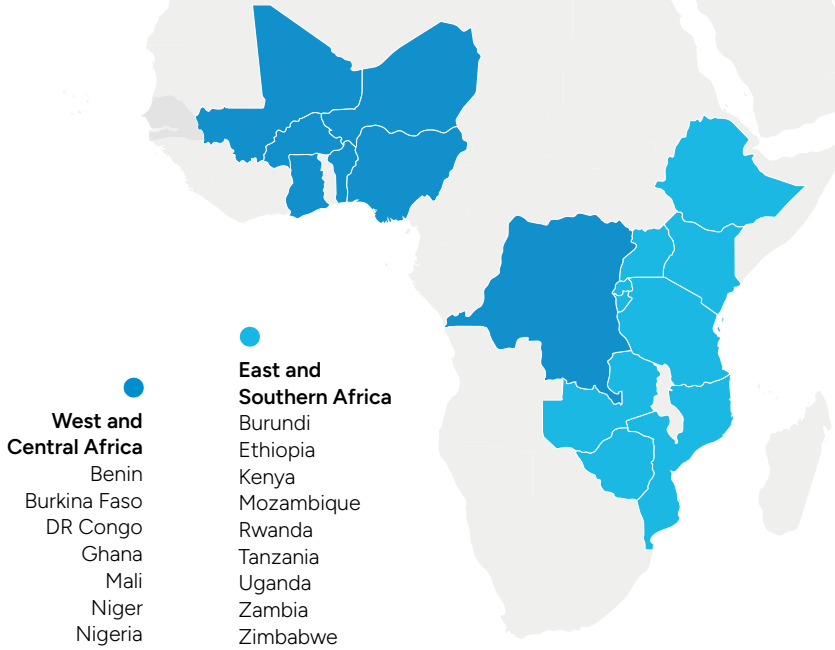
We address climate justice, ensuring that our projects, programmes, and influence strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards, while supporting faster transitions to low carbon development.



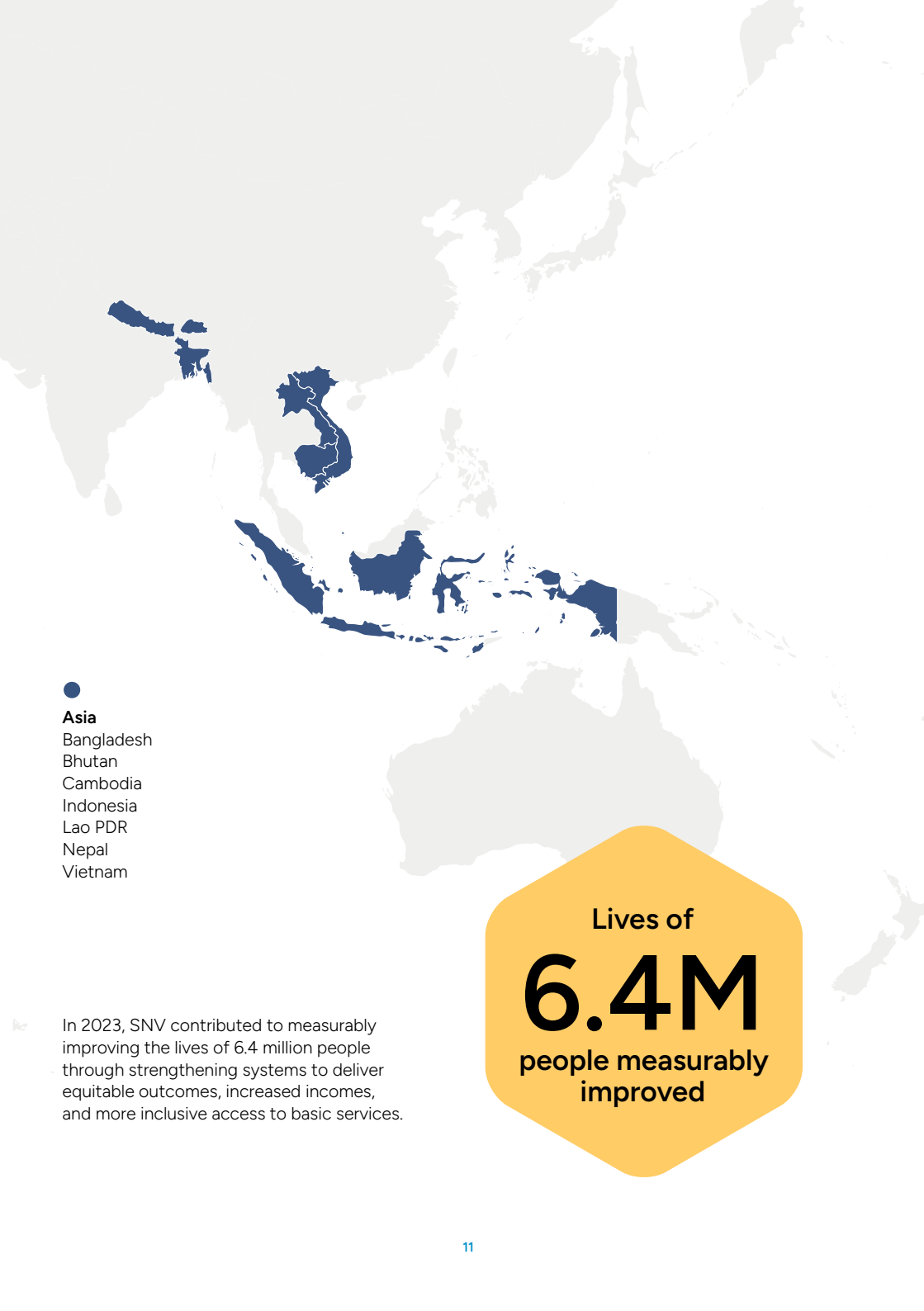
Strong institutions and effective governance

We strengthen institutional capacities to be more accountable, effective, and transparent, and governance systems to be inclusive, responsive, and representative.

Our reach



We currently have an in-country presence in more than 20 countries across Asia and Africa, with a number of global programmes extending beyond these. SNV has operated in most of these countries for decades, enabling us to acquire deep contextual understanding and knowledge, and allowing us to build long-term trusted partnerships.



Asia

- Bangladesh
- Bhutan
- Cambodia
- Indonesia
- Lao PDR
- Nepal
- Vietnam

Lives of

6.4M
people measurably
improved

In 2023, SNV contributed to measurably improving the lives of 6.4 million people through strengthening systems to deliver equitable outcomes, increased incomes, and more inclusive access to basic services.

Sustainable and resilient agri-food systems

Our goal through our work across the agri-food sector is to support the equitable transition to a sustainable and resilient agri-food system. In line with SDG 2, one that delivers food security and adequate nutrition for people in all their diversity in such a way that the economic, social, and environmental bases are safeguarded for future generations.

The agri-food system is at the heart of a complex challenge: how to provide healthy and sustainable diets to a growing global population. Today, around 735 million people go to bed hungry, while small farmers, herders, and fishermen – who produce around 30% of the world's food – face poverty and food insecurity. Climate change might cause an additional 130 million to suffer from hunger by 2050. While at the same time food production systems are the main underlying cause in the decline of water and land resources.

At SNV, we believe that the only way to tackle these challenges is to transform our agri-food systems. We have identified three impact goals to achieve this:

1. Improving food security and healthy diets
2. Achieving sustainable agri-food production
3. Increasing economic participation and social inclusion

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



In 2023, our agri-food programmes and projects measurably improved the lives of 1.9 million people in over 20 countries through increased incomes, enhanced food security, and enabling solutions to the climate crisis.

1,477,000 people
with increased
farm income

325,000 ha
brought under sustainable
land management

355,000 people
gained increased access
to nutritious food

85,000 people
meeting minimum
dietary diversity

Water security for all

Our goal through our work across the water sector is to contribute to water security of all people and the natural world. Guided by SDG 6, our focus on water seeks for improvements in its use and management, prevention of pollution, mitigation of risks and hazards, and development of water resource security.



Access to water, sanitation, and a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment are human rights. Increased demand for water, pollution, and the effects of climate change are threatening the realisation of these rights. In the face of failing collective strategies to address water issues, individuals and organisations find their own coping mechanisms, not necessarily guided by the needs of others or the environment. As a result, water security is not only an ecological and economic crisis, but also very much a crisis of governance and equity.

Our ambition is water security for all – including the natural world. We focus on equity: between people, current and future generations, and humans and the environment. We distinguish four dimensions of water security:

1. Water use: The quantity, quality, accessibility, and reliability of water for different uses
2. Water pollution: The ability to live hygienically and in a clean environment
3. Hazards and risks: Protection of people from the most severe water-related risks
4. Water resource security: In terms of quantity, quality, and reliability of water bodies on which people rely

In 2023, our projects and programmes directly contributed to over 1.6 million people in 18 countries gaining access to improved water security.

974,000 people gained access to basic and safely managed waste and sanitation

664,000 more people practising improved hygiene behaviours

562,000 people gained access to and use of water

Inclusive markets for sustainable energy

Our ambition through our work across the energy sector is to support the development of inclusive markets for sustainable energy. Primarily guided by SDG 7, we are working towards ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all by 2030.

Energy is essential for human development. Access to clean energy has been a key element on the global climate and development agenda, and the ambitions of SDG 7 are high: to achieve universal access to energy by 2030.

And yet as of 2021, globally, 2.3 billion people lack access to clean cooking, while 675 million still live without access to electricity. Not only is energy an enabler for many SDGs, but the energy transition is critical for climate change mitigation and adaptation. Using renewable and efficient energy systems leads to reduced emissions of greenhouse gases and increased resilience – hence supporting governments’ climate targets.

Our energy portfolio measurably reached over 2.8 million people in 18 countries in 2023, the vast majority of whom gained access to sustainable and affordable clean energy. We contributed to climate change mitigation by reducing greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to nearly 1,165,000 tonnes of CO₂.

2,219,000 people gained access to improved and clean cooking and heating

582,000 people gained access to off-grid electrification

62,000 people gained access to biogas



SNV supports the development of inclusive markets for sustainable energy, contributing to more equitable livelihoods for all. We have three specific impact goals:

1. Improving universal energy access
2. Addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation
3. Facilitate economic participation and social inclusion

Our shared culture



Our core values of trust and respect, equity and equality, and diversity and people-centredness, 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. We are recognised consistently in this way across our collaboration with partners globally.

Deeply engrained in our identity is the fact that 90% of our team members come from the contexts where we work.



Impact
that matters



SNV

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