



Resilient landscapes

Capability Statement | May 2026



Ensuring access to sufficient food for all in a changing climate is a major challenge, especially for vulnerable communities in developing countries. SNV's approach to landscapes seeks to balance competing land use objectives and promote synergies across sectors.

By engaging at the landscape level, SNV facilitates cross-project and cross sector collaboration, driving system wide transformation to increase the resilience of vulnerable populations.

The challenge

Growing populations, social crises, and changing consumption patterns are putting pressure on the world's natural resources. Climate change exacerbates this by stressing fragile agricultural production systems. Attempts to increase agricultural productivity can lead to higher demand for water and energy and incentivise deforestation.

Addressing these interlinked challenges requires planning and implementing solutions at the landscape level. Working at the landscape level provides a deeper understanding of the impacts of climate change, including how landscapes and their users respond to extreme weather conditions. This understanding enables the formulation of inclusive and sustainable natural resource management plans that take into account ecological, economic and social interactions within landscapes.



Figure 1. Resilient landscapes

Approach

SNV supports the resilience of livelihoods and enhances the conservation of ecosystems through three main components:

Landscape development. We work with multiple stakeholders to develop inclusive, gender- and conflict sensitive plans and strategies for low-emission, climate resilient landscapes, including:

- performing integrated landscape assessment;
- providing climate adaptation advisory services and strengthening ecosystem services;
- supporting landscape planning processes, including gender equality and social inclusion;
- developing targeted landscape management plans and tools; and
- promoting sustainable land-use policies and building capacities for the government, private sector, and civil society

Innovative financing. We support efforts to access innovative financing and engage with companies to unlock private investments for implementing and scaling climate-resilient and regenerative landscapes, including:

- supporting clients to access climate and biodiversity finance;
- leveraging private investments to scale climate resilience for vulnerable groups;
- piloting innovative finance models and scaling up best agro-ecological practices; and
- developing and sharing knowledge on climate finance.

Public-private partnerships. We facilitate inclusive partnerships to coordinate action, align goals, and optimise trade-offs by involving a wide range of stakeholders in the planning process. This includes:

- convening multi-stakeholder and industry platforms;
- developing innovative business cases at the landscape scale;
- facilitating sustainable livestock and agriculture markets and investments; and
- ensuring platforms for concerted agro-pastoral land management and conflict resolution

SNV uses a resilient landscape approach to identify common solutions across the agriculture, livestock, forestry, and environment sectors.



Highlighted project experience

Dryland Sahel Programme (PRO-ARIDES) | Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger | Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, DANIDA | €105M | 2020-2030

Pro-ARIDES contributes to increasing the resilience, food security and incomes of agricultural and (agro) pastoral households through effective decentralised institutions that improve natural resources and land management. The programme covers nine regions in three countries. In the first three years of implementation, 63,000 hectares of agricultural and pastoral land were brought under sustainable management, 36,000 farmers successfully secured their land rights, 40,000 farmers adopted climate-smart practices, and 40,000 households diversified their income sources.

Dutch Fund for Climate and Development (DFCD) | Global | Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs | €200M | 2019-2027

DFCD steers capital towards projects that strengthen the climate resilience of vulnerable populations and ecosystems across several countries. SNV identifies and supports businesses in de-risking and preparing for investments focused on impact at landscape-scale. Projected impacts of the fund include a reduction of 5 million tCO₂e per year in GHG emissions, 150,000 hectares of forests and wetlands sustainably managed, and €2 billion of private finance investment mobilised.

Ecosystem Stewardship for Sustainability and Growth in Tanzania (SUSTAIN) | Tanzania | SIDA | €15M | 2023-2025

SUSTAIN aims to enable healthy ecosystems and thriving communities in Tanzania by improving governance and user rights, strengthening sustainable management practices, and catalysing investment to protect and restore biodiversity and ecosystems. In its first year, the project strengthened the capacity of nearly 1,000 farmers in good agricultural practices and agroforestry techniques, established 16 village natural resource management communities, and secured the protection of a total of 2,000 hectares along key rivers.

Increasing Climate Resilience in Energy & Agricultural Systems and Entrepreneurship (INCREASE) | Zambia | SIDA | €7M | 2020-2024

The project addressed landscape restoration through the integration of agroforestry through tree nurseries and income and food-sensitive trees, such as fruit trees and fodder, which had high farmer adoption. The project reached 12,380 farmers with training and extension services. 25,364 farmers participated in climate-smart agronomic demonstrations, achieving a 90% adoption rate, increasing farmers' incomes by 2.5 times and strengthening the governance and operations of 119 SMEs and farmer organisations.



Climate Resilient Agribusiness For Tomorrow (CRAFT) | Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania | Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs | €36M | 2018-2025

The project was designed to address climate change-related challenges affecting the agricultural sectors in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. This five-year project, launched in 2018, with funding from the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is implemented by SNV Netherlands Development Organisation in partnership with Wageningen University and Research, CGIAR's Research Programme on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security, Agriterra, and Rabo Partnerships. CRAFT works with and through the private sector and supports public sector partners in creating an enabling environment, based on field evidence, for the wide-scale adoption of Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) practices, including the efficient, productive use of renewable energy in agriculture. CRAFT interventions are embedded in inclusive and climate-responsive investments (business cases) to strengthen the business performance of agribusinesses and cooperatives across seven value chains in Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania, namely green grams, potato, beans, sesame, sunflower, soybean, and sorghum.



Peaceful Cross-border Pastoral Mobility and Social Stability in the Sahel (MOPSS) | Mali, Niger, and Burkina Faso | SIDA, DANIDA | €9M | 2019-2024

MOPSS works to strengthen social cohesion in cross-border transhumance zones in the Sahel and the Gulf of Guinea by promoting resilience to climate and security shocks, peaceful livestock mobility, and inclusive local economies. Recently, MOPSS facilitated a multi stakeholder dialogue to develop a pastoral management plan for the Sikasso-Korhogo-Bobo Dioulasso (SKBo) border zone between Mali, Burkina Faso and Côte d'Ivoire. The project has created 223 businesses in the dairy and livestock value chains, 220 of which are still in operation and 38% of which are owned by women. Current efforts are focused on mobilising funds to implement the plan with the partner UTCTE-SKBo.

Local Forest Resources Governance Project (PGLRF) | Burkina Faso | SIDA | €3M | 2019-2024

PGLRF aims to increase stakeholders' incomes by promoting economically sustainable growth by valorising forest resources. PGLRF has certified 5,000 hectares of forest, established 500 Village Forest Enterprises and strengthened forest umbrella organisations for landscape management and collection of non-timber forest products. The project also set up processing units for non-timber products (i.e. shea butter) and provided training in environmentally friendly charcoal and briquette production

SNV is a global development partner deeply rooted in the African and Asian countries where we operate. With 60 years of experience and a team of approximately 1,600 people, we strengthen capacities and catalyse partnerships that transform agri-food, energy and water systems. Working on the core themes of gender equality and social inclusion, climate adaptation and mitigation, and strong institutions and effective governance, we tailor our approaches to different contexts to achieve large-scale impact and create sustainable and more equitable lives for all.

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