SIANI

Programme Document Phase 4

Abbreviations and acronyms

2030 Agenda	The UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
Agri4D	Agriculture for Development
AgriFoSe 2030	Agriculture for Food Security 2030 – Translating Science into Policy and Practice
AMR	Antimicrobial resistance
AWAK	Association of Women in Agriculture in Kenya
CFS	The Committee for Global Food Security
CFS HLPE	The Committee for Global Food Security High Level Panel
CGIAR	Global Agricultural Research Partnership (Formerly the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research)
CIFOR	International Centre for Forestry
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
COP	Conference of Parties
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
EC	Executive Committee for SIANI
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Focali	The Forest, Climate and Livelihood research network
FSS	Food System Summit
FUF	Swedish Development Forum
GLF	Global Landscape Forum
GMV	Gothenburg Centre for Sustainable Development
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
HLPE	High Level Panel of Experts
HLPF	High-Level Political Forum
HRBA	Human Rights-based Approach
ICRAF	International Centre for Research in Agroforestry/World Agroforestry
ICTs	Information and communication technologies
IFAD	International Fund for Agriculture Development
ILC	International Land Coalition
ILO	International Labour Organisation
ILRI	International Livestock Research Institute
IPLCs	Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
KJWA	Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture
KSLA	The Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry
LRF	Lantmännens Riksförbund (Federation of Swedish Farmers)
MEL	Monitoring Evaluation and Learning

Contents

MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MTR	Mid-term review
NDCs	Nationally Determined Contributions
NTFP	Non-timber Forest Products
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NCG	Nordic Consultancy Group
One Health	The collaborative efforts of multiple disciplines working locally, nationally, and globally, to attain optimal health for people, animals and the environment.
PGD	Swedish Policy for Global Development 2003
RUFORUM	Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture
RRI	Rights and Resources Institute
SC	Steering Committee
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEI	Stockholm Environment Institute
Sida	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SIANI 1	Swedish International Agriculture Network Initiative, phase 1 (2008–12)
SIANI 2	Swedish International Agriculture Network Initiative, phase 2 (2013–16)
SIANI 3	Swedish International Agriculture Network Initiative, phase 3 (2016–22)
SIANI 4	Swedish International Agriculture Network Initiative, phase 4 (2022-27)
SLU	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
SLU Global	SLU Global supports SLU's work for global development to contribute to Agenda 2030.
SMEs	Small and medium-sized enterprises
ToC	Theory of Change
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USP	Unique Selling Point
WFP	World Food Programme
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

Summary

Sustainable, inclusive and more equitable food systems have the potential to deliver food and nutrition security and catalyse the achievement of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Swedish International Agriculture Network Initiative (SIANI) is a Swedish-based global, open and inclusive network platform that supports and promotes multisector dialogue and action around sustainable food systems. SIANI's fourth phase (SIANI 4) aims to support the transformation towards more sustainable and rights-based food systems inclusive of smallholder farmers, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and marginalised groups.

This programme document outlines the rationale and structure for SIANI 4, 2022-2027. SIANI 4 will build upon the established network platform to generate multisector dialogues, communication, knowledge management, awareness-raising, amplification of marginalised voices and community-building. In supporting the transformation of food systems, SIANI will focus on contributing to the recognition of rights and agency of rural youth, the prosperity of smallholders and SMEs in production systems as well as the livelihoods and rights of forest communities, indigenous peoples and natural resource-dependent poor.

The support to Expert Groups and enhancement of their connectivity and integration will continue to be prominent, and SIANI will strengthen the collaboration and integration of youth in the activities to emphasise their role in food systems transformations. Together with its members and strategic partners Focali and SLU Global, SIANI is increasing the efforts to mobilise members to organise dialogues that aim to increase the understanding of how traditional knowledge and nature management practices can reduce poverty and improve food security. SIANI will also work within areas relevant to smallholder farmers, SMEs and overall food systems, bridging research on improved farming practices , innovations and policy as well as making research around sustainable food systems available to a broad array of stakeholders.

SIANI: a network platform

The Swedish International Agriculture Network Initiative (SIANI) is a global, open and inclusive network platform that supports and promotes multisector dialogue and action around sustainable food systems. SIANI mobilises over 4500 network members in different sectors and disciplines at different levels and regions. SIANI seeks to support transformation towards more sustainable, rights-based food systems inclusive of smallholder farmers, SMEs and marginalised rural groups.

This section describes how SIANI has evolved over time in the context in which it operates in, and how SIANI previously has contributed and will continue to contribute to Swedish development cooperation strategies.

SIANI's background

SIANI was founded in 2008 to increase the understanding of the pivotal role of agriculture for sustainable development, simultaneously increasing policy coherence in accordance with Sweden's Policy for Global Development (PGD). From the start, SIANI's objectives were to lay the foundation for a networking platform for cross-sectoral knowledge exchange on agriculture and development between network members and partners. Today SIANI is recognised as an important actor with a rapidly growing membership in Sweden and internationally. SIANI has professionalised and expanded the dialogues, targeted communication activities and joint actions to influence global policy areas and engaged in low-income contexts. SIANI 2 (the second phase of SIANI, 2013–2016) set out to expand the dialogues initiated in SIANI 1, with a more overarching and integrated vision: to address sustainable food and nutrition security for all. SIANI 2 developed from a loose network into a multi-sector network and platform for knowledge exchange. SIANI 3 (the third phase of SIANI, 2016–2021) was developed in the context of the Swedish multidimensional poverty framework established with the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development, and the Paris Agreement on climate change. In this framework, poverty reduction efforts are explicitly linked to all three dimensions of sustainable development – economic, social, and environmental. SIANI's vision to "promote knowledge-sharing, dialogue and collaboration to advance sustainable agriculture for food security, improved nutrition and the eradication of hunger" was aligned with Agenda 2030 and the new Swedish Development Framework.

The secretariat has been hosted at the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) since August 2009. Throughout the development, the number of staff in the secretariat has been kept to a minimum, to be able to draw upon the capacity of network members and the strategic partners at SLU Global at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), and the Forest, Climate and Livelihood research network (Focali) at Gothenburg Centre for Sustainable Development (GMV). SLU Global and Focali in collaboration with their partners contribute to evidence-based knowledge management through popular science communication, workshops and webinars.

The partnership has been consolidated with established recurring SIANI activities such as the Agri4D conference facilitated in collaboration with SLU Global, and a dialogue series in collaboration with Focali.

SIANI has since its inception supported Expert Groups that are broad-based working groups established around SIANI's objectives. The Expert Groups consolidate knowledge and foster interaction between the members in Sweden and internationally. SIANI's Expert Groups have been important for extending the network activities and expanding the network in low-income contexts.

Since 2016, SIANI has highlighted the importance of youth engagement and opportunities in agriculture by initiating youth-led seminars and workshops, and by supporting the SIANI Expert Group Agriprenuership Alliance. Moreover, SIANI members have chosen youth as a theme for the past two years. SIANI developed a Youth strategy in 2020.

SIANI's contribution to the Swedish development strategies

SIANI was developed based on the principles of the Swedish Government's Policy for Global Development (PGD), 2003. The objective of Swedish development cooperation is to create the conditions that will enable poor people to improve their living conditions. A poor people's perspective and a rights-based perspective are the foundation for the development cooperation. Apart from these overarching perspectives, development cooperation should depart from three thematic perspectives: gender, environmental and climate, and conflict perspectives.

Since 2015, SIANI has aligned with the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and the Paris Agreement on climate change and its recognition of the three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental, providing an opportunity for a horizontal approach to development. This is also reflected in the new Policy framework for Swedish development cooperation and humanitarian assistance 2016[1]. SIANI works across sectors to increase the understanding of the important role of sustainable and right-based food systems, fundamentally anchored in these principles for development cooperation.

SIANI contributes to and has been financed through the *Strategy for Sweden's global development cooperation in sustainable economic development 2018-2022*. The strategy's objectives are twofold: Inclusive, sustainable, economic growth and development, and sustainable livelihoods and productive employment. The strategy stresses that increased productivity in agriculture is necessary for food security and economic development and highlights the importance of strengthened tenure rights for land and natural resources. SIANI enables and facilitates members and their partners to share knowledge, technologies, good practices, and innovations to enhance food security and sustainable development productivity. Through the platform, SIANI has managed to reach out with knowledge developed in the Swedish Resource Base (SRB) and linking agriculture and food

1   See more: https://www.regeringen.se/rattsliga-dokument/skrivelse/2016/12/skr-20161760/

security to other sectors. SIANI 4 will align with the current development strategy, focusing on transforming the food systems and making them work for the rural poor dwellers and marginalised groups.

Since its inception, SIANI has also operated as a nexus for Swedish network members and partners to engage in the 2030 Agenda. SIANI has been skilful in bringing not only Swedish but also international stakeholders together in conferences and seminars. The network has enabled knowledgeable actors from the SRB to contribute to high-level international policy dialogues such as the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) and the Global Landscape Forum (GLF). SIANI has made important contributions to the *Strategy for capacity development, partnership and methods that support the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development.* The importance of SIANI's contribution to the SRB has been emphasised in two evaluations and one midterm review. SIANI will continue to work with the SRB and make this work more visible through the Theory of Change (ToC) and in the reporting.

SIANI's endeavour to work with strengthening smallholders' production and resilience, food security and encouraging youth active participation can also be seen as an important contribution to Sida's *Strategy for Sustainable Peace[2]* . This strategy supports activities focusing on the prevention of armed conflicts related to climate, natural resources and health-related threats as well as the connection involuntary migration.

Through the development of SIANI Expert Groups work in different regions, SIANI has the potential to contribute more effectively to Sida's regional strategies, e.g. *Strategy for Sweden's regional development cooperation with Latin America 2021–2023[3]*. The network can contribute by connecting knowledge around sustainable food systems seeking synergies with relevant actors in in the region.

Learnings from SIANI's previous phases

This section outlines conclusions from SIANI's previous phases and highlights some of SIANI's achievements based on the recommendations from the learning evaluation of SIANI 3.

SIANI has been assessed in three external evaluations and one midterm review since 2013. The midterm review of phase 3 in 2018 concluded that SIANI has continued its network development on two levels: (i) as a focal point for Swedish network members and partners to engage with the international debate on sustainable food and nutrition security, with a focus on a low-income context and (ii) as a node within the global system of international knowledge management. The midterm evaluation provided important recommendations to strengthen the governance and identity of SIANI. One of the recommendations was that the SIANI's ToC would be relevant for

2   Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Sweden. (2018). Strategy for Sustainable Peace 2017–2022. https://www.government.se/country-and-region-al-strategies/2018/01/strategy-for-sustainable-peace-20172022/

3   Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Sweden. (2021). Strategy for Sweden's regional development cooperation with Latin America 2021–2023. https://www.regeringen.se/48e069/contentassets/4694f53b37374ed7b894a927176bbcb5/strategy-for-swedens-regional-development-cooperation-with-lat-in-america-20212025

the entirety of SIANI 3, but that reporting could include more information on the achievements made so far in relation to capacity development in Sweden.

During phase 3 SIANI has introduced a Monitoring Learning and Evaluation (MEL) system to monitor the progress and establish a process for internal learning and reporting on impacts. The feedback loop within the programme serves for continuous improvement of the performance. At the end of the phase, SIANI chose in consultation with Sida to conduct a learning elevation that contributed to learning and strengthened internal processes as well as an assessment of SIANI's effectiveness, relevance, coherence, and sustainability. The evaluation team worked with SIANI and provided continuous feedback and advice to the secretariat and the Steering committee. Through recurrent dialogues and workshops, the evaluators reviewed SIANI's ToC and analysed the internal processes of SIANI which will contribute to more effective and coherent achievement of results and reach of the network during SIANI 4.

A separate report on the result of SIANI's work with the SRB was submitted to Sida in 2021.

Evaluation of SIANI 3

SIANI is seen as highly relevant by its members and partners. SIANI's key strengths lie in its ability to integrate different disciplines, link actors in different contexts, complement research and disseminate information through resourceful communication, as well as SIANI's high flexibility. SIANI fulfils its mission effectively to a large extent. SIANI is regarded as a respected knowledge broker and has an influential role in bridging stakeholder discussions[3]. SIANI is very good at what it does, and its activities are effective and appropriate.

SIANI contributes to outcomes at policy, institutional and individual levels. In the short term, these include changes in knowledge and attitudes of important stakeholder groups. In the longer term, SIANI contributes to changes in behaviour, as well as in policy and practice. Accounting for its Swedish identity rooted in the Swedish Resource base, SIANI is a relatively unique programme. Moreover, Monitoring Evaluation Learning has improved over time and SIANI has considerably strengthened its monitoring capacity.

However, the evaluation emphasised that SIANI should narrow down the objective from an aspirational global goal level to a more defined impact statement. It was thus recommended that the new ToC incorporates the missing features. The evaluation also raised important areas where SIANI needs to reflect and address for a future phase:

· SIANI possibly engages more with academia than ideally stated in the mission around multi-stakeholder dialogues.
· Due to the high number of activities, the purpose is at times vague. SIANI should work more productively and develop a strategic approach to activities in order to strengthen its relevance and effectiveness.
· The Monitoring Evaluations Learning process may be improved in terms of learning and reporting, and this is

linked to the finding that the SIANI theory of change is only partly helpful for working towards the stipulated vision and mission.

- The ToC for SIANI 3 lacks the role of specific actors, and it is not clear who the ultimate beneficiaries of SIANI efforts are, which is important from the perspective of the Human Rights-Based Approach. Another weakness embedded in the absence of an actor focus is also the unclear role of the Swedish identity of SIANI and how it should engage with Swedish stakeholders to achieve its vision. The ToC is therefore not as useful as it should or could be.
- SEI hosting arrangements need to be reflected on as it has implications for SIANI's current and future identity.

The recommendations from the final evaluation have been very helpful in guiding the planning process for SIANI 4. Furthermore, the evaluation team together with the SIANI developed the first outline of a revised ToC that has been discussed with the Steering Committee and SEI MEL specialist. The development of this draft has been a consultative process engaging the SIANI secretariat and the Steering Committee. In addition, three SIANI meetings were organised in March 2022 inviting members to provide input on what role SIANI as a network could play in the transition of making food systems more equal and sustainable.

The rationale for SIANI 4

SIANI has developed knowledge and understanding of how food security is impacted by inequalities and the connections between ecological systems and food systems. SIANI 4 is based on a common understanding that a transformation towards sustainable food systems is key for attaining the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This section outlines the rationale for SIANI 4 in supporting the transformation of food systems. It describes the current state of global food systems and justifies the need for food system transformation. Lastly, the section describes the key rights holder groups that SIANI direct its work towards.

Food systems

Food systems encompass the way food is produced, distributed, and consumed. They are integrated systems, comprising of numerous activities ranging from production to consumption of food, as well as the broader environmental, political, social and economic settings. Entering the Decade of Action to achieve the SDGs by 2030, many of the world's food systems are still fragile and do not support the right to adequate food for all. People in low-income settings shoulder the burden of this negative development.[4]

Since the 1960s, food systems have changed considerably. The global population has more than doubled, the average cereal yields increased by 193 per cent and calorie production by 217 per cent. Hunger decreased sharply. However, the positive trend towards eliminating world hunger turned in 2014 when the number of undernourished people began to increase. In 2021, more than three billion people could not afford a healthy diet, according to

the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)[5]. With the ongoing pandemic and the war in Ukraine in 2022, FAO estimates that the number of undernourished people could increase by anywhere from 7.6 million to 13.1 million[6].

The CFS High-Level Panel of Experts identifies several drivers of food systems change: biophysical and environmental, political, economic, socio-cultural, and demographic drivers. The agriculture sector is vulnerable to climate change because of its dependence on weather and natural resources. Climate change implies rising temperatures, severe weather events and insecure rain patterns that influence agricultural productivity. Food system activities, including agriculture and land use, storage, transport, packaging, processing, retail, and consumption generating food loss and waste, are responsible for 21 to 37 per cent of anthropogenic Greenhouse Gases (GHG) annually. At the Conference of Parties 26 (COP26), it was recognized that it will not be possible to reach the Paris Agreement and contain global warming within 1.5 degrees without transforming food systems and related sectors. There are two processes with the potential to address the food systems within the climate change process: the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture (KJWA) and the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Currently, only half of the NDCs analysed policies are linked to actions in the agrifood sector.

Biodiversity is fundamental for ecosystems and the basis of food diversity. Yet, food systems account for up to 80 per cent of biodiversity loss and use up to 70 per cent of the global freshwater resources. In addition, the land-use change, in which agriculture is the key driver, comes at the expense of forests, wetlands and grasslands[7]. New knowledge, practices, innovations and land use patterns will be needed to feed the world and improve rural livelihoods within planetary boundaries. Unabated climate change will also have dramatic effects on inequality and poverty. Rural forest-based livelihoods are today negatively impacted by the expansion of large-scale agriculture for the global market. At the same time, poverty and inequality contribute to climate change. For example, polarisation and income inequality affect support for policy action[8]. Sustainable food systems where rural communities are integrated should be recognised as an essential solution to these challenges.

Despite the devastating impact of climate change and the Covid-19 pandemic, violent conflict is the main driver of hunger. The number of active violent conflicts is on the rise and the situation has deteriorated with the war in Ukraine. Conflicts have a direct negative impact on food systems, affecting communities' ability to produce, trade and access food. For example, food systems are deliberately destroyed in armed conflicts, and wars between global grain and fertiliser producers like Russia and Ukraine disrupts global markets with serious consequences for food security in net-food importing countries. Agriculture is the basis for livelihoods for most households in conflict-affected countries, and efforts to revive the agricultural sector and increase food security have a positive effect on the sustainability of peace. In the aftermath of a social shock in fragile settings, it is important to rapidly re-engage small-holder farmers and SMEs in productive activities.

4   FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. (2021). The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2021. Transforming food systems for food security, improved nutrition, and affordable healthy diets for all. https://doi.org/10.4060/cb4474en

5   FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. (2021). The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2021. Transforming food systems for food security, improved nutrition, and affordable healthy diets for all. https://doi.org/10.4060/cb4474en
6   Press briefing from New York: Director of FAO's Markets and Trade Division to brief on March update of the FAO Food Price Index | FAO Liaison Office in New York | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
7   IPBES. (2019). Global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. E. S. Brondizio, J. Settele, S. Díaz, and H. T. Ngo (editors). https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3831673
8   How does climate change shape inequality, poverty and economic opportunity? https://www.economicsobservatory.com/how-does-climate-change-shape-inequality-poverty-and-economic-opportunity

Food systems transformation

When food systems are sustainable and inclusive, they have the potential to deliver food security and nutrition and generate economic benefits or values for all system stakeholders. While the definition of food security has evolved over time, a six-dimensional framework for food security, including six pillars of food security (availability, access, utilization, stability, agency and sustainability) has emerged and is currently changing the policy scene as well as research[9].

In 2021, the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) further recognised that transforming the current food systems is necessary for sustainable development and reaching the 17 SDGs.

This was reaffirmed at the UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) 2021 furthermore it was acknowledged that transformative action through food systems can play an important role in driving the global recovery from the pandemic.

The 2030 Agenda is universal, indivisible and integrates the three dimensions of sustainable development: social, economic, and environmental. In environmentally sustainable food systems, activities have a positive or neutral impact on the natural environment, including natural resources, animal health, biodiversity, and ecosystems. In the social dimension, sustainable food systems concern value distribution, considering vulnerable groups and intersectionality including age, gender, race and socioeconomic status. Equitable rural livelihoods require creating and capturing more value from the food system for rural economic development[10].

The UNFSS furthermore specified that sustainable food systems could contribute to shaping progress in three fundamental areas: 1) People: "Nourishing Everyone for Health and Well-being" 2) Planet: "Producing in Harmony with Nature" 3) Prosperity: "Inclusive, transformative and equitable recovery for the 2030 Agenda"[11].   The Swedish Pathway for Sustainable Food Systems acknowledged that sustainable food systems are central to achieving the SDGs – with all three dimensions of sustainability in mind.

To transform current food systems, agriculture needs to shift from production systems that deplete and degrade natural resources to ones that utilise ecosystem services to enhance resource use efficiency in production. Adaptation of the agricultural system is vital to increase the resilience of smallholder farmers' livelihoods. This implies moving to more integrated production systems and from agricultural systems reliant on indiscriminately high external input use to some that are more diversified and thus more knowledge intensive. Rural food systems include forest-dependent food systems, pastoralism, aquaculture and marine livelihoods or mixed systems such as agroforestry[12]. Farmers and producers need to access, co-create and make use of knowledge and information on farming and market conditions in their decision-making. Information includes traditional knowledge, scientific

knowledge as well as data-driven information. Information and communication technologies (ICTs) can facilitate information and knowledge-based approaches.

Sustainable food systems require a transformation to make production more efficient and tailored to the agro-ecological context and a changing climate. As food production inevitably increases, it should do so without expanding agricultural lands, implying that existing agricultural lands need to be farmed more efficiently. Sustainable intensification is one approach to address this need. This means a production process or system that increases yields without adverse environmental impact. Sustainable resource management requires knowledge about the ecological functions of agroecosystems and their relation to management and agronomic practices. Best practices vary for different microclimates and for households with different resources in different countries[13].

Circularity in the food system is increasingly seen as an important pathway to a sustainable food system. Increased resource use efficiency to reduce the environmental impact by closing the loop of materials and utilising residual streams (e.g., manure and food waste). Healthy livestock contributes to sustainable food systems in various ways; nutrition, employment, income and to the circularity. Many small and medium farming enterprises are often integrated crop-livestock systems. Pastoral herding systems play essential roles in and present new opportunities for environmental stewardship of rangelands. The pandemic has raised the urgency to understand the connections between people, animals, and environments within a 'One Health' paradigm.

A food systems transformation requires multi-stakeholder collaboration and coordination, involving multiple actors including right-holders, duty-bearers and their intermediaries. Transformative action demands the engagement and close participation of the people who drive our food systems, such as smallholder farmers, SMEs, youth and Indigenous communities. In addition to governments, the private sector, in which farmers are included, play a vital role through responsible business practices and innovation. SIANI 4 focuses on three key rights-holder groups in food systems in low-income contexts, described below.

Smallholder farmers & small and medium-sized enterprises

Food systems transformation cannot occur without strengthening small-scale farming and linking primary production into the midstream of food processing, distribution as well as finance, alongside other supporting services. Innovation and entrepreneurship through expanding market opportunities for farmers will be pivotal in generating increased off-farm livelihood options to realise the potential of the food system.

Smallholder farmers are the foundation of food supply in low-income contexts. 60 per cent of the rural population

9   Clapp, J., Moseley, W. G., Burlingame, B., & Termine, P. (2022). Viewpoint: The case for a six-dimensional food security framework. Food Policy, 106. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foodpol.2021.102164

10   FAO. (2018). Sustainable food systems: Concept and framework. https://www.fao.org/3/ca2079en/CA2079EN.pdf

11   United Nations. (2021, September 23). Secretary-General's Chair Summary and Statement of Action on the UN Food Systems Summit. https://www.un.org/en/food-systems-summit/news/making-food-systems-work-people-planet-and-prosperity

12   HLPE. (2019). Agroecological and other innovative approaches for sustainable agriculture and food systems that enhance food security and nutrition. A report by the High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee on World Food Security, Rome (HLPE Report 14). https://www.fao.org/3/ca5602en/ca5602en.pdf

13   Rockström, J., Williams, J., Daily, G. Noble, A., Matthews, N., Gordon, L., Wetterstrand, H., DeClerck, F., Shah, M., Steduto, P., de Fraiture, F., Hatibu, N., Unver, O., Bird, J., Sibanda, L. and Smith, J. 2017. Sustainable intensification of agriculture for human prosperity and global sustainability. Ambio 46, 4-17 (2017).

live in farming households. There are 374 million farms (70.4 per cent of all farms globally) of less than 1 hectare. These farms operate less than 7 per cent of the world's farmland but contribute 15 per cent of the world's calories[14]. In low-income settings, small-scale agriculture may produce as much as 70 per cent of the food consumed. Small, family-run farms are at the same time home to the majority of people living in absolute poverty, and to half the world's undernourished people. Many smallholder farmers are unable to earn a decent living from farming alone due to their small plots of land, deteriorating environmental conditions, low productivity and poor market access. Gender inequalities in education, as well as time poverty, remain embedded in rural societies.

Between 43-50 per cent of the agricultural labour force in Eastern and South-eastern Asia and sub-Saharan Africa are women[15]. More than half of the agricultural productivity gap is influenced by female-specific structural disadvantages, 44 per cent of the gap being due to issues related to land tenure. Recognizing the role of female farmers by equalising access to agricultural inputs, seed innovations including time-saving equipment is therefore critical to close gaps in agricultural productivity[16].

Smallholder entrepreneurial farmers interact with various actors when they link with markets, including product traders, logistics firms, processors and retailers. The midstream of the agri-food sector, dominated by SMEs, has proliferated. During the last decades, there has been a quiet revolution in the agricultural and food markets in a low-income context, with rapid value growth. The emergence of microenterprises and SMEs have created many new employment opportunities. Enabling and supporting SME entrepreneurship is a pathway for creating many new employment opportunities. Women's roles in value chains often lack visibility due to their concentration in home-based work, the informal sector, and part-time employment. Gender-sensitive value chains can address inequalities and provide efficient services for women. Developing the entrepreneurial skills of rural people with a focus on youth and women is vital for job creation and developing local value chains.

The potential of digital and frontier technologies can support system change. Technology offers much potential to transform food systems – opening inclusive market opportunities, information sharing between farmers' groups and enabling climate-smart production. Furthermore, governance and effective decision-making need to be informed by evidence – with up-to-date information and data. Many countries lack basic information on what is the situation of the rural population, in relation to their livelihoods, poverty, nutrition, rural economy and what is happening to natural local resources[17].

Indigenous people and communities

Indigenous communities make up only 6 per cent of the global population but 18 percent of the extreme poor.

Indigenous communities are the custodians of 80 percent of the world's remaining biodiversity, and often their

territories coincide with the best-preserved areas[18]. They often face discrimination and are deprived of their lands[19]. In Indigenous communities, women face triple discrimination comprising poverty, gender and ethnicity both within and outside their communities, making them very vulnerable. Transforming food systems must take into account the engendered needs and potential of indigenous groups. At the same time, indigenous peoples and communities have much to offer in helping to transform food systems as custodians of remaining landscapes. They are custodians of food systems that represent unique knowledge that contributes to health and well-being, preserving rich biodiversity, carbon storage and providing nutritious food within sustainable landscapes[20].

Youth

The current rural youth population[21] is 780 million if peri-urban areas are included, with 65 percent in Asia and the Pacific and 20 per cent in sub-Saharan Africa. Looking at the demographic trends in sub-Saharan Africa, newcomers to the workforce will increase from 20 million today to 50 million by 2050. The rapidly growing numbers of rural youth in Africa present a huge employment challenge. Globally, unemployment rates are three times higher among youth compared to adults, with the majority of young unemployed being women.[22] Without employment opportunities, a whole generation might be trapped in poverty, with consequences for rural well-being and development. Today's youth generation is also on the front line of the climate crisis and the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The transitional phase between childhood and becoming adults is often characterised by relatively greater independence, autonomy and agency, also in their involvement in food systems. Youth have a strong stake and potentially strong influence on the future sustainability of our food systems. Investing in young people's rights and agency in food systems can also provide spill-over effects for poverty reduction, employment generation, political stability and peace[23]. Job opportunities as entrepreneurs in the midstream food value chains and services can be a viable option for youth[24]. However, investments in youth and their involvement in food systems are nevertheless influenced by intersectional factors such as gender, class, wealth, health, location and intergenerational relationships. For example, roles, aspirations and expectations are determined and shaped by gendered norms[25]. It is also important to recognise that youth is a transitional phase, not a permanent condition.

14   Lowder, S. K., Sánchez, M. V., & Bertini, R. (2021). Which farms feed the world and has farmland become more concentrated? World Development, 142. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2021.105455

15   FAO. (2011). Women in agriculture: Closing the gender gap for development (SOFA 2010-11). https://www.fao.org/3/i2050e/i2050e.pdf

16   Ibid

17   IFAD. (2021). Rural Development Report 2021: Transforming food systems for rural prosperity. https://www.ifad.org/documents/38714170/43704363/rdr2021.pdf/d3c85b6a-229a-c6f1-75e2-a67bb8b505b2?t=1633507142608

18   Ibid

19   ILO. (2020). Implementing the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention No. 169: Towards an inclusive, sustainable, and just future. https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms_735607.pdf

20   WWF, UNEP-WCMC, SGP/ICCA-GSI, LM, TNC, CI, WCS, EP, ILC-S, CM, IUCN. (2021). The State of Indigenous Peoples' and Local Communities' Lands and Territories: A technical review of the state of Indigenous Peoples' and Local Communities' lands, their contributions to global biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services, the pressures they face, and recommendations for actions. https://wwfint.awsassets.panda.org/downloads/report_the_state_of_the_indigenous_peoples_and_local_communities_lands_and_territor.pdf

21   The official United Nations definition of "youth" is people between 15 and 24 years of age, but countries often adopt different definitions, see e.g. www.ifad.org/en/-/document/ifad-action-plan-rural-youth. SIANI will support national definitions of youth, e.g., Swedish Farmers Federation defines youth up to 36, and the African Union defines youth up to 35 years of age.

22   HLPE. (2021). Promoting youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems. A report by the High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee on World Food Security. https://www.fao.org/3/cb5464en/cb5464en.pdf

23   HLPE. (2021). Promoting youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems. A report by the High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee on World Food Security. https://www.fao.org/3/cb5464en/cb5464en.pdf

24   IFAD. (2021). Rural Development Report 2021: Transforming food systems for rural prosperity. https://www.ifad.org/documents/38714170/43704363/rdr2021.pdf/d3c85b6a-229a-c6f1-75e2-a67bb8b505b2?t=1633507142608

25   Glover, D., & Sumberg, J. (2020). Youth and Food Systems Transformation. Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems, 4. https://doi.org/10.3389/fsufs.2020.00101

The network
SIANIs growing membership

There are currently more than 4500 members signed up to the SIANI network. Around 1400 of those are members based in Sweden. However, the number of signed up members is only one indicator of engagement with SIANI. Members should therefore be considered in parallel with analytical data on users/followers from the website and social media. Members are spread across 154 different countries and across 389 organisations.

SIANI's engagement with members and followers has gone through a digital transformation. Between 2012-2015 the SIANI website was primarily used as a repository for the publications and documentation for its in-person events. In the 2015-2018 period, SIANI began experimenting with alternate forms of digital events – initially providing online-only seminars to those with fast internet speeds. During this period, the website became the "face" of SIANI.

From 2019 onwards, as technical competencies and ambitions have further increased, two tracks for SIANI's work emerged; the in-person, live events organised in Stockholm, Bangkok and Nairobi, as well as the online events streamed through Facebook.

Members and followers could participate in the events live, but they were also able to ask questions, express reactions, and come as close as possible to genuine engagement. The website has remained prominent in the digital presence of SIANI online. However, it is no longer the central hub of all activities, and people can benefit from knowing SIANI' only' on Twitter or a YouTube.

The transformative change in digital engagement has increased the protection of people's identities online. This means that SIANI knows less and less about who the specific members are. The face-to-face interactions have reduced. However, the number and diversity of people we connect with have increased significantly. The data emerging from the digital presence helps understand the profiles of the different member and follower groups. Due to the rapid virtual development, there is a need to redefine what constitutes a SIANI "member" for the future phase.

Country	SIANI Members
Sweden	1412
Kenya	479
Nigeria	316
Uganda	170
India	159
Ghana	134
Tanzania	113
United Kingdom	81
Cameroon	75
United States	72

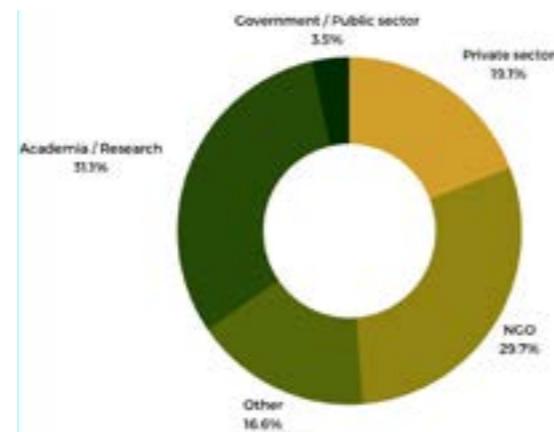Table 1 shows the top 10 SIANI memberships' geographical locations

Figure 1 shows the current SIANI membership by sectors

The sudden emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic and the following regulations have changed SIANI's way of working and collaborating. Online collaboration devices & software have been essential tools that helped remote and in-house teams achieve greater transparency levels, better execute projects, and optimize resources. SIANI has been using most online collaboration tools that support more than one means of communication, such as chat, instant messaging, screen sharing, audio/video conferencing, and file sharing. Hence, SIANI has held all its events virtually for the last two years. In particular, SIANI continued with the daily activities, meeting the members' needs and expectations and offering the same level of activities. SIANI resorted to Zoom and has had several meetings and events to further its activities online rather than face to face. Interacting, collaboration and co-creation were possible through using tools like Miro.

SIANI online
Website

Every month, there are over 4000 visits to the SIANI website (January 2021 - Dec 2021), of which 72 percent are unique users (meaning that a new computer connection was used to view the website).

Viewing SIANI's website from

212

different countries

Understanding the audiences, knowing who they are, and their visit behaviour help us to develop SIANI. Knowing who is not engaging with SIANI but who has the potential to become a reader and follower is also essential in building and diversifying the audience base. By the end of 2021, the SIANI website received about 95 662 unique pageviews, an increase of 6 percent in 2020.

Figure 2 shows top 10 website visits by country

In addition, readers spent less time online: an average of 2 minutes 26 seconds a day on smartphones, tablets, and 3 minutes on computers. Based on the data gathered, some interesting differences in traffic worldwide, with Sweden (19 percent) leading the list, followed by the United States (12 percent), India (6 percent), and Kenya (6 percent). The computer version of SIANI's website was more prevalent among females, while mobile/tablet was more popular with males. SIANI website publishes articles in English and Swedish.

Social media reach

SIANI has developed rapidly and shows high engagement and growth across all social media platforms. SIANI uses major social media channels (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube) to generate interest for SIANI's website.

Social network generates the most visits to SIANI website

 6,807   2,696   693   72

FACEBOOK

SIANI has 6657 followers on Facebook, the platform with the highest traffic impact. The audience on Facebook is primarily people coming from the anglophone low and middle-income countries, with only Sweden being represented in the top 10 countries. The top representation of SIANI's Facebook followers connects to us from Kenya, Uganda, Somalia, Ghana, India, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia, and Ethiopia.

The gender distribution of SIANI's Facebook followers is balanced – 47 percent of women vs. 53 percent of men and is the highest difference in the age category between 25-34 years old. Facebook is also the only platform where SIANI uses paid advertisement, partly explaining its success. This kind of advertisement has been effective in getting people to the website. It has better outreach capabilities to target audiences in lower-income countries. Facebook advertisements have proved to deliver high value for relatively low investment.

Country	Followers (%)
Sweden	11%
Kenya	10%
Nigeria	8,40%
Somalia	4,90%
Ghana	4,70%
India	4,40%
Uganda	4,20%
Tanzania	3,90%
Zambia	3,90%
Ethiopia	2,70%

Table 2 shows demographic data about Facebook followers

TWITTER

SIANI uses Twitter to engage with development professionals, the research community and other organisations working with food systems, sustainable agriculture, food and nutrition security. This platform brought substantial traffic to the SIANI website and helped build the SIANI brand in the global research and development community. SIANI has 9482 Twitter followers.

INSTAGRAM

The Instagram account was initiated as a channel for SIANI Youth content. Interns take an active part in managing it, providing them with a platform to express their creativity and training in communication. In the last year, SIANI has paid more attention to the account by developing new content types, like cards with cartoons and text from popular content. SIANI has 1469 Instagram followers. The SIANI website experienced a lower bounce rate on Instagram traffic (5 per cent) than other referral traffic sources like Facebook (23 per cent bounce rate).

LINKEDIN

In 2021, SIANI started to pay more attention to the professional platform LinkedIn. This social media platform is experiencing rapid change and growth with many new features and engagement opportunities. SIANI efforts have shown results – outreach on LinkedIn increased more than 5 per cent, bringing 985 sessions to the website. People who come to the website via LinkedIn exhibit a low bounce rate and one of the most prolonged stays on the SIANI website for over 3 minutes. SIANI has 1475 followers on LinkedIn.

YOUTUBE

In June 2021, SIANI transferred all videos from Vimeo to YouTube, which is the most popular video service online. SIANI uses YouTube for sharing videos produced in Canva and launching videos in both English and Swedish. People who come to the website via YouTube exhibit an extended stay on the website of almost 7 minutes on average, the highest of all other social media platforms.

SIANI has 47 followers on YouTube. As of December 31, 2021, YouTube counts 2200 views and 111,2 watched hours, with an average of 2 minutes and 58 seconds. Most viewers are based in Sweden, followed by Uganda, the Philippines, and Germany.

Strategic and boundary partners

SIANI involves a range of different actors and representatives from different sectors in its activities. These are based both in Sweden and globally. Some of these actors work directly with SIANI during the implementation of activities as strategic partners, while some are boundary partners that operate within and outside the boundaries of SIANI's sphere of influence. In its multisectoral approach, SIANI has its own unique selling point (USP), and the final evaluation did not find corresponding networks or programmes[26]. The Swedish identity of SIANI is regarded as a key strength and SIANI's reason for being.

Academic and research institutes

Academic and research institutes are the largest single stakeholder group. Researchers generate the latest knowledge in the field. SIANI is highly appreciated by researchers as it provides the multisector environment which serves as a sounding board, source of inspiration, identification of knowledge gaps, cooperation partners as well as assistance for researchers to obtain a more holistic outlook. Many of the SIANI members that are

26   The evaluation has not been focused on assessing the strengths and weaknesses of comparators and do as such not present comparators here.

researchers have been successful in new research applications on new topics and establishing new collaborating institutions through participation in SIANI's activities. SIANI collaborates with most universities and institutes in Sweden working within sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition.

SLU Global at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) is a strategic partner to SIANI. SLU has 33 departments and units spread across Sweden conducting research and education in forestry, landscape architecture, horticulture, crop production, natural resources, agricultural sciences, veterinary medicine and animal sciences. Most of the researchers involved in international development collaboration and capacity development are connected to SLU Global, a unit at the Vice-Chancellors Office that supports SLU's work for global development to contribute to Agenda 2030, with a focus on low-income countries. SLU researchers collaborate with researchers and other stakeholders across the world. In 2021, 30 per cent of SLU's publications were co-authored with researchers based in these countries. The university also co-hosts a help desk for Sida on the environment and climate change. SLU manages several Sida financed programmes, including AgriFoSe2030 (Agriculture for Food Security), which supports capacity development in Sub-Saharan Africa, South and Southeast Asia to bridge the gap between science, policy and practices in the area of smallholder farming systems and food security, contributing to the fulfilment of SDG 2.

Focali, hosted by the GMV, is also a strategic partner to SIANI. GMV is a platform for collaboration for sustainable development shared between the University of Gothenburg and Chalmers University of Technology. Focali is a multidisciplinary research network with more than 120 researchers at Swedish universities and research institutes with a focus on challenges related to forest, landscape, climate, and livelihoods across disciplines and sectors. In 2019, the Focali-SIANI collaboration was strengthened through piloting a dialogue forum to explore the potential and interests among partners for deepened dialogue on topics interlinking forest, ecosystem, biodiversity, food-system, rights, governance and livelihood issues. This was also an opportunity for Focali to connect with a broader international community of researchers and practitioners. The Focali-SIANI joint action for these broad dialogues continues with a key focus on amplifying knowledge and perspectives by partners in the global south e.g., representatives from Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) as well as local researchers and practitioners.

SIANI has strengthened the collaboration with the different programmes and centres within the CGIAR system through joint seminars, workshops and roundtables. The continued collaboration with CIFOR-ICRAF has resulted in SIANI and Focali being part of a process of becoming core partners with a new Research Program on Forests, Trees and Agroforestry (FTA). SIANI has throughout the years developed a close collaboration with the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) in themes related to animal health, zoonoses and antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

SIANI has also extended the collaboration with national academics and universities in Africa and Asia through organisations and networks like Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture, RUFORUM.

SIANI Expert Groups have over time increasingly engaged in closer collaboration with national universities and academic networks in different regions, for example, Makerere University in Uganda and Chulalongkorn University in Thailand.

SIANI has also a continuous collaboration with the international committee at the Royal Swedish Agricultural Academy (KSLA).

Private-sector entities

The private sector is an important actor in all efforts to make agri-food systems more resilient, sustainable, efficient and inclusive to ensure healthy diets for all. Furthermore, the private sector has a responsibility that goes beyond the agrifood sector and includes energy, finance, transport and many others. The private sector actors involved in SIANI activities range from knowledge-oriented private consultancy companies, multi-national corporations to SMEs. Axfood, IKEA, Löfbergs Lila, Stora Enso, Hennes and Mauritz, and Tetra Laval are some examples of the companies that are supporting their own research and mobilising resources to invest in business for development. Some companies connect with SIANI for new knowledge to improve their own Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities, others for the value the networking platform offers in terms of new business contacts, ideas, and learning. The private sector actors are many and different regarding scale and influence.

SIANI also collaborates with The Federation of Swedish Farmers (LRF) in different ways, not least by sharing proven experiences and connections to international farmer's networks. LRF founded and supports We Effect, a civil society organisation (CSO) supporting the strengthening of agricultural cooperatives through membership-based democracy, long-term economic thinking, and transparency. We Effect is a member of AgriCord, a global alliance of agri-agencies mandated by farmers' organisations. Through these partners, SIANI can interact with national and local farmers' organisations in low-income contexts.

Private consultancy companies working with development aid are an important group of members within SIANI. Among these are Nordic-based consultancies such as Niras and Nordic Consultant Group (NCG). These consultancy companies are involved in implementing development projects and initiatives. Many consultants participate in SIANI knowledge sharing activities, and SIANI works actively with consultants from the Swedish resource base when preparing outreach and communications activities.

SIANI has through its Expert Groups reached out and can now collaborate directly with business partners from different regions. SIANI has supported e.g., the Agriprenuership Alliance that promotes and stimulates youth-driven entrepreneurship in African agriculture and agribusiness. These young entrepreneurs have their networks as well as being connected to SIANI. Through these established partnerships SIANI reaches out to private sector operators and entrepreneurs in the midstream value chain.

Private sector actors will play an even more important role in SIANI 4 where they can contribute to support the establishment of food-based businesses through understanding the situation for downstream/midstream and contributing to novel approaches .Many private sector actors are interested in and invest in market development

and more sustainable commodity value chains in low-income context.

Civil society organisations

CSOs' engagement in food systems is multifaceted. Swedish non-governmental organisations (NGOs) such as Vi Agroforestry, Society for Nature Conservation and Afrikagrupperna play an important role supporting producers, as do large faith-based organisations such as the Church of Sweden, the Salvation Army and Diakonia. Some NGOs are part of large international organisations, such as the Hunger Project ActionAid, Plan International, Oxfam, and the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF). SIANI has expanded the collaboration with organisations that take a rights-based approach to land, water and food, advocating compliance with development policies and partnerships, for example, FIAN, Solidaridad and Save the Children. SIANI recruits' interns from and collaborates with the Swedish Development Forum (FUF). In addition to these groups, SIANI also collaborates with humanitarian organisations like the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. As agriculture is one of the major employers globally, SIANI collaborates with the Swedish Trade Union Federation (LO), which organises farmworkers.

During phase 3, with the expansion of the interactions and engagement via social media and Expert Groups, SIANI established collaboration with NGOs and CSOs based in Southeast Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, like the Association of Women in Agriculture in Kenya (AWAK) and Non-timber Forest Products (NTFP) Exchange Program.

Swedish experts, diplomats and development aid workers in partner countries

Swedish experts and their partners are important members of the network. They value the network and the knowledge-based communication. Furthermore, they collaborate with SIANI to amplify opportunities and knowledge generated from the institutions where they work. Many times, these experts are invited to contribute and share their expertise in SIANI organised activities. With the digital development of the platform, it is now even easier for them to participate on regular bases.

International organisations

SIANI has developed a close collaboration with the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD), which also financially supports some of SIANI's activities. SIANI has supported IFAD by highlighting the organisation's work in Sweden and connecting IFAD to relevant actors based in Sweden.

The United Nations organisations with a presence in Sweden – the World Food Programme Nordic office (WFP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations Development Program (UNDP) – are important stakeholders to SIANI, and many of their staff are individual members. The SIANI director is a member of the Swedish FAO committee. Moreover, SIANI has established good collaborations with the CFS Secretariat in Rome and participates in consultations and the annual CFS meetings.

SIANI has also developed good collaborations with other international organisations such as the International Land Coalition (ILC) and the Rights and Resources Institute (RRI).

SIANI has also established contact and reached out to regional development banks and financial organisations like the Green Climate Fund.

Expert groups

SIANI's Expert Groups and their networks contribute both to knowledge development and to extending the network. The Expert Groups are multi-sector groups established around SIANI's vision and mission with the purpose to address specific knowledge gaps. Together, they contribute to a more holistic understanding of emerging issues in their field. The Expert Groups consolidate knowledge and foster the interactions between the members of the network in Sweden and internationally. SIANI has supported 21 Expert Groups, and the participants are SIANI members.

Impact and pathways to change

This section outlines how SIANI seeks to contribute to its desired impact. It also describes identified risks and how SIANI will monitor and evaluate activities.

SIANI will continue as a recognised Swedish based network platform within a global system of international knowledge management on food systems, where SIANI feeds back information to its members. SIANI will catalyse both the knowledge generated in an international context and the knowledge generated in a Swedish context (see Figure 1). This enables the SIANI secretariat to report back and bring new connections, perspectives, knowledge and resources to its members and followers. The platform will operate as a focal point for Swedish and international network members and partners to engage in the current policy debate around making food systems more sustainable, and inclusive of smallholder farmers, SMEs and marginalised groups. With SIANI's broad reach and digitised platform, it will be possible to work locally, nationally, and globally.
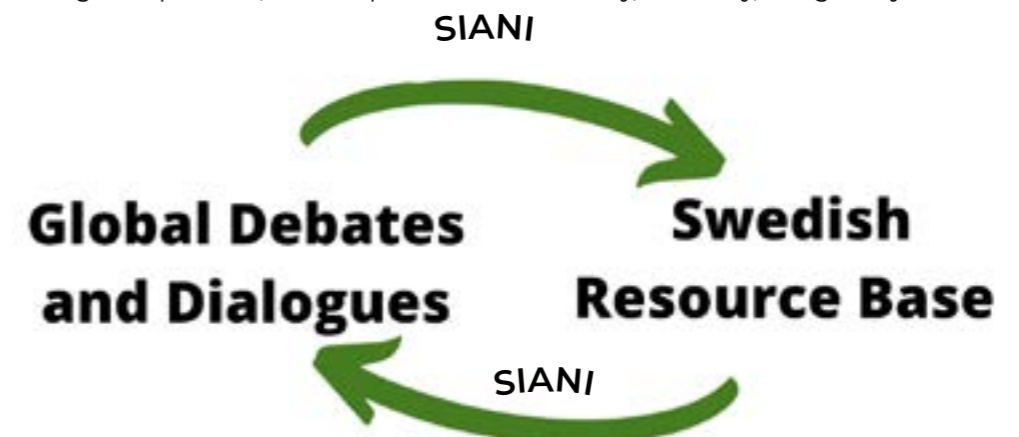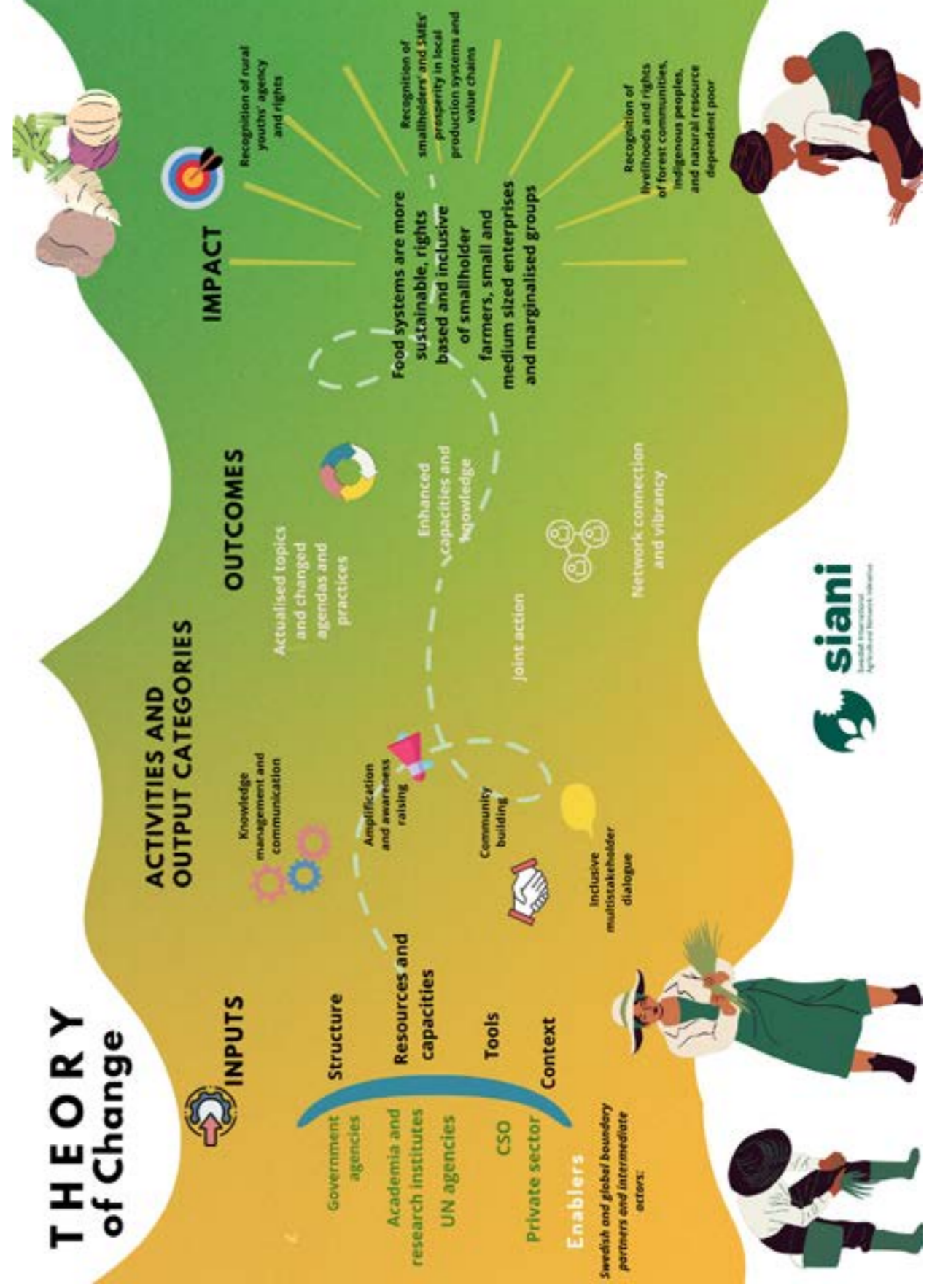

Figure 3 shows SIANI's information feedback process with network members

The development of SIANI 4 draws on experiences from previous phases and is supported by the recommendations of the evaluations conducted during SIANI 3. The development of the SIANI 4 has been a process initiated through the learning and final evaluation continued in a participatory manner with the SIANI secretariat and the SC committee through workshops and regular consultations..

Theory of Change

THEORY of Change

INPUTS

Structure

Resources and capacities

Tools

Context

Enablers

Government agencies

Academia and research institutes

UN agencies

CSO

Private sector

Swedish and global boundary partners and intermediate actors

ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUT CATEGORIES

Knowledge management and communication

Amplification and awareness raising

Community building

Inclusive multistakeholder dialogue

OUTCOMES

Actualised topics and changed agendas and practices

Enhanced capacities and knowledge

Joint action

Network connection and vibrancy

IMPACT

Recognition of rural youths' agency and rights

Recognition of smallholders' and states' prosperity in local production systems and value chains

Recognition of livelihoods and rights of forest communities, indigenous peoples, and natural resource dependent poor

Food systems are more sustainable, rights based and inclusive of smallholder farmers, small and medium sized enterprises and marginalised groups

siani

The ToC for SIANI 4 was developed through a participatory process in 2021-2022 following the recommendations in the learning evaluation of SIANI 3. The ToC shows how SIANI sees change happening in the context it operates in, it guides SIANI's work and illustrates how SIANI's activities will contribute towards the desired impact. The ToC is divided into four different parts: inputs and enablers; activity and output categories; outcomes; and impact.

Changes across different outcomes can coincide, mainly because SIANI is only one intervention in the system in which it operates, which is also influenced by several other factors that may contribute to overall change. Grouping activities and outputs into four categories and avoiding drawing specific arrows of change in the diagram reflect this complexity and enable SIANI to adapt to the context throughout the programme period. Instead, four change pathways have been developed to exemplify how SIANI contributes to the impact statements.

Impact

SIANI 4 will work to support the transformation of food systems. Sustainable food systems contribute to most SDGs as follows; eliminate poverty (SDG 1), foster economic growth (SDG 8), and reduce conflicts (SDG 16). Diversified diets are sustainable and healthier and cause minimum greenhouse gas emissions (SDG 13). Healthy diets end hunger and malnourishment in all forms (SDG 2), preventing health burdens (SDG 3), positively linked with quality education (SDG 4). Food systems also provide equal opportunities (SDG 5) and reduce inequalities (SDG 10). Sustainable land and water management practices result in positive linkages to water quality (SDG 6), land restoration and biodiversity conservation (SDG 15) as well as soil carbon sequestration (SDG 13). Sustainable food systems have minimum ecological footprints, positive environmental impacts, and low food loss and waste (SDG 12). These food systems also exert less pressure on aquatic and marine lives (SDG 14).

SIANI's activities, outputs and outcomes are steered towards the overall impact: "Food systems are more sustainable, rights-based and inclusive of smallholder farmers and marginalised groups". The transformation of food systems can contribute to shaping progress in three fundamental areas: 1) People: "Nourishing Everyone for Health and Well-being" 2) Planet: "Producing in Harmony with Nature", and 3) Prosperity: "Inclusive, transformative and equitable recovery for the 2030 Agenda".[27] This assumption further illuminates that food systems are complex and involves several subsystems related to social, environmental and economic sustainability.

SUB-IMPACT STATEMENTS

SIANI is only one actor working towards more sustainable, inclusive and rights-based food systems. SIANI outputs relate to knowledge management, communication, awareness-raising, dialogue and community-building among intermediate actors and duty-bearers. Through this, SIANI aims to actualise topics and change agendas, enhance capacities, strengthen networks and facilitate joint action in favour of food systems transformation. With a unique position to work with and influence actors and duty-bearers in Sweden and globally, SIANI's role, capacity and power lie in strengthening the *recognition* of rights, roles and livelihoods of right-holders in food systems. This is reflected in three sub-impact statements.

The sub-impact statements further define for whom and in which context SIANI will contribute towards food

27   United Nations. (2021, September 23). Secretary-General's Chair Summary, Statement of Action on United Nations Food Systems Summit. https://www.un.org/press/en/2021/sg2258.doc.htm

systems transformation, and guide SIANI's work towards ultimate beneficiaries and right-holders. Finally, the sub-impact statements may also guide the strategic selection of activities and partners.

1. Recognition of rural youths' agency and rights
2. Recognition of smallholders' and SMEs' prosperity in value chains in local production systems
3. Recognition of livelihoods and rights of forest communities, Indigenous peoples and natural resource-dependent poor

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

To reach the desired impact, SIANI will work towards four outcomes. These outcomes correspond to the immediate objectives to be achieved by the end of the proposed SIANI 4 project period.

1. **Actualised topics, changed agendas and practises** around food systems.
2. **Enhanced capacities and knowledge** for rights-based and inclusive food systems transformation.
3. **Joint actions** with and between different stakeholder actors within and beyond SIANI's network.
4. **Strengthened connectivity and vibrancy in the SIANI network** between members, partners and followers working within food systems.

ACTIVITY AND OUTPUT CATEGORIES

In order to achieve the outcomes, SIANI will work with activities to produce outputs within four different categories. One activity and output category may lead to several outcomes simultaneously.

In order to achieve the outcomes, SIANI will work with activities to produce outputs within four different categories. One activity and output category may lead to several outcomes simultaneously.

1. **Knowledge management and develop communications** to inform members, followers, partners and decision-makers. The purpose of activities in this category is to identify knowledge gaps, filter and share evidence-based information to stimulate learning and knowledge generation, and at the same time mitigate information overload among members and followers.

2. **Amplification and awareness-raising** of marginalised groups' perspectives in actualised, innovative and tailored communication around sustainable food systems. The purpose of activities in this category is to extend the reach, uptake and influence of constituent parts – members, ideas and initiatives.

3. **Inclusive multi-stakeholder dialogues** where communication is strengthened among duty bearers and actors with positions to influence and support the contribution of smallholders, SMEs, youth, and Indigenous communities in food systems. The purpose of activities in this category is to work towards understanding and if possible, coherence and to build social capital through bridging, stimulating and facilitating collective learning and action among heterogeneous actors.

4. **Community-building** among members and partners in the SIANI network. The purpose of activities in this category is to build social capital through bonding, build relationships of trust, aim for understanding and

coherence and build collective learning and stimulate actions for the transformation of the food systems.

The SIANI secretariat will stimulate the network and lead the implementation of activities related to each category.

Table 3 describes which activities the secretariat will implement in order to produce outputs in each category. All activities and outputs consider both the Swedish and global dimensions of SIANI's network.

Activity and output category	Purpose	Activities that support the output
Knowledge management and communication	Identify, filter and share important people, events, facts and stories; stimulate learning and knowledge generation; mitigate information overload; identify knowledge gaps	Providing a website platform, SIANI publications, newsletters and op-eds; moderating mailing lists; contacts; co-organising online workshops and learning events and policy dialogues; resource mobilisation; representing the network; participation and contribution to the development of other networks
Amplification and awareness raising	Extending the reach, uptake, and influence of constituent parts – members, ideas, initiatives	Document and disseminate stories and videos, newsletters; op-ed, managing campaigns; facilitate field visits and exchanges; representing the network; increase the regional presence on social media platforms; participation and contribution to the development of other networks in other global regions; strategic expert group calls; support to expert group project implementation, MEL
Inclusive multi-stakeholder dialogue	Building social capital through bridging; stimulating discourse, collective learning and action among heterogeneous actors	Organising events, workshops, facilitating external introductions, organising the biennial Agri4D conference and young researchers' workshops; providing safe spaces for dialogue on sensitive issues; facilitating knowledge exchange between expert groups; facilitating broad dialogues on emerging issues and themes of high policy relevance.
Community building	Building of social capital through bonding, building relationships of trust; consensus and coherence; collective learning and action among homogeneous actors	Mapping the membership base and establishing membership criteria; engage intermediate partners as well as beneficiaries to become members; maintaining contacts; organising events, facilitating internal introductions, coordinating meetings or initiatives on demand and in benefit of members; organising members meetings on global and regional levels; informal matchmaking; annual meeting, revising SC governance, regular SC and EC meetings

Table 3 - How does the secretariat support each activity and output category?

INPUTS AND ENABLERS

SIANI 4 will build on the strong connections already established, including relationships to strategic and boundary partners, members and followers, as well as the large digital and social media platforms.

Inputs required to implement activities are structured into four different categories: context, structure, tools, and resources and capacities.

> **Box 1 – Outline of inputs**
>
> The inputs required may relate to:
>
> **The context**: The Policy for Global Development, Sida and Swedish national and regional development policies and strategies; Swedish Pathway for Sustainable Food Systems; Agenda 2030; the Paris Agreement; Convention on Biological Diversity; Glasgow Declaration on Forests and Land use; the Decade for Restoration; Global digital environment, the recovery from the ongoing pandemic and the Ukraine war and the impact on global food security.
>
> **Resources and capacities**: Core funding from Sida; SEI, SLU, and GMV staff and inkind support and funding; cost-sharing of events and publications; SIANI members knowledge, experience and networks; recognition in the Swedish and international public domain; time input in-kind by core staff and members, Expert Group members and boundary partners' staff; institutional memory, built up trust and network relations from previous phases.
>
> **Tools**: SIANI platforms (website, social media); partner platforms (websites, social media); SIANI guidelines and supporting tools: Human Rights-based Approach.
>
> **Structure**: SIANI Governance; hosting arrangement at SEI with its administrative set-up; strategic partners; policies and instructions in SIANI's own strategies, e.g., Youth.

Human rights-based approach

A Human Rights-based Approach (HRBA) is central in developing SIANI's ToC and will continue to serve as guidance and support when implementing, monitoring and evaluating SIANI's activities to reach the desired impact. Most notably, an HRBA helps SIANI identify and understand the rights and responsibilities of actors in food systems.

Definition

The HRBA is a conceptual framework for human development based on the human rights principles[28]. The purpose of an HRBA is to "empower boys, girls, men and women to claim their human rights (as rights holders) and to increase the capacity of those who are obliged to respect, promote, protect and fulfil those rights (as duty bearers)"[29] . Poverty is seen as a cause of marginalisation and discrimination. HRBA acknowledges that people are active agents of their own development rather than passive recipients. Participation of right-holders is therefore critical for ownership and sustainability[30] .

28   UNSDG. (n.d.). Human Rights-Based Approach. https://unsdg.un.org/2030-agenda/universal-values/human-rights-based-approach
29   Sida. (2015). Human Rights Based Approach at Sida. https://cdn.sida.se/publications/files/sida61919en-human-rights-based-approach-at-sida-compilation-of-thematic-area-briefs.pdf
30   UNFPA. (2014, November 24). The Human Rights-Based Approach. https://www.unfpa.org/human-rights-based-approach

Human rights and food systems

Food systems are interlinked to human rights. The High-Level Panel of Experts for Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) recognises that the realisation of the right to food will not be fulfilled without sustainable food systems including people living under vulnerable and marginalised conditions, and those with specific needs, including young children, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women, the elderly and ill people[31].

The right to safe and nutritious food, the right to land use and ownership as well as the right to the environment constitute fundamentals in the food systems. It is recognised that maintaining these rights depend on intersectional factors such as gender, age, ethnicity, religion, race and disabilities.

HRBA at SIANI

SIANI applies an HBRA to manage risks, responsibilities and stakeholders in specific contexts throughout the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation to support rights holders and duty-bearers. Four human rights principles guide SIANI's work, namely participation and access of rights holders to decision-making processes, transparency towards rights holders and in between duty-bearers and rights holders, accountability of duty-bearers towards rights holders and non-discrimination of groups in vulnerable situations.

As a network platform, SIANI supports open and inclusive dialogues with representatives and intermediate actors working directly with rights holders in their efforts to exercise their rights. SIANI further works with boundary and intermediate partners to strengthen the capacity of duty-bearers to fulfil obligations to protect the rights of right-holders.

Right-holders and duty-bearers

A HRBA guides SIANI to identify rights holders and duty-bearers in activities. Duty bearers are obliged to respect, protect and fulfil the rights of rights holders[32]. They are often, but not limited to, government institutions. Food systems are embedded in economic, social and natural environments and link to several sub-systems such as markets, farming, waste, energy, trade and health[33]. In food systems, duty-bearers are therefore located both in private and state sectors as well as the civil society, with a mix of roles and responsibilities that can be complex[34]. SIANI engages with both boundary partners that can be considered duty-bearers, and intermediate actors such as private sector actors, government agencies, civil society and faith-based organisations, UN agencies as well as academia and research institutes.

Rights holders are groups entitled to certain rights and hold duty-bearers accountable[35]. In food systems, these include smallholder farmers, smallholder fishers and coastal communities, forest communities, youth

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Reconditions, risk factors and assumptions

Key preconditions and risk factors related to the outcomes are developed in Box 2.

Box 2 – Preconditions and risk factors for Outcomes

Related to 1 - Actualised topics, changed agendas and practises

Preconditions: knowledge management, evidence communication, communication skills and infrastructure/tools, trust, reputation, negotiation skills, timely delivery of knowledge, contextual analyses, and knowledge on ongoing policy processes.

Risks: Competition in this space from other agendas and policy process e.g., the war in Ukraine war, lack of interest, distrust, unwillingness to share knowledge and information

Related to 2: Enhanced capacities and knowledge

Preconditions: relevance of the topics, operational web-based platform, operational support structure, time available for interaction online, the closing of the digital divide

Risks: workshop fatigue/overload, lack of coordination among event organisers, failing trust in the platform -unwillingness to share

Related to 3: Joint action

Preconditions: facilitation, access to stakeholders, communication tools, clarity on the benefits the partners derive from participation

Risks: time constraints, lack of interest, lack of motivation from different sectors, fear of collaboration due to polarizations, lack of understanding for mutual benefits

Related to 4: Network connection and vibrancy

Preconditions: willingness to share knowledge, timely facilitation, access to stakeholders, communication tools, clarity on the benefits the partners derive from participation

Risks: time constraints, lack of interest, risk of lack of neutrality

Assumptions at all the steps in the results chain are shown in Box 3: from inputs to activities, from activities to outputs, from outputs to outcomes, and from outcomes to impact.

> ## Box 3- Assumptions
>
> **Assumptions: Inputs to activities**
>
> Timely delivery of inputs according to work plan, effective and efficient procurement, effective and efficient time & staff allocation, coherent approach to partner selection
>
> **Assumptions: Activities to outputs**
>
> Steering committee timely decision-making on priorities and work plan, effective and timely day to day management of work plans, effective and timely remedial action when deviations occur, staff members and expert groups members are closely involved in planning & monitoring outputs
>
> **Assumptions: Outputs to outcomes**
>
> Stakeholders and members' willingness and capacity to contribute to SIANI activities and areas of work, stakeholders and members' willingness to engage, SIANI market knowledge and avoidance of overlaps, SIANI's legitimacy
>
> **Assumptions: Outcomes to impact**
>
> Continued wide support to transformation of food systems, strategic boundary partners choose to work with SIANI, digital space is available for SIANI to work for transformative change, strategic partners align and collaborate for transformative change, change agents have time and are willing to collaborate with SIANI, enabling work environment for rights at global, regional and local level, representatives for beneficiaries are available within digital reach.

Risk management

- Contextual risks (over which SIANI has little or no influence).
- Programmatic risks (financial, economic, resources).
- Institutional risks (for the donor and implementing partner, including reputational risks).

Risk	Risk level	Mitigation plan
1: Contextual risks		
Restrictions due to external events such as a pandemic or conflict	Medium	SIANI has during the COVID-19 pandemic adopted a strong and resilient online presence and is able to continue its operations and connecting with members online.
2: Programmatic risks		
Inefficient secretariat, loss of competence, institutional memory and know-how	Low	Develop manuals and procedures on the way of working to share with new members of the secretariat. During the high staff turnover in 2021 SIANI has developed a set of manuals and procedures. These will be updated continously. The steering committee is in place to monitor all the work plans on a regular basis. Major derivations from workplan are presented and decided upon by the SC.
Poor communication of outputs from the SIANI expert groups	Medium	The Secretariat shall ensure that all the collaborative actors within the expert groups recognise the role of SIANI as a platform for the communication of research to the community of practice and the policy arena. SIANI and the expertgroup decides on a common plan . Changes are discussed and if the Expert group do not commmply with the agreed communication without reason contract will be cancelled.Payments are sceduled after deliverables.
Partners do not fulfil contractual obligations	Medium	The Secretariat will have continuous dialogue with contractual partners on changes and progress.
Limited sources of funding may reduce the sustainability of project operations, especially if Sida decides to reduce budgets and the project is unable to secure new funding sources	Low	SIANI has been shown to be relevant and unique and may expand to financial part-nerships with other organisations and programmes, or obtain increased financial and in kind support from Swedish agencies, civil society and the private sector.
Ownership and sustainability of SIANI	Medium	Ensure that knowledge generated through SIANI is communicated to members; involve members in cocreative processes that ensure their participation; design and maintain interactive and informative communication channels.
3: Institutional risks		
Inability to develop and implement efficient project monitoring, evalua-tion and communication records	Low	SIANI has during phase 3 developed MEL procedures which will are continuously evaluated to be efficient and useful internally as well as externally.
Weak financial management of the project	Medium	The SIANI Secretariat and the SEI financial controller work in cordination to en-sure adequate and efficient accounting and financial reporting routines. Budget utilisation by the expert groups will be monitored during regular monitoring meetins . Expertgroups work is audited
Inefficient communication between the Secretariat, steering committee, expert groups, and members	Low	Communication within the secretariat is key for the operation of the program . Furthermor the informationflew between the platform and its members is a top priority. Expert group leaders will be supported to communicate and respond to information needs. The SIANI Secretariat inform the SC each quarter and reports to the steering committee annually . Members can communicate with the steering committee using a unique email address.
Fraud and corruption	Low	SIANI has management and control guidelines in place to mitigate the risk, including external audits.

Risks that may negatively impact the fulfillment of the desired change are included in table 4. The table also describes how SIANI mitigates each risk prior to and during the programme implementation

Monitoring, evaluation and learning

SIANI will develop a MEL plan for the programme which will guide and facilitate monitoring, evaluation and learning. The plan will include monitoring with performance indicators for planned activities leading to outputs and outcomes. SIANI will have dedicated staff resources to ensure that MEL is an integrated part of SIANI's activities. The MEL plan will be revised regularly during the programme period and followed up as part of the annual reporting process. A non-exhaustive list is set out below of preliminary suggestions concerning the overall approach to monitoring, evaluation and reporting, with a focus on the outcome and output levels.

A Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan and accompanied log is developed and monitored continuously throughout the programme phase.

THE PURPOSE AND RESULTS OF MONITORING

- For learning and strategic development.
- Accountability to the Steering Committee, Sida and any other sponsor(s).
- Strengthened dialogue with partners.
- Steering and managing demand-led activities in a dynamic context may require adjustment during implementation to achieve the intended results and outcomes.
- Allocation/reallocation of resources including unallocated funds and contingencies.
- To take advantage of new opportunities that may arise for alliances and partnerships.
- To support transparency and timely communication of results.

WHAT TO MONITOR AND WHEN

- The results framework and activity log need to be monitored continually for progress with outcomes and related outputs, using the SMART indicators and the targets set as well as the means of verification specified.
- The Theory of Change and its related assumptions should be reviewed at regular intervals (synchronised with SC meetings), and if or when major changes affect assumptions.
- Risk factors and risk management measures should be similarly monitored at regular intervals (synchronised with SC meetings), and if or when major changes affect contextual, programmatic or institutional risk factors.
- Quarterly financial update and information as per donors' and SEI requirements
- Monitor website usage and social media interactions monthly, as well as newsletters.
- Participation in, and follow-up from, events through post-event surveys.
- Particular attention should also be given (based on previous SIANI experience) to continual monitoring of qualitative results, impact stories and success stories for quick dissemination.

BASELINES

- Once the SIANI 4 outcome indicators have been agreed upon, a short baseline will be prepared to summarise the general context and available data and information on each indicator.

- For each major SIANI 4 activity, the baseline data will be collected at the start of the activity, at later milestones and on completion.
- The baseline will be used where relevant: an online survey of members.

EVALUATION AND REVIEWS

A mid-term review (MTR) is planned to assess programme progress and a final evaluation will take place during the final year of phase SIANI 4.

LEARNING

Learning and evaluation activities can include more informal "after-action reviews" reflecting on outputs, outcomes or impact after each activity, such as an event, seminar or brief. Learning events will also include reflections throughout the implementation of activities, and at the end of the project. SIANI will also conduct learning events and have ongoing reflective conversations with stakeholders and partners, including the Expert Groups.

Program Governance

1. The SC Chair attends the Annual meeting of the contractual partners.
2. SIANI communicates on content issues with Sida.
3. Members of all parties form an Executive Committee who meets regularly.

Figure 4 - SIANI Organogram 2019

Modus operandi of the network platform

The Secretariat serves as the hub of the SIANI network platform, ensuring that networking, activities, facilitation, and communication create an environment that enables members, users and stakeholders to engage with each other. The Secretariat will prepare an annual outcome-oriented work plan that incorporates the work of the expert groups and the thematic areas of focus that the steering committee and members have selected. This work plan will be monitored continuously in weekly SIANI meetings, regular EC and SC

meetings and reported on an annual basis.

Project organisation and coordination

The organisational structure of the SIANI work plan will continue to be as simple as possible, given that the basic motivation of the network platform is to strengthen it through the enhanced exchange of new, relevant knowledge and experiences from members and their partners and followed through streamlined communication, coordination, management, monitoring, learning and governance.

Contractual partners

The parties to the contract, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) and Sida, will meet once a year to assess progress, agree on administrative issues, endorse areas of focus, and discuss financial and administrative issues related to the management of SIANI.

SIANI hosted by SEI

SIANI is a project hosted by the SEI and is represented as SEI for contractual purposes. Staff members recruited to the SIANI secretariat at SEI will be employed by the same, responsible for salaries and contractual conditions. As SEI staff, the SIANI team will follow SEI environmental and travel policies, equity and diversity, non-harassment, and anti-corruption policies. Where necessary SIANI and SEI have made certain minor modifications of SEI policies to better fit the platforms' specific operational needs e.g., intern policy. Secretariat members working at SLU Global and GMV are employed by their own institutions. SEI, SLU and GMV are represented in the SIANI SC as ex officio members.

Members

SIANI membership is open to all interested in and working on issues related to food systems and registered via the SIANI website. Members are invited to attend the Annual Meeting and entitled to participate in SIANI activities, support the Secretariat, and consult the SC with questions and recommendations.

Secretariat

The Secretariat is responsible for the day-to-day functioning and financial management of SIANI. The SIANI Secretariat is led by the SIANI Programme Director, who is employed by and responsible to SEI. SLU Global and Focali/GMV are strategic partners for knowledge management, dialogues and communication. To enable close collaboration with the overall SIANI programme and activities the strategic partners are part of the SIANI secretariat for joint planning of activities and communication and to contribute to strategic development of SIANI. The main tasks of the secretariat are, but are not limited to, the following:

- Prepare the annual work plan and reporting.
- Oversee implementation and monitor the progress of the annual work plan.
- Communicate with and report to Sida.
- Support the Chair of the SC in their role.
- Preparation of the documentation for Steering Committee meetings in collaboration with the Chair.

- Organise the annual meeting of the contracting partners.
- Maintaining and updating a web platform and online resource library.
- Organise calls for Export Groups in coordination with SEI financial processes.
- Supporting the work of Expert Groups in developing work plans, monitoring and reporting.
- Lead coordination of seminars, roundtable discussions and workshops with other individuals, members, and member institutions in Sweden and internationally.
- Ensuring that a financial plan is followed and actively enhances the network's sustainability by diversifying funding sources.

Steering Committee

The SIANI SC is responsible for the strategic development of SIANI and consists of a minimum of ten members. These members must collectively comprise a broad and varied range of experience and expertise in food systems.

The SC members are appointed in their expert capacities, though they bring the perspectives and knowledge of the sector(s) in which they work. SC members should have strong connections to Sweden and the Swedish development sector and, to the extent possible, reflect the full range of sectors in which SIANI operates.

The SC decides on SIANI's general objectives, planning and programme, and on issues of major importance regarding the organisation, including finances, administration, and information activities.

The current SC responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Approve the SIANI work plan and annual report prior to submission to Sida.
- Select the expert groups from a shortlist based on their proposal, work plan and budget.
- Provide strategic guidance for the development and long-term sustainability of the SIANI platform.
- Decide on the programme activities, priorities, and modifications.
- Approve major programme budget alterations to reflect changes of priorities.
- Review and monitor SIANI programme development and implementation.
- Make recommendations to Sida before the annual contractual partner meeting.
- Keep the SIANI Secretariat informed of activities, networks, or other items of relevance for SIANI's work.
- The steering committee will meet four times a year:
  - In January, to approve the annual work plan and revise the governance document.
  - In May, to approve the annual report prior to submission to Sida.
  - In September, to follow up on the activities and contextual analysis in preparation for the annual work plan.
  - In December, to elect new members to the steering committee and to approve the preliminary work plan.

SIANI Executive Committee

The SIANI Executive Committee (EC) was established to enhance the communication and collaboration between SEI and SIANI Steering committee. The EC consist of SIANI Director and Deputy Director, the SEI project owner and the SIANI SC chair. SEI financial controller participates when solicited.

- The SIANI EC meet on monthly basis to share information on SIANI.
- The SIANI EC is available to the SIANI Secretariat to help resolve technical and operational challenges if these arise.
- The SIANI EC supports the secretariat with delivery of its workplan.

Program procurement and contracts

Procurement of equipment and services

The Secretariat will procure equipment and supplies relevant to activity implementation under Sida's and the SEI's regulations and instructions on the procurement of goods or services.

Reporting

Activity reporting

Annual reports will be submitted to Sida by the agreed submission dates following the annual audit.

A final activity report shall be submitted within three months of the end of the project.

Financial reporting

Annual financial reports, as well as the final financial report, will be submitted in agreement with Sida in the following year. The Secretariat will prepare the annual financial reports in cooperation with the SEI financial controller for SIANI.

Auditing and financial management

The project will follow SEI administrative procedures and be submitted to an external audit annually.

Policies

Gender and equality

Recognising the significance of gender in food systems, SIANI will mainstream gender as part of overall project implementation. SIANI recognises the importance of diversity and the unequal power and opportunity consequences. SIANI phase 4 will continue to advance gender equity in all its initiatives by ensuring that mainstreaming is practised in project management, networking, seminars, expert groups, and the themes.

SIANI will ensure that female and male beneficiaries are involved in the governance process and create an enabling environment to ensure that gendered and equality interests are reflected in decision-making. SIANI will ensure that the network of stakeholders recognises its goal of addressing unequal power relations.

As a project managed at the SEI, SIANI will adhere to the Institute's *Equity, Gender & Diversity Policy*.

The Environment

SIANI complies with SEI's Environmental Policy (2020) and will work as sustainably as possible, aiming to minimise its negative impact on the environment and the climate. SIANI will use TR^2AIL, a tool developed by SEI, to track and reduce air travel. TR^2AIL aims to support more sustainable decision making around air travel by supporting users to track and reflect on their travel by air to reduce travel and related CO^2 emissions.

Anti-corruption policies

SIANI is one project within SEI's project-based organisation. SEI uses a project financial accounting model. The efficient and correct use of project funds is managed by the programme director, working following the agreed common project model and principles, and supported by the project controller function exercised by SEI HQ. As an SEI programme, SIANI adheres to the SEI procurement instructions (September 2020), and the Institute's anti-corruption policy and action plan (September 2020).

All SEI services related to the hosting of the programme (e.g., producing publications, web design and hosting for SIANI) will be transparently planned and follow the SEI procurement policy.

Promoting peace and security

Farming is the primary activity of the world's rural poor, who are also the most vulnerable to the consequences of civil strife, which is the most common form of conflict. Food insecurity can be a source of conflict but is not necessarily so. Where it is, it is never the one single factor behind the strife. The causes of food security conflict include dispossession of assets, including land and livestock; and threats to food security, including sudden food price increases, in conjunction with other forms of grievance and discontent.

The evidence linking food insecurity and conflict continues to increase. There is a two-way connection between food insecurity and conflict. On the one hand, by fuelling poverty and hunger, food insecurity creates conditions that can trigger conflict and political and social instability. On the other hand, food security can contribute to the prospects of peace.

In 2018, the UN Security Council adopted resolution 2417 that explicitly addressed the link between conflict and hunger and recognised the need to break the vicious cycle of conflict and insecurity.

SIANI can, through the members, share new knowledge on the topic and encourage partners to support research, methodologies, and other resources that contribute to the recovery and resilience of food systems.

Some actors active in the conflict might be difficult to include in development dialogue for impact on insecurity for the Food Systems.

"To every man-led problem, there is a woman-led solution". Therefore, women should be involved in the lead recovery and resilience work. To succeed, women must be empowered and have access to financial resources such as land and money to recover areas affected by the conflicts.