



Abel, Colombian coffee producer

Farming with Nature and People



Collaborative Community-Driven Pathways for Biodiversity-Positive Agriculture

Oliver Bach, Sustainable Agriculture Network

The Sustainable Agriculture Network

Transforming agriculture towards a sustainable and equitable future for communities and nature.



Network Member-led interventions reached **11.2 M farmers** and **8.5 M farms**



Network Member-led interventions covered **18.3 M ha**



93% smallholder farms participating in programs



42% of smallholders were women

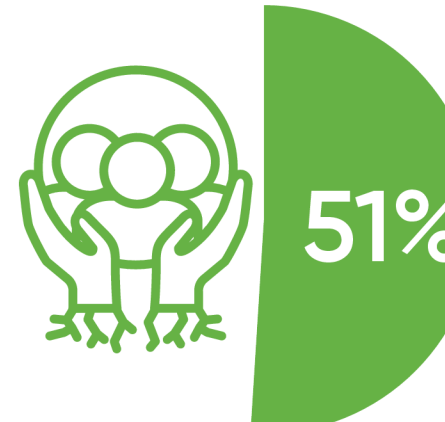
During 2024, SAN Members implemented 400 projects in 118 countries across 5 continents.



Climate change mitigation or adaptation



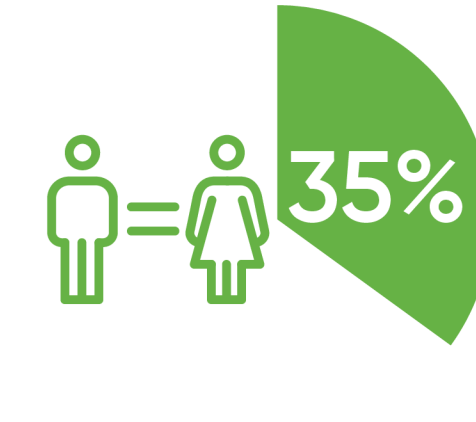
Agro-biodiversity or ecosystem services



Empowerment of farming communities



with Indigenous communities



with a GESI approach



“By rooting innovation in local realities, we achieve biodiversity gains, climate resilience, and sustainable livelihoods, all at once.”

Nature-Based Pest Management in Malaysian Oil Palm

Habitat islands/strips **raise predator and parasitoid populations**, potentially controlling bagworm, slug moth, rhinoceros beetle.



Urena lobata



Senna tora



Clorodendron paniculatum



Melastoma malabathricum

Four selected native plants best support beneficial insects.

Outcomes: Lower chemical costs, better soil health, stable 50-year balance; higher arthropod richness and greater farm resilience to pests.

Pollinator Operation Mexico

Co-designed flower strips (15–20 native spp.) **selected with farmers** for local adaptability and insect-pest resistance.

Ecological services: **attract pollinators** (bees, bumblebees, butterflies) for Jalisco berries **and natural enemies** (lady beetles, lacewings) **for armyworm control** in Puebla maize.



Pablo, Mexican maize farmer



Flower strip along berry farm

Scale & outcomes: 1800 m² flower strips on 6 farms; 1200 ha potentially impacted by flight range of beneficial insects. **Farmers trained as para-taxonomists** for insect diversity; local schools visit strips.

Community-Based Monitoring & Assurance System (CMAS) in Colombian Coffee

Tackle smallholder certification barriers (**costs, complexity, technical gaps**) by **training community monitors** to collect compliance & agroecological data via SAN iHub; CMAS II for producer-group risk management and internal auditing.



Field training for community monitors

Pilot-Tolima: 303 farmers, 2,540 ha, 69 villages; 88% of farms with >2 visits improved agricultural practices.

Community-led monitoring is building trust and ownership while motivating exchange of successful and practical Regen Ag practices.

