



## **SAFIN Partners' Charter – 2021-2025**

### **Purpose of the network**

SAFIN is a network where different actors in the agri-SME finance ecosystem convene to share learning, address strategic knowledge gaps, and identify opportunities to work together on transformative interventions. It is the only global network of diverse actors with an agenda exclusively focused on agri-SME finance. Its mission is to leverage partners' different capabilities to help build effective and inclusive institutional and market ecosystems in agri-SME finance.

### **SAFIN's vision**

The vision that holds partners together is one of more inclusive and effective ecosystems around supply and access to finance for agri-SMEs, enabling accelerated progress in closing the agri-SME financing gap as well as in investment towards sustainable food systems.

### **Partners' principles of engagement**

Partners relate to each other and to the network based on the following principles:

- Equality of all partners in the context of the network
- Inclusive dialogue and decision-making among network members
- Active listening and respect for different viewpoints
- Early recognition and willingness to work through tensions
- Proactive sharing of relevant information and learning
- Mutual accountability
- Focusing on adding value to existing efforts and initiatives (avoiding unnecessary duplication)
- Leveraging and building on partners' work (avoiding creating ad-hoc burdens)
- Commitment to making a tangible difference towards the SAFIN vision

### **Focus Areas for SAFIN2.0**

For its second phase (2021-2025), SAFIN will focus on five areas, namely:

1. Bringing the ecosystem together to build trust and mutual understanding
2. Mapping out opportunities for innovative collaborations
3. Fostering shared understanding of strategic issues and knowledge gaps for the future of agri-SME finance
4. Bringing an agri-SME finance focus to country-led initiatives for private investment towards sustainable food systems
5. Aligning around effective financial solutions to emerging challenges in the sector



## Value proposition and evidence of success for SAFIN2.0

The value proposition of SAFIN lies in being a network where different actors convene to address strategic knowledge gaps, share learning, and identify opportunities to work together on new, transformative interventions. Accordingly, evidence of success at the end of the SAFIN2.0 phase will lie in the following:

- A tangible contribution to shared understanding of strategic action areas in agri-SME finance
  - Indicators: partners' feedback, knowledge products and learning events facilitated by the network
- Increased connectivity across the network and new collaborative relationships
  - Indicators: network health assessments, number of new collaborations facilitated by the network
- Collaborative projects initiated or nurtured by the network to bridge the agri-SME finance gap
  - Indicators: number of collaborative projects nurtured by SAFIN in agri-SME finance

## Network structure and participation commitments

SAFIN has around 50 partner institutions from across the agri-SME finance landscape globally. This includes donor agencies and philanthropies, financial institutions and investors, farmers' organizations, specialized agencies and service providers, and industry platforms.

A Secretariat headed by a Senior Coordinator serves the network by engaging partners and potential new participants, supporting working group coordination, supporting knowledge management and communication, convening or supporting partners' convenings, providing technical support when needed, and supporting fundraising and budget management.

A Steering Committee representing the diversity of network partners oversees planning, budget management, and progress in implementing SAFIN plans, provides overall guidance and direction to the network, decides on the inclusion of new partners, and actively champions the network including for fundraising purposes.

Focus area activities are led by working groups with a decentralized approach to defining and pursuing activities with support from the Secretariat.

The community of partners informs the overall agenda of the network and takes forward its work by agreeing to the following participation commitments:

- Advancing the network's vision through their individual work and within the network
- Actively participating in at least one working group or focus area
- Adhering to the SAFIN principles as laid out above
- Agreeing to the use of their institutional logo on the SAFIN website