



Edible Neighborhood Rijnvliet
Sustainability Impact Assessment Report
2024

Contents

1. Introduction	p. 3
2. Impact summary report	p. 4
3. Sustainability impact assessment	p. 8
4. Disclaimer	p. 18

1. INTRODUCTION

This Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA) report presents the impacts of Edible Neighborhood Rijnvliet. This report was created using SHARING SOLUTIONS – the SHARING SOLUTIONS Impact Assessment Toolkit.

SHARING SOLUTIONS was designed to illustrate the broad spectrum of impacts that food sharing initiatives have on the sustainability of food systems. Any initiative engaged in such activities around food can be classed as a food sharing initiative. Food sharing can be growing, cooking and eating together or redistributing surplus food to others.

The SHARING SOLUTIONS framework contains 34 sustainability indicators that initiatives can select from as relevant to their specific activities. An indicator can be a quantitative or qualitative factor or variable. An indicator provides a simple and reliable means to capture information at a particular point and which can be used over time to identify changes. The indicators cover four pillars of sustainability for our food systems – Social, Environmental, Economic and Governance. Within these pillars, indicators are organised into 13 impact areas. For each indicator, initiatives are provided with several options to demonstrate their impact using quantitative and/or qualitative evidence.

For more information about the SHARING SOLUTIONS tool including the SIA framework please refer to the SHARING SOLUTIONS webpage: <https://app.sharingsolutions.eu>

2. IMPACT SUMMARY REPORT



WHO WE ARE

Name: Edible Neighborhood Rijnvliet

Location: Utrecht



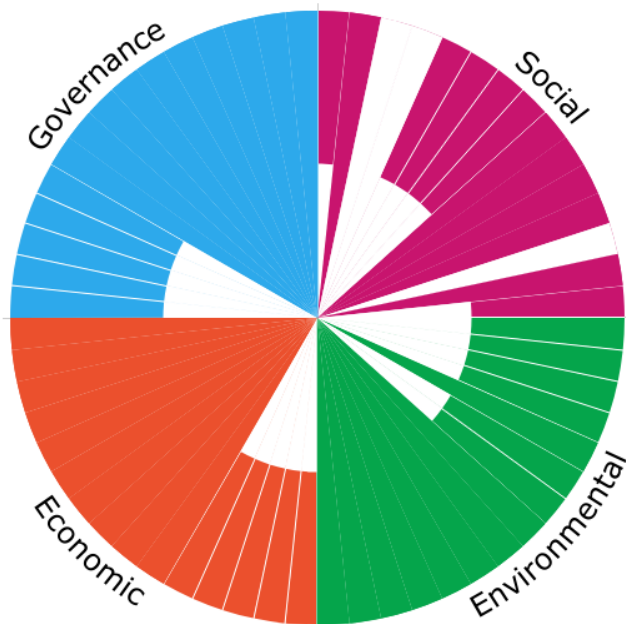
GOALS AND ACTIVITIES

Goals: Integrate nature to make a healthy and resilient neighborhood

Activities: Multifunctional



IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS



Indicator where we have reported our impact



Indicator where we are having a significant impact

► Our key areas of significant impact are

- Fostering a wider food and sharing culture
- Increased access to and consumption of fruit and vegetables
- Increasing engagement in growing food



KEY IMPACTS



1500

people attended our events designed to increase community integration



1500

people received fresh food from our initiative



136

people have increased their support network due to our initiative



yes, we focus some activities to include people who have a vulnerable background, often through cooking food



Our food forest ranger is in regular contact with BuurtNatuure (a large network of nature-based initiatives). Also, a lot of our participants have started sharing food amongst themselves.



We provide the food forest and a ranger to help people get involved.



FOOD SHARING BENEFITS

The sharing element of food sharing creates unique positive benefits like fostering social cohesion and reducing loneliness. The direct and indirect benefits our food sharing generates are indicated below.





HOW WE CONTRIBUTE TO THE UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The United Nations uses a range of impact areas and indicators to measure progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The following graphic shows how our activities are contributing to these goals at three levels by: (1) Contributing to the general ethos of a goal (2) Making a direct impact to an impact area; and (3) Making a major impact by contributing to an indicator.



Legend:

- Making a major direct impact towards this goal
- Making a direct impact towards this goal
- Contributing to the ethos of this goal

3. SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

SOCIAL

COMMUNITY INTEGRATION AND SHARING

Increasing appreciation of different cultures across and within communities

How many people had the opportunity to mix and gain a greater understanding of other groups of people in their community (e.g. people of different ages, genders, abilities, race, ethnicity, origin, religion and/or socio-economic status) through your initiative?

1500

How many people report or were observed having gained greater knowledge and understanding of other groups of people in their community through your initiative?

300

Do any of your activities specifically aim to empower and promote the inclusion of any vulnerable or marginalized groups of people (e.g. youth, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, women, etc)?

yes, we focus some activities to include people who have a vulnerable background, often through cooking food

Share any other relevant information about how your initiative helps empower and promote the inclusion of vulnerable or marginalised groups (e.g. youth, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, women, etc)

We support the inhabitants own initiatives, letting them take the lead

Fostering a wider food and sharing culture

How many other food sharing initiatives are you in regular contact with to exchange knowledge or collaborate?

1

Share any other relevant information about how your initiative helps foster a wider food and sharing culture (e.g. stories from participants, volunteers, employees, and/or other food sharing initiatives that you collaborate with)

Our food forest ranger is in regular contact with BuurtNatuure (a large network of nature-based initiatives). Also, a lot of our participants have started sharing food amongst themselves.

ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY OF FOOD

Increased access to and consumption of fruit and vegetables

Share any other relevant information about how your initiative increases access to and consumption of fruit and vegetables (e.g. an awareness campaign you have run about healthy eating)

We run lab and kitchen events, and the kids who participated report eating more fruits and vegetables

Increased access to and consumption of fresh food

How many people did your initiative distribute fresh food to?

1500

How many people used your facilities to grow, store, cook and/or consume fresh food?

1500

Share any other relevant information about how your initiative increases access to and consumption of fresh food and/or freshly prepared meals. (e.g. stories from people who attended events, cooking classes, workshops, etc.)

We provide green space for people to grow their own food and encourage them to do so.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Connecting and creating new support networks within communities

How many people have increased their support or friendship network because of encountering your initiative?

136

Share any other relevant information about how your initiative supports connecting and creating new support networks within communities (e.g. stories about friendships formed because of engaging with your initiative)

We foster sharing in the neighbourhood, both knowledge and food.

Boosting levels of meal sharing

How many people have shared meals at events run by your initiative

50

Share any other relevant information about how your initiative is boosting levels of meal sharing (e.g. stories from participants about how opportunities to share a meal has improved their wellbeing)

Our lab and kitchen event brought together around 50 people who shared meals. We also have a food market, selling food and meals.

Increasing well-being through volunteering

How many volunteers have reported an increased feeling of belonging in their community through participating in your initiative?

20

How many volunteers have reported increased social interactions and friendships through participating in your initiative?

20

Share any other relevant information about how your initiative is increasing well-being through volunteering (e.g. stories of volunteers making new friends)

Around 20 inhabitants are regularly volunteering to help the management to care for the neighbourhood. There are also an additional 100 people who sometimes join.

EDUCATION AND FOOD CHOICES – SOCIAL

Increasing engagement in growing food

How many people grow food at your initiative's location?

20

How many people grow food at home or in their community because of participating in your initiative?

10

Share any other relevant information about how your initiative is increasing engagement in growing food

We provide the food forest and a ranger to help people get involved.

Discovery of new fresh foods

How many people attended your events that were (at least partially) designed to introduce new types of fresh food?

200

Share any other relevant information about how your initiative helps people discover new fresh foods

Lab and kitchen event during the month of September

ENVIRONMENTAL

AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES

Diverting organic waste from landfill

Select from the following the best description of your composting activities

We collect our own organic material but send it for composting elsewhere.

Water recovery

Describe the system you have in place for water recovery

Every household has a rain water barrel to collect rain water

Maintaining and improving soil quality

Share any relevant information about how your initiative maintains and improves soil quality

The food forest would take care of soil quality (e.g. mulching)

Maintaining and improving biodiversity

Share any relevant information about how your initiative maintains and improves biodiversity

Food forest would take care of improving and maintaining biodiversity, through specific planning

CARBON FOOTPRINT

Reducing the carbon footprint of the food system

How many people attended your events or received educational materials about reducing the carbon footprint of their food choices?

150

Select from the following any carbon footprint reducing activities your initiative does (can select multiple options):

Use of low carbon sources of energy, for example solar panels

Share any other relevant information about how your initiative reduces its carbon footprint (e.g. stories of your participants being inspired to make changes to reduce their carbon footprint because of your events or programs)

we run school projects about the food forest

EDUCATION AND FOOD CHOICES – ENVIRONMENTAL

Increasing preference for vegetarian meals

Share any other relevant information about how your initiative increases preference for vegetarian meals.

the restaurant on the grounds is vegetarian

ECONOMIC

JOBS

Training and jobs

Share any other relevant information about how your initiative supports training and jobs.

We run courses about becoming a food ranger

Fairly paid work

What percentage of your part-time employees are paid a rate 10% or more above the legal minimum wage?

100

What percentage of your full-time employees are paid a rate 10% or more above the legal minimum wage?

100

Share any other relevant information about how your initiative supports fairly paid work.

the municipality staff is involved.

LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION

Contribution to food production

How much space (m² of land, rooftops, walls etc.) has your initiative converted/reclaimed for growing food?

1500

Share any other relevant information about how your initiative contributes to food production.

We provide green spaces for food growing and all the plants across the area are food producing

AFFORDABILITY OF FOOD

Reducing pressure on food budgets

How many people acquired knowledge and skills to reduce pressure on their food budget by participating in your initiative?

750

Share any other relevant information about how your initiative is reducing pressure on food budgets.

the food is provided from the food forest and is free for everyone

EDUCATION AND FOOD CHOICES – ECONOMIC

Sharing specific skills and knowledge about the food system

Share any other relevant information about how your initiative shares specific skills and knowledge about food and the food system.

We have events about permaculture

GOVERNANCE

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Contributing to policy development

List key activities your initiative did to establish more sustainable food policies at the local, regional, or national level.

As municipality we are using this neighbourhood as case study for new developments

Sharing knowledge and good practice

Select from the following any activities your initiative does to share knowledge and best practices.

Hosted events to promote and educate about specialist practices your initiative implements.,Posted online content promoting the use of practices you implement which tackle important issues in the food system.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Strategic planning and sustainability

Select from the following the best description of your formal planning processes.

We have a formal sustainability plan, which sets out a strategy to maximise our impact relating to important issues for food sustainability.

Stakeholder engagement

Select from the following the best description of your strategy for identifying, engaging, and managing your relationships with stakeholders.

We have a strategy for stakeholder engagement to understand how our operations impact others.

RISK CONTROL

Risk control

Select from the following the best description of your current strategy for identifying and reducing risks facing your initiative.

We have successfully implemented a strategy which has already reduced major risks facing our initiative (for example by purchasing a property or securing long term funding)

4. Disclaimer

This report was produced using the SHARING SOLUTIONS Toolkit which was designed as part of the European Research Council (ERC) SHARECITY project (Grant No. 646883) and developed with an ERC PoC Award (No. 101069183). The data entered in this report is the sole responsibility of the initiative entering the data, it was not independently verified by the SHARING SOLUTIONS Team. Any errors therefore remain the responsibility of the initiative.



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