Sia Foundation

Quarterly Report

Q4 2024

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MISSION

The Sia Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to revolutionizing data storage through decentralization.

Our objectives are to:

- **Support the Sia ecosystem** by providing resources and removing obstacles that discourage developers, entrepreneurs, and others from building, adopting, and supporting Sia.
- **Maintain and build the Sia network** through cutting-edge research on peer-to-peer networks, blockchains, and storage protocols.
- **Educate users** by creating content, organizing events, and hosting workshops.

We believe that the success of Sia relies on a positive feedback loop involving:

- **Developers** who improve the Sia protocol and create products, tools, and services that support its use.
- **Research** that enhances the ability to use Sia and the Sia network for a broader range of data storage.
- **Adoption** of Sia as a performant and scalable storage platform.
- **Users** who are attracted by the utility of Sia and the services that entrepreneurs build on the Sia network.

FROM THE FOUNDATION

This is the Sia Foundation's quarterly report covering October through December 2024. If you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns, please post them on the forum or Discord.

As we closed out 2024, we were reminded of the significant progress we've made and the incredible opportunity still before us. Throughout the year we worked hard to get the pieces in place to reposition ourselves. We needed to do this technically, and we did so with a large effort to rebuild and restyle the three primary apps that our users use to interact with the Sia network. We also needed to do this personally, moving our people-pieces around to make sure they not only fit together better, but also created a better picture of what the Foundation can be in the long run.

This carries through to the work you'll see in 2025. We're repositioning ourselves with significant new brand work for the Sia network, which you'll see toward mid-year. The network itself is getting a big under the hood makeover with the upcoming [hardfork](#) and V2, bringing the long-awaited utreexo and RHP4 to Sia. And we'll be adding a couple new folks to make all this happen in the most efficient and responsible way possible.

We are excited to continue this journey with you and see what the future holds for Sia.

DEVELOPMENT

In Q4, our engineering team finalized V2-compatible releases for all of our software. Our current activation target is now block height 526,000, which will likely occur on June 6th, 2025. This date is also the 10th anniversary of the Sia mainnet being online, a date which is very much not lost on us. We're working with the entire Sia ecosystem to ensure all partners adopt the fork and benefit from its enhancements.

HARDFORK FAQ

WHAT BENEFITS DOES THE HARDFORK BRING?

The hardfork will drastically reduce the time it takes to sync a new node and the space required to store the consensus data. It will also increase performance of file uploads and enable direct access from phones, tablets, and browsers without the need to download additional software.
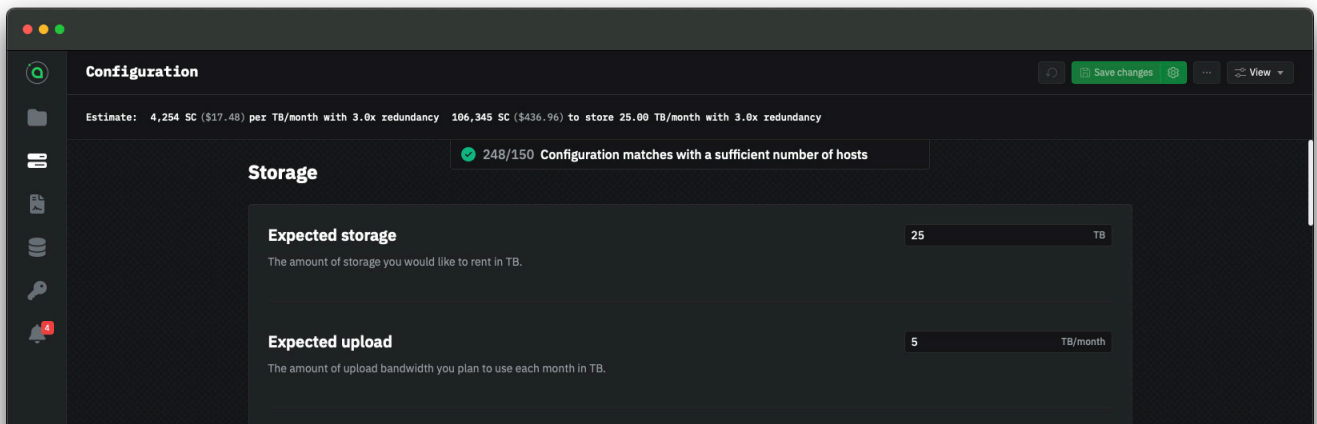
WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO MY SIACOINS?

Absolutely nothing. Your Siacoins will still be accessible via your existing seed or on your exchange. If you are using Sia-UI, you will need to upgrade to walletd. If you are using Sia Central's lite wallet, and exchange, or a Ledger hardware wallet, you will not need to do anything.

WILL MY MINERS STILL WORK?

Yes, all existing and in-development mining hardware based on Blake2b-Sia will continue to be supported.
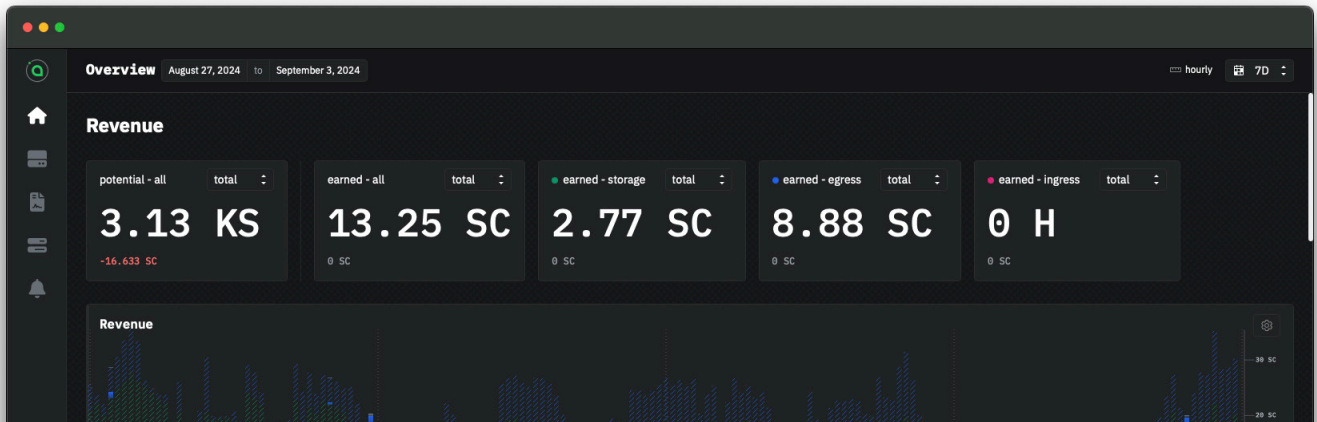
RENTERD

With `renterd`, Sia now has a modern, scalable and performant base for enterprises and users to access Sia storage providers.

This quarter, the engineering team released stable version v1.1.0 which contained a range of bug fixes, performance improvements and changes related to V2 compatibility. It offered a much more stable renter experience with fewer alerts, improved logging and a better UX.

The team also finished all the necessary changes for v2.0.0 and prepped to launch the beta in January. This release contained all the transition code to migrate data from pre-V2 file contracts to the new and improved V2 file contracts and starting to interact with hosts using the new protocol called RHP4.

HOSTD

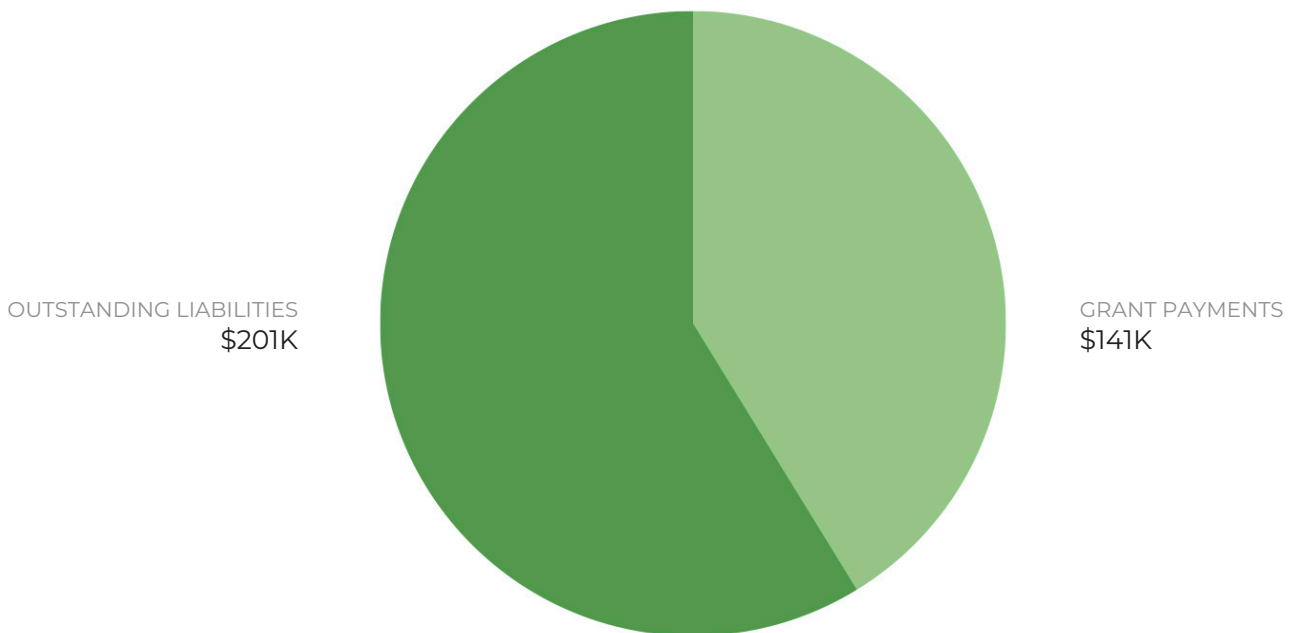`hostd` is a modern and performant node software for storing user data.

This quarter, the engineering team wrapped up the changes for `hostd` v2.0.0 and released v2.0.0-beta.1 just before Christmas. The new version is fully migrated to our new `core` consensus, has full support for V2 which will make hosting a more pleasant experience due to the improved protocol and more efficient contract renewals. Meaning that hosts will no longer need to wait a long time for funds to be released after renewals but instead will have any remaining funds from previous contracts either unlocked or rolled over to the renewed contract.

Starting at v2.0.0, `hostd` also defaults to use os-specific standard locations for application data. Such as **/etc/hostd/hostd.yml** and **/var/lib/hostd** for its configuration file and data directory on Linux respectively. This leads to a more streamlined and native UX.

GRANTS

The Sia Foundation Grants Program funds independent teams entering the Sia ecosystem to perform development or other work for the public benefit. Some key areas of funding include: wallets, interoperability, apps, services, integrations, and research.

The grants program is administered by the Foundation and a committee consisting of three community members and three Sia Foundation employees. The committee meets bi-weekly to discuss new grant submissions.

OUTSTANDING LIABILITIES
$201K

GRANT PAYMENTS
$141K

NEW GRANTS

This quarter, the grant committee approved six new grants totalling $161,780.

SIA VIRTUAL BLOCK DEVICES $8,000

`sia_vbd` implements virtual block devices on top of `renterd`.

PROXMOX BACKUP CLOUD EXTENSION $16,800

This grant is a continuation of a previous proposal that will further integrate Proxmox Backup Server (PBS) with the Sia decentralized cloud storage network.

DARTSIA MOBILE APP $41,250

Dartsia is a mobile application which aims to allow users of the sia ecosystem to access a `renterd` node and be able to interact with it.

SIAQL $18,000

Creates a GraphQL layer on top of the existing REST APIs, providing a unified and flexible interface to interact with Sia's core components: `renterd`, `hostd`, and `walletd.`

LUME WEB 2025 $73,000

Lume Web is a project with a long-term vision focused on web3, privacy, and data ownership. This grant develops a web2.5 platform that prioritizes freedom and privacy in data storage.

SIAGRAPH 2 $4,730

SiaGraph is a website that provides data and insights into the Sia network

FINANCIALS

The Foundation's expenses were typical this quarter with the exception of additional expenses for the strategic branding process.

USD ASSETS

EXPENSES	-1,244.463 USD
TOTAL	12,619,474 USD

SIACOIN ASSETS

RECEIVED	394,200,000 SC
CONVERTED	-93,262,581 SC
TOTAL	3,815,280,787 SC

	Q4	Q1-Q4	2024 Budget	Remaining
Team Compensation	$902,464	$3,042,641	$3,119,523	$76,882
Professional Services	$122,922	$301,587	$271,000	($30,587)
Operations	$29,093	$76,066	$84,330	$8,264
R&D	$22,786	$291,010	-	($291,010)
Events & Marketing	$26,553	$382311	$374000	($8,311)
Grants	$140,644	$741,536	$1,250,000	$508,464
	$1,244,463	$4,835,150	$5,098,853	$263,702

R&D refers to research, testing, infrastructure, testnet and related expenses.

THINGS WE HAVE NEVER DONE

The Sia Foundation has never modified its website, transparency reports, or other public content at the request of law enforcement.

The Sia Foundation has never modified any of its software at the request of law enforcement.

The Sia Foundation has never turned over its release-signing key to any law enforcement organization or other third party.