Sia Foundation

Quarterly Report

Q1 2025

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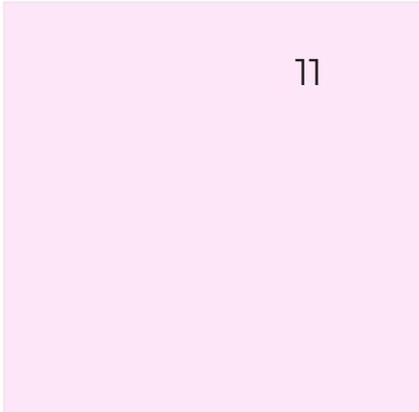
MISSION

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 January through March 2025. If you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns, please post them on the forum or Discord.

We entered 2025 with clear minds and a strong purpose – to guide the Sia ecosystem through a major fork, to faciliate a new brand identity for the network and the Foundation, and to continue the work that brings the basic values of data privacy and ownership to as many people as possible.

While the fork is a Q2 event and will be discussed more from a technical perspective further in the next report, at the time of this writing it has activated on the 10th anniversary of Sia's mainnet, June 6th. We're extremely happy to announce that the entire Sia ecosystem has made it through with minimal wear and tear. The network is online, blocks are mining, transactions are sending, and all seems well.

To coincide with the fork, the Sia network has undergone a makeover – a completely new design from the ground up, embodying the uncompromising approach to privacy and decentralization.

Finally, a new brand strategy will guide us as we move to espouse the virtues of Sia and educate the public at large about the importance of digital privacy and ownership.

Visually speaking, this is a transitionary report. It uses some of the new Sia network branding, but next time around we'll see a large redesign of this document that uses the new Foundation company brand. We are excited to continue this journey with you and see what the future holds for Sia.

DEVELOPMENT

In Q1, our engineering team released v2-compatible stable releases for all of our software to support the fork at block height 526,000 on June 6th. This date was also the 10th anniversary of the Sia mainnet being online, allowing us to celebrate an incredible anniversary with the release of our latest updates. We worked with the entire Sia ecosystem to ensure all partners adopted the fork and benefited from its enhancements.

HARDFORK FAQ

WHAT BENEFITS DOES THE HARDFORK BRING?

The hardfork drastically reduces the time it takes to sync a new node and the space required to store the consensus data. It also increases performance of file uploads and enables 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 or an exchange, you will not need to do anything. If you use a Ledger device, update the Sia app to v2.0.0.

WILL MY MINERS STILL WORK?

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

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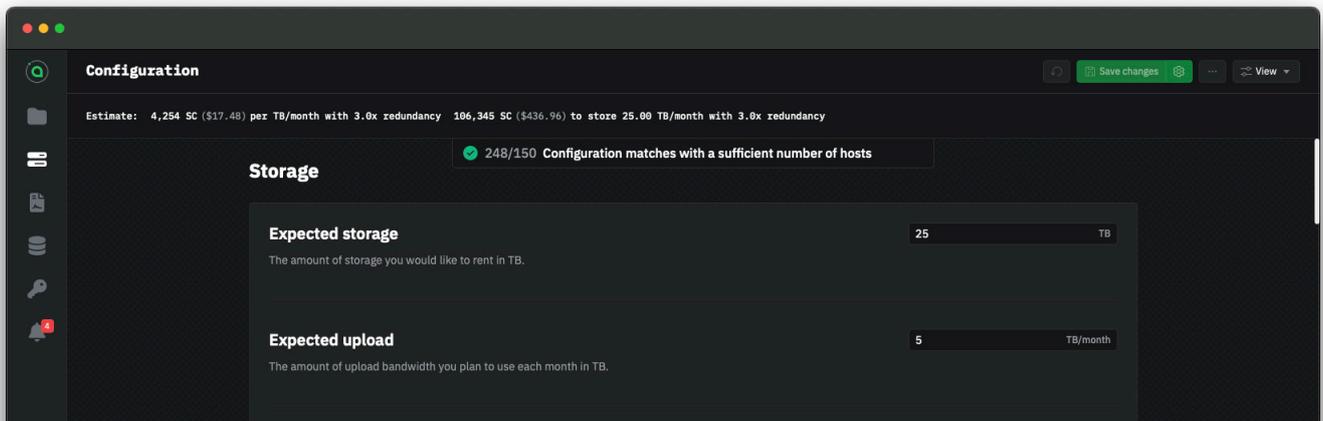
With `renterd`, Sia now has a modern, scalable and performant base for enterprises and users to access Sia storage providers.

In Q1, the team finished the beta of v2.0.0 and released v2.0.1 stable in March. This releases include not only a lot of fixes and stability improvements, but also a major API refactor. The new API comes with a `openapi.yml` spec that can be used to create http clients in various programming languages for the new API.

Some of the notable changes include removing the concept of an allowance and instead relying solely on the spending limits provided by users, removing contract sets and contract lifecycles no longer aligning. The latter means that contracts will no longer all renew at once and instead spreading renewal out.

These versions also come with support for the v2 hardfork, allowing the renter to form and renew v2 contracts and migrating from v1 contracts to v2 contracts.

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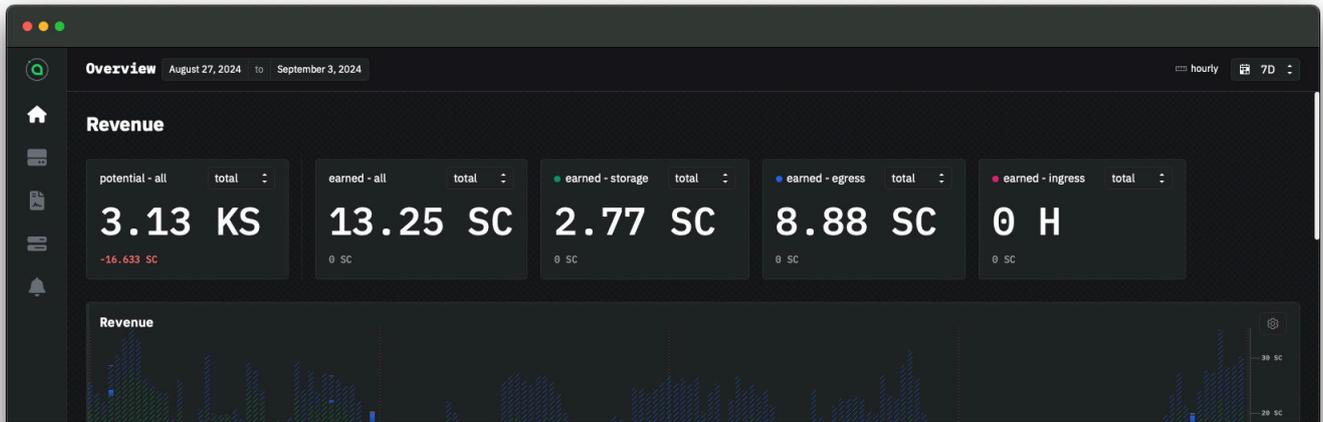
`hostd` is a modern and performant node software for storing user data.

`hostd` also had multiple versions release in Q1. The most recent stable one being v2.0.4 and the latest beta being v2.1.0-beta.3. While most changes were related to bug fixes, the beta releases added RHP4 QUIC support to `hostd`. Opening up `hostd` to be talked to directly from web browsers once the hardfork has activated and clients have implemented support for it.

The beta also adds support for a new RHP4 RPC called RPCReplenish which is an alternative RPC for funding accounts with hosts for uploading to them and downloading from them.

WALLETD / ECOSYSTEM

After multiple beta versions, we released walletd v2.0.0 stable in February. It adds support for the v2 hardfork and various other improvements to its API to improve its developer experience.

Supporting exchanges and mining pools

With the hardfork happening in Q2, our engineering team also worked with mining pools and exchanges to upgrade their infrastructure to support the v2 hardfork. This triggered a lot of the changes made to `walletd` and has also led to additional software being built to ease the upgrade process. The most noteworthy being `vaultd`, a companion daemon for importing legacy seeds, storing private keys and signing transactions constructed by `walletd` and `minerd`, a wrapper around `walletd` with additional endpoints targeted towards mining pools.

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
$158K

GRANT PAYMENTS
$132K
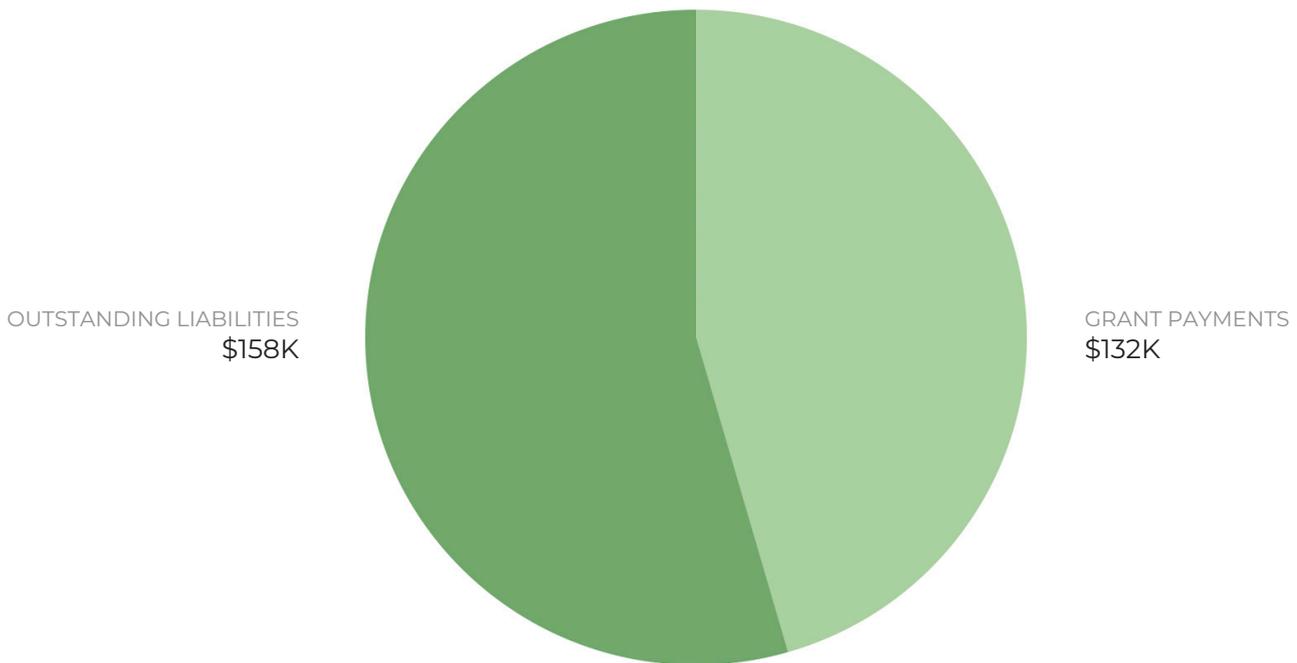
NEW GRANTS

In Q1 2025, the grant committee approved five new grants totalling $61,800.

SIAFUND EARNINGS $5,000

SiaFund Earnings is a website designed to track SiaFund claim amounts, offering a unique perspective on the overall utilization of the network.

SECURESPHERE $9,800

SecureSphere aims to provide both individuals and businesses with an advanced password management and breach monitoring solution.

LUOGO $15,000

Luogo is a group location sharing app akin to Life360 but with the primary focus being ease of use and data privacy.

NYDIA: PASSKEY HOLDER IMPROVEMENTS $22,000

This project introduces Ed25519 support and addresses incompatibility with certain web services.

SAI - SIA AI $10,000

sAI is a Python framework that enables AI-powered interaction with the Sia network, specifically focused on wallet operations through `walletd`.

FINANCIALS

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

USD ASSETS

EXPENSES	-1,577,163 USD
TOTAL	13,027,271 USD

SIACOIN ASSETS

RECEIVED	394,200,000 SC
CONVERTED	-524,999,995 SC
TOTAL	3,678,900,791 SC

	Q1	Q1-Q4	2025 Budget	Remaining
Team Compensation	$ 931,911	$ 931,911	$ 4,530,917	$ 3,599,006
Professional Services	$ 209,380	$ 209,380	$ 363,517	$ 154,138
Operations	$ 53,575	$ 53,575	$ 190,580	$ 137,005
R&D	$ 62,151	$ 62,151	$ 299,593	$ 237,442
Events & Marketing	$ 167,493	$ 167,493	$ 611,800	$ 444,307
Grants	$ 132,654	$ 132,654	$ 1,000,000	$ 867,346
	$ 1,557,164	$ 1,557,164	$ 6,996,407	$ 5,439,243

R&D refers to research, testing, infrastructure, testnet and related expenses.
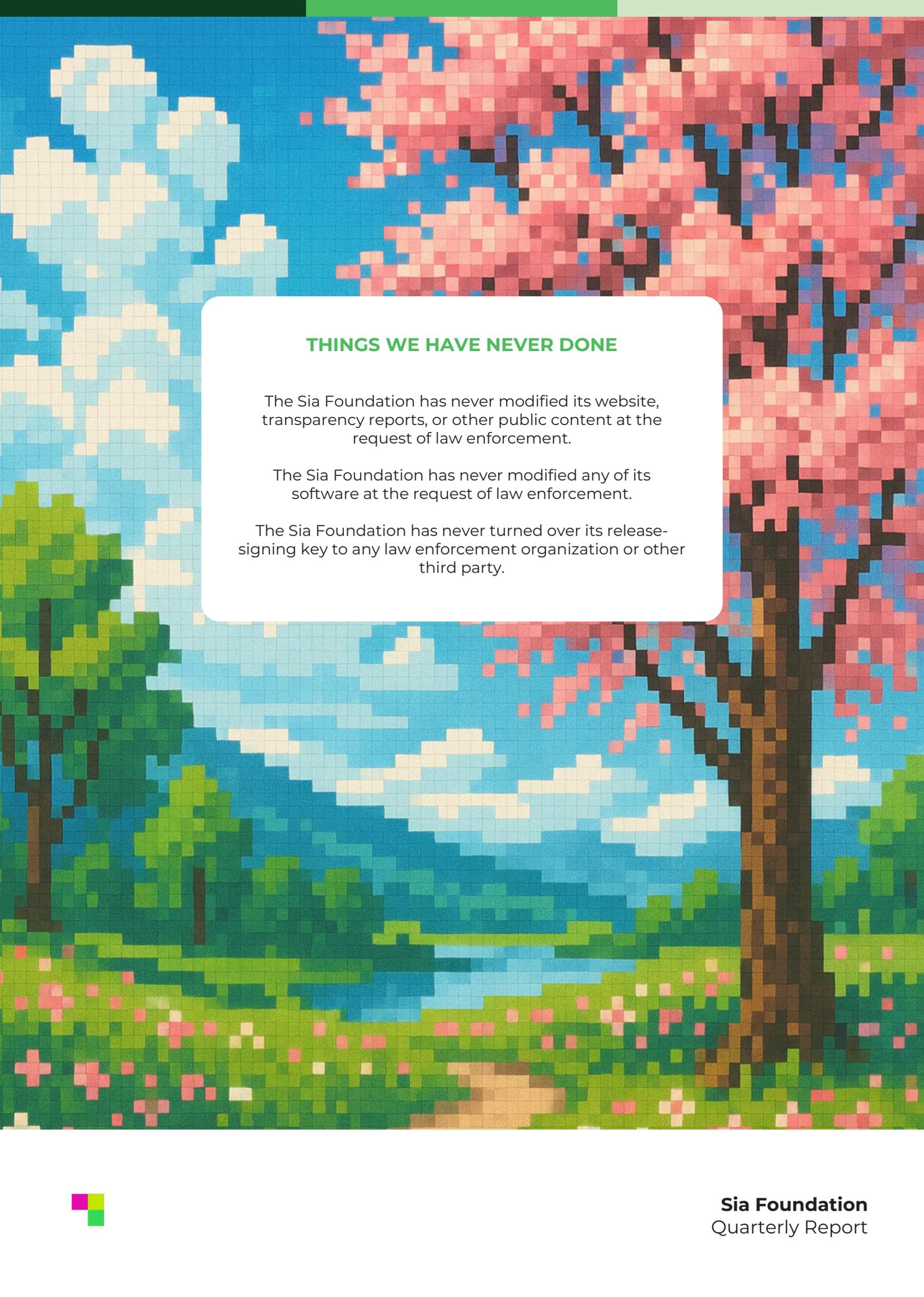
THINGS WE HAVE NEVER DONE

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.