

## ***In response to the Facing Finance report “Dirty Profits 4: Report on Companies and Financial Institutions Benefitting from Violations of Human Rights”- Syngenta***

We appreciate the opportunity to respond to some of the issues and concerns highlighted in the Facing Finance report, but regret that our opinion was not inquired as part of the drafting process and included before publishing. We have a culture of transparency, our work with the Good Growth Plan is testament to that, and we make efforts to address stakeholder questions and concerns on our website.

### *With reference to Syngenta’s involvement with SAGCOT, Tanzania*

Syngenta is a member of SAGCOT (Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania) – a public-private partnership focused on delivering sustainable agricultural transformation, including developing the necessary supporting infrastructure for growers to market their produce. During the time period December 2010 and October 2014 Syngenta partnered with a fertilizer company to help drive the sustainable intensification of maize and rice yields on smallholder farms in Tanzania, while addressing concerns about environmental sustainability and climate change. The partnership developed the Environment and Climate Compatible Agriculture (ECCAg) project, which had two main objectives:

- To test if intensifying agricultural land use through optimal pesticide and fertilizer use is compatible with environmental sustainability and climate change; and
- To develop a clear understanding of the potential environmental and climate change impacts while assessing improvements to grower productivity and profitability.

The ECCAg project contributed to the wider SAGCOT initiative. The core part of the partnership was with Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and the Dakawa Rice Institute in Tanzania, plus the growers selected by them, to help plan and deliver the project. The University of Life Sciences (UMB, Oslo) also supported the project within their Norwegian-Tanzanian development programs. These partners were chosen because they were crucial to help adapt the project to local conditions and grower feasibility, plus help validate its technical soundness. Please refer to the Grow Africa Annual Reports for results ([2013](#) and [2014](#)) or on Syngenta’s [Good Growth Plan website](#).

### *With reference to concerns regarding our business in Brazil*

All products Syngenta is selling in Brazil have been granted registration in full. Product registration is a mandatory, scientific and extensive process involving three federal agencies: dossiers need to be submitted simultaneously to MAPA (the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply), the National Health Surveillance Agency (ANVISA) under the Ministry of Health, and the Brazilian Institute of Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA) under the Ministry of the Environment. ANVISA for instance is responsible for determining the requirements regarding personal protective equipment requirements on a pesticide product label.

Safe use, secure storage and responsible disposal are key elements of our product stewardship commitment “Help people stay safe”. We work with retailers, growers, and food chain partners to improve practices. Syngenta helped establishing Inpev, an industry group that coordinates the collection of used pesticide containers. We cooperate with the authorities to solve issues that may arise.

The Good Growth Plan is Syngenta’s commitment to help growers rise to the challenges the world is facing in a sustainable way. We committed to training 20 million farm workers on labor safety, especially in developing countries.

*With reference to Via Campesina in Brazil*

Cascavel was a Syngenta seeds research site in the state of Paraná, Brazil. In October 2007, this site was illegally occupied by several hundred protesters. One of the protesters and one of the guards tragically died when the security guards re-entered the site without authorization to clear it.

Several people are claiming for indemnification in relation to the incident. In November 2015, a first level civil court in Paraná State decided that Syngenta should indemnify the families of the victims for moral and material damages and pay them a monthly allowance.

Syngenta has no connection with the confrontation that happened many hours after the invasion occurred. Syngenta has not been involved in the criminal procedures regarding the death of the rural worker. We cannot be held liable for the alleged facts. Therefore, we fundamentally disagree with the recent decision by the 1st Civil Court of Cascavel within the Civil Lawsuit filed against Syngenta. We will seek appropriate legal measures to appeal to the second level court and trust in justice to reverse the decision.

*With reference to the termination of contract with the Secretary of the trade union at our site in Pakistan*

The redundancy of the union member was not connected with his position as Secretary of the Union in our Pakistan office. It occurred in view of an ongoing global re-alignment of Syngenta's IT function and followed due procedures. The announcement of reorganizing the Pakistan organization was made in November 2010. The former employee continues to participate in union activities in his capacity as the General Secretary of the Union. Throughout the process he has been involved in all collective bargaining agreement negotiations, which all have been successfully concluded. The former employee's case is currently pending in the High Court. Syngenta has made efforts to continue professional dialogues with him and is engaging with him to arrive at a settlement for his personal situation. We have made several attempts to meet with him, the last time in January 2016. Whilst we have made initial offer on settlement amounts, he has not responded. Syngenta remains open to constructive dialogue.