

Progress Report 2017

the
good
growth
plan



syngenta



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Clear evidence of progress Carbon emissions down, input efficiency and productivity up

The Good Growth Plan

is not only driving the way we add sustainable value to farmers around the world, it's also measuring the results.

We're collecting hard evidence to guide further progress and stimulate take-up of best practice.

In 2017, we measured big steps forward in crop yields, in efficient use of pesticides, and in reducing carbon footprints. And smallholders are doing particularly well.



Six commitments towards more sustainable agriculture

To feed a fast-growing world population, humanity depends on farmers increasing their production substantially, rapidly and sustainably. The Good Growth Plan is informing the way our products and services contribute to a more efficient and sustainable agricultural system. And it makes good business sense – for our customers as well as for us.

The Good Growth Plan is central to our strategies for both our Crop Protection and Seeds businesses to ensure their success and long-term viability. It defines six commitments in areas that are material to our business, where improvement is essential to secure the future of agriculture and our world. Each commitment sets hard, stretch targets to be achieved by 2020. We are measuring and reporting our progress against these targets each year, and we provide detailed data and definitions in accordance with the Open Data Institute best data practices at www.data.syngenta.com.

The Plan's principles and priorities are now deeply embedded in the way we do business. As it has continued, we have begun to assess not only our progress but also the nature and quality of the value we are adding: the impact on people, communities and the environment. As we build what we learn into our commercial offer, we are also compiling the evidence that it delivers real, measurable value for growers and society at large.

The data and insights that we are gaining and sharing have provided the basis for a growing number of partnerships – with governments, academia, NGOs and businesses. These add further value to our efforts and guide the continuing evolution and development of The Good Growth Plan itself.

Supporting the UN Sustainable Development Goals

In 2015, the United Nations adopted 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that define its development agenda up to 2030. These are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and secure peace and prosperity for all.

We welcome and support the SDGs, which are helping to mobilize the action and innovation necessary to make a better, more sustainable world. This will need new ways of thinking and working, fresh approaches that create new opportunities – and a massive step-up in collaboration among governments, NGOs, businesses, financial and donor institutions, schools and universities. The shared goal should be a future where economic growth goes hand in hand with a healthy environment and respect for human rights.

The SDGs underscore the relevance and significance of our Good Growth Plan. Collectively, the Plan's six commitments contribute towards delivering the SDGs: all six commitments contribute directly to Goal 2 (zero hunger) and Goal 17 (partnerships for sustainability), as well as individually towards a number of other goals.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The Good Growth Plan

UN Sustainable Development Goals

Our six commitments help farmers meet the challenge of feeding a fast-growing world population sustainably.



Goal 2:

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture



Goal 17:

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development



Make crops more efficient



Goal 12:

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns



Rescue more farmland



Goal 13:

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts



Goal 15:

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss



Help biodiversity flourish



Goal 15:

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss



Empower smallholders



Goal 1:

End poverty in all its forms everywhere



Help people stay safe



Goal 3:

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages



Look after every worker



Goal 8:

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all



Make crops more efficient

We're cutting greenhouse gas emissions and showing strong advances in yield, while using resources more efficiently

Our commitment

Increase the average productivity of the world's major crops by 20 percent without using more land, water or inputs.

Progress and key achievements

- ➔ Greenhouse gas emission efficiency improved by 14 percent
- ➔ Significant productivity uplift on reference farms
- ➔ Smallholders yields up 21.6 percent
- ➔ Pesticide field application efficiency up 14.2 percent on reference farms

The world needs a step change in crop productivity to "grow more with less" and meet the needs of its growing population. We are targeting a 20 percent increase across the world's most important crops, in partnership with growers who use our products and agronomic advice. We are focusing particular effort on smallholders, who have the greatest potential to increase productivity.

Measuring the difference we make

To test and measure what's possible, farmers are working with our field experts to share know-how and trial new solutions on over 1,400 reference farms across 22 crops in 41 countries. Over 2,600 additional benchmark farms, many also using Syngenta products, deepen our understanding of what drives productivity and efficiency, and help us track progress over time.

With data gathered on a consistent basis over four successive years, we can now see meaningful trends emerging. Across all our reference farms in 2017, the average land productivity increase over the 2014 baseline was 10.9 percent. The uplift on benchmark farms was 7.3 percent. The 2017 results compare favorably with those of the previous two years when harvests – and therefore the relative efficiency of inputs such as fertilizers and pesticides – were impacted by adverse weather conditions, particularly in Asia and Latin America.

Smallholder reference farms are showing particularly encouraging increases in land productivity – up 21.6 percent compared with 5.1 percent for their benchmark counterparts. This reflects the benefit of optimized products, appropriate training and services – including knowledge-sharing networks – to spread good practice.

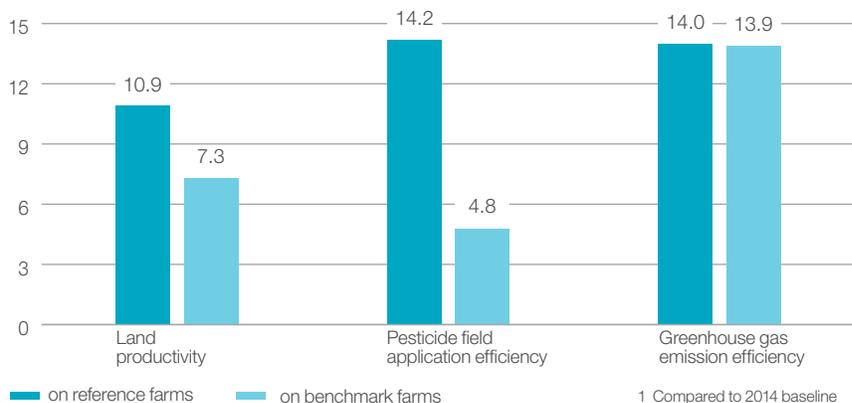
By improving crop yields per acre, the majority of reference and benchmark farms used pesticides, fertilizers and other inputs more efficiently in 2017. Detailed analysis of smallholder data found a positive relationship between input use and yields. By judiciously increasing their use of inputs, farmers who

used few inputs in 2014 have improved not only their productivity but also their input efficiency. When speaking of input efficiency, we mean, for example, the amount of pesticide applied per unit of crop produced.

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization recognizes that sustainable intensification strategies, which conserve and restore resources, are important in addressing climate change. More efficient resource use supports both adaptation to and mitigation of the effects of climate change by improving farm productivity and incomes while reducing emissions per unit of product.

This year, we analyzed greenhouse gas (GHG) footprints from our farm network. We have partnered with two organizations, Field to Market and the Cool Farm Alliance, to bring our growers online tools that calculate GHG footprints from data they collect. This enables them to support their customers' GHG accounting, with evidence that their footprints are reducing as they use inputs more efficiently. Since the launch of The Good Growth Plan, we have seen a 14 percent efficiency increase in GHG emissions across our reference farm network.

Average input efficiency in 2017¹ %



2 | 12 | 17

UN Sustainable Development Goals

Collaborating to increase sustainability

Sharing what we learn is an essential part of our Good Growth Plan commitments. Our experience of partnering with value chain companies and organizations provides mutual support in making agricultural production and food supply chains more sustainable.

Under our Sustainable Solutions initiative in the US, we develop and monitor appropriate metrics, give growers tools to generate relevant data and provide insight that helps drive improvement on the ground. Our sustainability engagement has contributed to the commercial success of our AGRIEDGE EXCELSIOR® farm management program, which combines Syngenta products with computer-aided management.

We also publish detailed Good Growth Plan progress data on www.data.syngenta.com – our open data website. By visualizing and offering data in a wider range of formats, we aim to increase accessibility and help non-specialists to engage with what we are doing.* We continued to refine the way we present data to individual growers, to show more clearly the impacts of particular protocols.

What's next?

In the year ahead, we will analyze drivers of GHG emissions to better understand how we can help climate-change adaptation and mitigation through innovation in seeds and crop protection. An additional year of data will also help us improve our statistical analysis to identify important trends and drivers. And we'll continue to share our data and insights openly, helping companies and organizations to deliver climate-smart agriculture solutions around the world, tailored to local grower needs.

* North American grower data not included in open data due to data privacy agreements.

Average land productivity increase² %

2020 (target) 20.0

2017 10.9

1.2 2016

1.9 2015

² On reference farms compared to 2014 baseline

Average land productivity increased by

10.9%

18.5 million acres of benefited farmland



Rescue more farmland

2 13 15 17

UN Sustainable Development Goals

We've sharply increased the pace of progress as we integrate soil conservation into our commercial products and services

Our commitment

Improve the fertility of more than 24 million acres of farmland on the brink of degradation.

Progress and key achievements

- Increased benefited acres by over 70 percent
- Expanded partnerships and multi-stakeholder platforms that offer a compelling conservation agriculture proposition
- Brought a business perspective on land degradation and conservation issues to policymakers through the Soil Leadership Academy, in partnership with the UNCCD

The UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) estimates that over 50 percent of farmland is affected by soil degradation. By working to change farming practices that expose soil to wind and rain erosion, we also help farmers reduce their carbon footprint and adapt to climate change.

This work includes raising awareness of the importance of soil conservation among value chain partners, government institutions and academics, as well as farmers. We are actively promoting the message that conservation agriculture – based on minimum soil disturbance, crop rotation and permanent ground cover – is a viable element of climate-smart agriculture. It helps reduce emissions, prevents land degradation, improves food security and increases farm and community resilience.

Measuring the difference we make

Four years into the soil commitment, we have implemented 157 projects in 41 countries, benefiting a total of 18.5 million acres. In 2017, we increased the pace significantly, adding 7.6 million acres as we optimize our programs around the globe and introduce new programs such as the digital agriculture solutions we have developed with SmartBio in Brazil, described opposite.

The integration of soil conservation practices into our crop protocols and training is gaining momentum, helping us to differentiate our commercial offer as well as our seed multiplication. Over 70 percent of benefited acres are making use of our currently available commercial products and services.

Benefited farmland¹ m ac



¹ Cumulative since baseline 2014. Differences in totals may occur due to rounding

Driving positive change

Building collaborations has been crucial, particularly as our strategy is increasingly linked to digitalization of agriculture. To bring farmers really compelling soil conservation propositions, we have been creating multi-stakeholder platforms with partners who provide equipment and machinery, financial solutions and educational support.

In Brazil, for example, our biggest project involves a convergence of satellite imaging, weather data and training – exemplifying the way digital agriculture is transforming farming practices. It uses a digital integrated pest management platform developed by SmartBio with Syngenta, enabling sugarcane mills to map areas susceptible to different stress factors and then optimize crop management and treatment accordingly.

Close collaboration with farmers is essential. We rely on their local knowledge to help identify optimal solutions that build climate-change adaptation and resilience into crop protocols. And, by tailoring solutions to local conditions, we ensure that they offer benefits that motivate adoption by farmers. For example, in Indonesia, our GROMORE™ solution is helping rice smallholders to implement conservation practices in preparing paddy fields. Locally-tailored protocols enable fast and effective land preparation, restore soil organic matter and help to improve resource efficiency.

When sharing what works best, we're working to show the value of adopting practices such as conservation tillage, cover crops, crop

rotations and biodiversity habitats. We're aided in this by commercial collaborations, which in 2017 included partnering with Premier Crop Systems to help reference farmers in the US experiment with precision nitrogen applications. The facility – built into Land.db², using Premier Crop Systems software to communicate with farm machinery – is expected to further improve fertilizer efficiency.

Our Sustainable Solutions team in the US was honored to receive – jointly with Kellogg Company and The Nature Conservancy – the 2017 Collaboration of the Year award from Field to Market: The Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture. The award recognizes outstanding partnership in advancing the sustainability of US agriculture.

What's next?

We continue to work with farmers to understand their needs and make our solutions more compelling, with value chain partners to further build on current sustainable sourcing experience, and with our commercial teams to build good practices into our product and service offer. We are encouraging value chain partners in cereals, corn, grapes, potatoes, rice and soybean to consider soil management in their sustainable purchasing criteria. And we will continue working with partners – including the Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development and the World Economic Forum – to stimulate debate on climate-smart agriculture and encourage national and regional authorities to make their soil policies more effective.

² Land.db® is a trademark of Ag Connections



13.8

million acres of benefited farmland

Benefited farmland¹ in ac



¹ Cumulative since baseline 2014



Help biodiversity flourish

2 15 17

UN Sustainable Development Goals

We've hit our 2020 target three years early – and we'll go on investing to benefit an even wider area

Our commitment

Enhance biodiversity on more than 12 million acres of farmland.

Progress and key achievements

- Already well past our 2020 target for benefited acreage
- 229 projects now implemented in 37 countries
- Broadened the range of solutions available to farmers
- Launched Landscape Connectivity: a Call to Action, published in collaboration with the WBCSD, the UNCCD and Bioversity International

The sustainability of agriculture relies on biodiversity – for plant breeding, pollination and food diversity. But biodiversity is declining fast as species habitats are lost, and climate change increases the risks. We are promoting and enabling action to reverse this trend. A key strategy is managing less-productive farmland alongside fields and waterways to reintroduce local species, provide buffers for soil and water, and connect wildlife habitats. This enables sustainable intensification on more productive land.

Measuring the difference we make

After four years, we have already met our target for 2020, and we will keep on investing to further improve biodiversity in agriculture. We have now implemented 229 projects in 37 countries, benefiting a total of 13.8 million acres. Benefits for farmers include reduced soil erosion and better soil nutrient cycling, crop pollination, pest control and water quality regulation. Wider social gains include enhanced genetic diversity, carbon sequestration, flood attenuation and recreation opportunities.

Driving positive change

Our research shows not only high farmer awareness of these benefits, but also a disconnect between awareness and implementation. Farmers can still be reluctant to invest in biodiversity conservation if market incentives are missing or difficult to understand. So we aim to foster an ecosystem of partnerships and commercial relationships that makes the investment case more compelling. For example, we are encouraging value chain companies to consider biodiversity conservation as a standard in their sustainable sourcing.

Integrating proven biodiversity solutions into our product protocols and training, and tailoring to local needs and opportunities, is boosting uptake. We partner with many stakeholders to promote best practices, and over 80 percent of our initiatives include one or more local organizations as implementation partners.

In China's Zhejiang province, for example, smallholders have planted GROMORE™ rice paddies that reduce fertilizer inputs while using field margins for cash crops such as sesame and soybean. These crops attract pollinators and sell well in local markets.

We have been working with Arcadis, a natural assets consultancy, to quantify biodiversity's commercial, socio-economic and environmental value in agricultural landscapes. The evidence from the majority of our biodiversity projects shows that every acre of managed field margin can deliver combined natural and social capital benefits to farmers and society at large.

In collaboration with the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and Bioversity International, we have published a paper, Landscape Connectivity – a Call to Action, to raise awareness about conservation and encourage adoption of simple, workable solutions to promote it.

What's next?

The Nature Conservancy has been a key collaborator on several projects, including restoring rainforest in the Brazilian Cerrado and riparian strips in the lower Mississippi River to enhance nutrient cycling while improving wildlife habitat. We are looking to build on this work to improve our programs with farmers and increase our positive impact on biodiversity and soil. We are also partnering with Humanitas Global to create a multi-stakeholder platform addressing pollination issues in Africa.

We plan to make increasing use of satellite imaging for evaluating the ecological infrastructures in our network of reference farms. We continue to work with the conservation community, farmers, value chain companies and our commercial teams to promote biodiversity practices. And we'll continue to leverage our commercial outreach by building biodiversity solutions into our crop protocols, commercial value proposition and loyalty programs.

Smallholders reached¹ m



¹ Through sales



Empower smallholders

Strong productivity advances on smallholder reference farms – more than 4 times the increase on benchmark farms

Our commitment

Reach 20 million smallholders and enable them to increase productivity by 50 percent.

Progress and key achievements

- Land productivity on smallholder reference farms increased by 21.6 percent
- Maintained growth in ASEAN and South Asia
- Completed further social impact assessments in Brazil, Guatemala, Indonesia and Mexico

Over half our sales are made in developing countries dominated by smallholder farmers. As our contact with smallholders is largely through vendors of our products, we use sales volume data to estimate the number of smallholders reached.

Measuring the difference we make

Smallholders have a vital role to play in both food security and poverty reduction. They produce more than half the world's calories and over 80 percent of the food consumed

in much of the developing world. There is considerable scope to improve their productivity – which, in turn, would significantly reduce poverty. It's estimated that increasing farm yields by just 10 percent could reduce populations living in poverty by 7 percent in Africa and over 5 percent in Asia.

Our network of smallholder reference farms is making strong progress in yield improvement: its 2017 land productivity was 21.6 percent above the 2014 baseline. This is more than four times the increase achieved by our benchmark smallholders and almost double the 10.9 percent achieved by our reference farms overall.

It was therefore disappointing to see a fall in the number of smallholders reached through sales – down by 2.7 million to 13.9 million in 2017. The main factor was a sharp drop in corn acreage in China, where the government has been encouraging alternative crops to reduce historic corn stockpiles. Over 40 percent of our smallholder customers are in China, where corn is our principal crop, and the impact was only partially softened by increased sales in other crops such as soybean.

Elsewhere in Asia, we continued to extend our reach. In ASEAN, we achieved significant

growth by offering smallholders new alternatives including better seed varieties for optimum productivity. In addition, disease pressures following El Niño-related droughts drove strong uptake of fungicides among rice smallholders in Vietnam. Along with China and ASEAN, South Asia is our other principal smallholder market – and there, too, we extended our sales and reach in 2017.

Driving positive change

The social impact assessments we have been undertaking are deepening our understanding of our interactions with smallholders, helping us to refine go-to-market models to increase the benefits we bring to farmers and communities. From 10 studies completed in 8 countries up to the end of 2017, it is clear that every country and crop presents its own unique combination of challenges and opportunities: our strategies need to be tailored accordingly.

It is also evident that we cannot address all the challenges identified by our impact assessments in isolation. We are actively seeking collaborations to drive and enable broader change.

In Kenya, for example, potato and tomato growers are hampered by poor productivity

Average smallholder land productivity increase² %



² On smallholder reference farms compared to baseline 2014



UN Sustainable Development Goals

and weak market structures. In partnership with agricultural business specialists TechnoServe, we are helping to improve productivity and markets by providing quality crop inputs and training, improving access to finance and enhancing the capacity of local market service centers. Since 2016, the partnership has helped over 8,800 farmers to increase their earnings by a total of nearly \$5 million.

In Indonesia, we have helped to build a network of partnerships with banks, insurers, retailers, traders and an NGO. We provide products, protocols and training, while our partners add financial literacy training, micro-loans, crop insurance and buyback guarantees, market access and digital payments.

What's next?

We are continuing our program of impact assessments, and in 2018 will have the findings from our first studies in Africa.

As our strong portfolio of products and services earns increasing recognition, we expect this to generate valuable new collaborations and opportunities for us and the farming communities we support, particularly in Asia.

13.9

million smallholders reached

21.6%

average smallholder land productivity increase





Help people stay safe

2 3 17

UN Sustainable Development Goals

We're already well past our 2020 target as train-the-trainer programs drive rapid increase in training capacity

Our commitment

Train 20 million farm workers on labor safety, especially in developing countries.

Progress and key achievements

- Exceeded our 2020 target by over 25 percent
- Particularly strong progress in Bangladesh, India, Philippines and Vietnam
- Adapting award-winning Argentine collaboration for Chile and Paraguay

We share a responsibility to help improve occupational safety and health in agriculture. This applies particularly to smallholders, especially in developing countries, who often

lack access to guidance on using crop protection efficiently, responsibly and safely.

Measuring the difference we make

In 2017, we reached 8.2 million people with safety training and safe-use awareness-raising initiatives linked to commercial activities. This brought the cumulative total since 2014 to 25.5 million, taking us well past the 20 million target we set for 2020. Smallholders make up some 70 percent of the people we train on safe use as part of a broader education on using our products to best effect.

Enhancing our training capability

The key to enhancing our training resource has been our train-the-trainer programs:

in addition to training delivered by the stewardship teams, we introduced Master Trainers equipped to deliver high-quality training themselves as an integral part of our commercial teams. They are greatly increasing our capacity to ensure that farmers and farm workers understand our recommendations and why they matter. The value for customers comes not only from using our products safely, but also from using only as much as is necessary, so that they minimize environmental impacts and maximize their return on investment.

We made significant progress across Asia during 2017. We increased numbers in Bangladesh and had a good response to campaigns targeted to engage more farmers in India. In Vietnam, we benefited from intensified commercial collaboration with distributors, particularly on in-field demonstrations. And



in the Philippines, a strong push to introduce rice growers to the benefits of hybrid varieties gave us substantially increased access to smallholders and opportunities to train them.

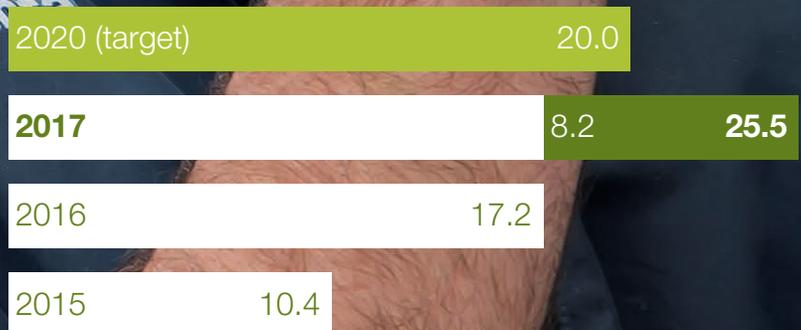
In Latin America, the picture was mixed. Training in Brazil was slowed by restructuring of the business there, while in Venezuela we reached more farmers through partnerships with local universities. Collaborations are adding considerable impetus to our efforts. In Argentina, for example, we work in partnership with INTA, the national institute for agricultural technology, and another local organization, FEDIA, to run a training program in agrotechnical high schools. Known as Sembrando Conciencia (Sowing Awareness), this program won a national award in 2017. We are now adapting it for introduction in Chile and Paraguay to reach more than 800 students annually.

What's next?

Having achieved our 2020 target ahead of schedule, we will continue striving to train more farmers, especially smallholders, and to broaden our capacity-building activity. We'll continue to extend local partnerships wherever we can, to better understand farmers' behaviors and needs. This will help us to drive wider training adoption, and develop programs that most effectively promote positive behavior change towards safer, more responsible use of agrochemicals.

25.5 million people trained on safe use

People trained on safe use¹ m



¹ Cumulative since baseline 2014. Differences in totals may occur due to rounding



Look after every worker

2 8 17

UN Sustainable Development Goals

All high-risk countries with seed supply farms now covered by our Fair Labor Program – and we can see the benefits

Our commitment

Strive for fair labor conditions throughout our entire supply chain network.

Progress and key achievements

- Nine new countries added to our Fair Labor Program in our seed supply chain
- 90 percent of flower farms now have GLOBALG.A.P. certification, 32 percent with G.R.A.S.P. assessments
- 90 percent of chemical suppliers covered by our Supplier Sustainability Program

We are committed to ensuring fair labor conditions across our supply chain, and we recognize our responsibility to ensure suppliers meet the highest ethical standards, especially in developing countries.

This poses particular challenges in our seed supply chain of about 30,000 farms. Since 2004, we have partnered with the Fair Labor Association (FLA) to develop and roll out our Fair Labor Program, requiring suppliers to meet labor rights standards in areas such as job contracts and compensation, safe and just working conditions, and dignity and respect.

Each year, we aim to audit compliance on 20 percent of farms in each country and require suppliers to make corrective action where necessary. In higher-risk areas, the FLA independently audits a further 2 to 5 percent. Its findings – together with all remediation plans and reports on progress against these – are published on the FLA website¹.

Measuring the difference we make

In 2017, the Fair Labor Program covered 86 percent of our seed supply farms

(2016: 82 percent). We brought nine more countries into the program: Germany, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Morocco, South Africa, Spain, the UK and Zambia. In addition, we included new suppliers contracted to meet increasing demand in India, where the total rose from 11,000 farms in 2016 to 14,000 in 2017.

The program brings benefits for Syngenta, as well as for workers. This is particularly evident in countries – such as Argentina, Brazil and Turkey – where we hire farm workforces either directly or through local labor brokers. The program fosters loyalty, with workers returning year after year – particularly important where farms rely on migrant labor. A more experienced workforce brings efficiency and quality benefits. And, as workers experience repeated training cycles, we see lower lost-time injury rates, an improved speak-up culture and deepening trust between field workers and Syngenta supervisors.

In India, there are well-documented problems in ensuring that farms meet minimum wage standards and that payments actually reach their workers. We have been promoting action on this across the seeds industry and, in 2017, we launched two pilot projects that have successfully maintained full compliance. We are now seeking to scale up this work and rally the rest of the industry to join us, as it will take concerted effort to drive real change.

In our flower business, we are aiming for all our own and third-party flower farms to have GLOBALG.A.P. certification, covering worker wellbeing and production quality, with larger farms also meeting the G.R.A.S.P. standard for labor conditions. In 2017, we extended GLOBALG.A.P. certification to 90 percent of flower farms, with 32 percent also undergoing G.R.A.S.P. assessment (2016: 73/24 percent, respectively).

We have been auditing chemicals suppliers' compliance with health, safety and quality

standards for many years. Having analyzed the sustainability risk for each supplier, we are working to bring all those in material risk categories into our Supplier Sustainability Program. In 2017, we increased program coverage to 90 percent of suppliers in these categories (2016: 67 percent).

Building on learnings from the program to date, we are now refining it to focus assessment resources where they are most relevant. Where we identify material risks, we will conduct deeper, more tailored audits in areas such as process safety to maximize protection for employees and neighbors. We are broadening our use of the chemical industry's Together for Sustainability (TfS) initiative, which covers a range of areas including labor rights and pools participating companies' resources to optimize audit efficiency and frequency. And for all suppliers, we are requiring EcoVadis self-assessments covering health, safety and labor conditions.

What's next?

By the end of 2017, the Fair Labor Program covered 23 of the 34 countries where we have seed supply farms, including all those that we consider high risk. In 2018, the continuing roll out will add the US, the last remaining large country. The final countries are all mature economies where risks of noncompliance are relatively low, but we recognize that even in these countries factors such as reliance on migrant workers can pose particular risks. By 2020, all countries will be included in the program.

In our flower business, it has become clear that G.R.A.S.P. assessment is inappropriate or too costly for smaller farms. For these, we are now planning to introduce our own assessments, using the monitoring protocols that we use in our Fair Labor Program for seed farms.



86%

of suppliers included in fair labor programs

Suppliers included in fair labor programs %



² This figure only covers seed supply farms in our Fair Labor Program, as full data for other suppliers is not available

Our progress in numbers

The Good Growth Plan progress data

Since we launched The Good Growth Plan, we've established a solid foundation for progress reporting based on independent data collection and validation, assurance by third-party assurance providers, and endorsement through our implementing partners. We publish our data to be transparent and accountable, and to create new opportunities for informed dialogue with our stakeholders.

Reporting period October 1 – September 30	Cumulative since baseline 2014	2017	2016	2015
Make crops more efficient¹				
Total number of reference farms		1,459	1,039	1,062
Total number of benchmark farms		2,630	2,694	2,586
Average increase on reference farms ² :				
Land productivity		10.9%	1.2%	1.9%
Land productivity of smallholders		21.6%	8.0%	–
Nutrient efficiency		20.3%	1.5%	–
Pesticide field application efficiency		14.2%	-16.2%	–
Greenhouse gas emission efficiency ³		14.0%	7.0%	1.1%
Average increase on benchmark farms ² :				
Land productivity		7.3%	-2.6%	–
Land productivity of smallholders		5.1%	1.6%	–
Nutrient efficiency		28.1%	5.3%	–
Pesticide field application efficiency		4.8%	-19.3%	–
Greenhouse gas emission efficiency ³		13.9%	3.9%	0.2%

Rescue more farmland

Acres of benefited farmland (m)	18.5	7.6	4.7	3.9
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Help biodiversity flourish

Acres of benefited farmland (m)	13.8	1.7	8.1	2.2
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Reporting period October 1 – September 30

	Cumulative since baseline 2014	2017	2016	2015
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Empower smallholders

Smallholders reached (m) ⁴		13.9	16.6	17.2
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Help people stay safe

People trained on safe use (m)	25.5	8.2	6.8	5.7
Of which: % of smallholders	70%	68%	68%	71%
Countries with established Syngenta product toxicovigilance programs		100	100	100
Crop Protection sales represented		94%	94%	93%

Look after every worker

Suppliers included in fair labor programs ⁵		86%	82%	–
Syngenta seed producing countries included in Syngenta Fair Labor Program		68%	41%	33%
Seed supply farms included in Syngenta Fair Labor Program		86%	82%	84%
Of which: farms in Fair Labor Association (FLA)'s audit scope		67%	62%	69%
Of which: seed supply farms monitored ⁶		20%	18%	–
Chemical suppliers included in Supplier Sustainability Program ^{6,7}		90%	67%	–
HSE audits at chemical suppliers ⁸		46	67	84
HSE audits at formulation, fill and packaging suppliers and seed toll manufacturing ⁸		31	48	34
HSE audits at warehouse/logistics service providers		117	137	118
Commercial flowers farms with valid GlobalG.A.P. certification ⁶		90%	73%	–
Commercial flowers farms with valid G.R.A.S.P. assessment ⁶		32%	24%	–

1 Reference farms were selected by Syngenta and are recommended to use Syngenta products and follow optimized protocols. Benchmark farms were randomly selected by a third-party research agency and represent grower practice. Reference and benchmark farms are grouped in clusters. A cluster presents homogeneous agro-climatic conditions and contains reference and/or benchmark farms with similar grower characteristics

2 Policy on land productivity and efficiency reporting was revised in 2017. Starting 2017, the aggregation of the farm data is aligned with harvest seasons to ensure more timely reporting of results. The latest available progress data is 2016 for clusters located in the Northern hemisphere and 2017 for clusters located in the Southern hemisphere. Evolutions are reported for clusters with an established baseline and at least one year of progress data. Details on aggregation, calculation of evolutions and other adjustments can be found on www.data.syngenta.com

3 New KPI introduced in 2017. Greenhouse gas emissions are calculated consistent with Cool Farm Tool methodology using available farm data and proxies where farm data was not available. For USA farm data, calculation methodology is consistent with Field to Market: The Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture. Details on data inputs, methodology, assumptions and limitations can be found on www.data.syngenta.com

4 Number of smallholders reached through sales per year

5 New KPI introduced in 2016 to capture overall participation of seed supply farms, chemical suppliers and commercial flowers farms in fair labor programs

6 New KPI introduced in 2016

7 Includes only chemical suppliers categorized as posing a high or medium sustainability risk

8 Policy on HSE audit reporting was revised in 2016. Starting 2016, HSE screening assessments are excluded

Keep up to date with The Good Growth Plan

Throughout the year, we provide updates on The Good Growth Plan website. There, you'll find more information about each commitment as well as a range of case studies from the field.

Visit: www.goodgrowthplan.com

To find out more about our approach to open data or to access the files, visit: www.data.syngenta.com

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