

PROMOTING DIVERSITY

Good reasons
for food sovereignty.



We sow
diversity
where others
destroy it.

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destroy it.**

→ It would be the biggest acquisition that a German corporation has ever made: in 2017 the Bayer agrochemical company plans to take over Monsanto, the US-American seed and pesticide manufacturer. This would make “BaySanto” the largest supplier of seeds and pesticides in the world – and would thus give it substantial control over our food and agriculture. The negative impacts of this agribusiness on people and the environment are already evident, especially in the Global South. Yet MISEREOR’s partners and small farmers all over the world show that there are workable alternatives. Their farming methods are democratic, socially beneficial, adapted to local conditions and environmentally sound.

Not only that: they can tackle hunger, too!

At www.misereor.org/seed-for-diversity and at www.saat-fuer-vielfalt.de MISEREOR sets out the consequences for small farmers of growing corporate power and puts forward alternatives for feeding the world. Farmers worldwide don’t just need political support, but the support of consumers as well, **so get the facts and show your solidarity!**

Agrochemical companies say:

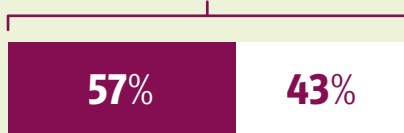
Crop yields must rise if we want to feed the world's population.

We know: We already produce enough food to feed more than 12 billion people. Yet 57% of the world's grain is not used for food, but as animal fodder, agrofuels or in the manufacture of plastics. In addition, more than one third of all food is wasted every year. Providing enough food for everyone doesn't just mean producing more food. It means tackling poverty so that everyone can afford food. It means a better and fairer way of using and distributing the available food. And it means promoting traditional farmers' seed systems and agroecological methods instead of having to rely on seeds and chemicals from the large companies.

That is why MISEREOR is demanding support for family farmers and rural workers who are campaigning for diversity from field to fork.

 www.misereor.org/seed-for-diversity

Grain worldwide



Used for animal fodder, agrofuels or in the manufacture of plastics


Food

Food worldwide



Waste

 **Food available** worldwide.
Enough for **12 bn people**.

 **Global population**
7.7 bn people.

2 bn people
malnourished.

795 m people hungry.

Hypothesis 2/5

Agrochemical companies say:

Crop yields must rise if we want to feed the world's population.

We know: The impacts of industrial farming promoted by agrochemical companies on our society, health and environment are severe. These companies compete with small farmers for limited resources such as land, fertile soil and water. Agribusiness uses around 70% of the world's land and water resources, but produces only 30% of the available food. Small-scale farming produces 70% of the world's food and uses only 30% of its land and water.

That is why MISEREOR is demanding that agricultural research and extension services as well as governments boost and promote the potential of small farmers.

www.misereor.org/seed-for-diversity

70%

 **Agribusiness** uses 70% of land and water resources, but produces only 30% of the world's food.

30%

 **Small farmers**, in contrast, produce 70% of the food, but use only 30% of the world's land and water resources.

Agrochemical companies say:

We have solutions tailored to the needs of small farmers.

We know: The seed market is one of the key markets of the future. Agrochemical companies want to market their products here – but that is not the way to tackle the hunger in the world. Most rural family farms in the Global South collect their own seeds, swap them among themselves and thus promote seed development. Their seeds suit local conditions, are freely available and preserve the diversity of varieties. Having seeds in the hands of a few companies leads to price rises, makes farmers dependent on chemical fertilisers and pesticides, and results in the loss of traditional seed varieties. The people are hampered instead of supported in their right to determine their own food and farming systems.

That is why MISEREOR is demanding that farmers retain control of their seeds and that traditional seed systems are supported by governments and agricultural research.

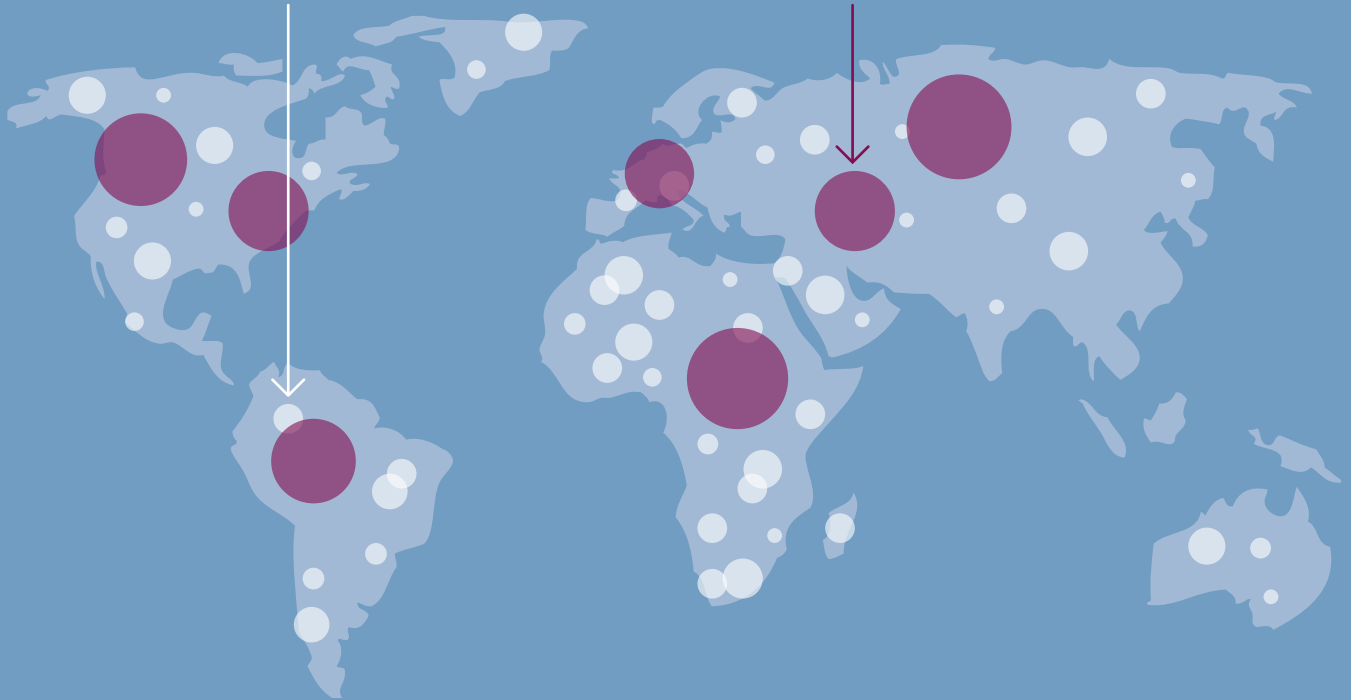
 www.misereor.org/seed-for-diversity



Small farmers produce seeds that are affordable, suit local conditions and preserve diversity.



Corporations, in contrast, produce seeds that are expensive, dependent on chemical fertilisers & pesticides & partly genetically modified.



Hypothesis 4/5

Agrochemical companies say:

Our innovative products are contributing to sustainable agriculture.

We know: Agribusiness promotes monocultures and markets its seeds in a “combined pack” with the appropriate pesticides. Chemical fertilisers and pesticides contaminate soil and water bodies, cause the extinction of species and lead to loss of biodiversity. They threaten the ecosystem and our health. There are around 60 hazardous active pesticide ingredients in Bayer’s range. In the Global South, where there are often no strict regulations regarding pesticide use and no guidance on protective measures, Bayer sells pesticides that are already banned in the European Union because of their risks to health and the environment.

That is why MISEREOR is urging governments and businesses to gradually remove hazardous pesticides from the market and ban their export to the Global South.

 www.misereor.org/seed-for-diversity

Sources: PAN (2012): Highly hazardous pesticides from BASF, Bayer, and Syngenta! Results of an international investigation; PAN (2010): Communities in Peril: Global report on health impacts of pesticide use in agriculture

Agrobusiness →  **Genetically modified**
seed +  Fertilisers + **Pesticides**  → Con-
taminated **land**  & **water bodies**  → Loss
of  **biodiversity**   +   **Extinctions** 
  → In the global south  Bayer sells **60**
hazardous active pesticide  ingredients, that
are banned  in the  **EU because of risks to**
health  & **the environment**  .

Agrochemical companies say:

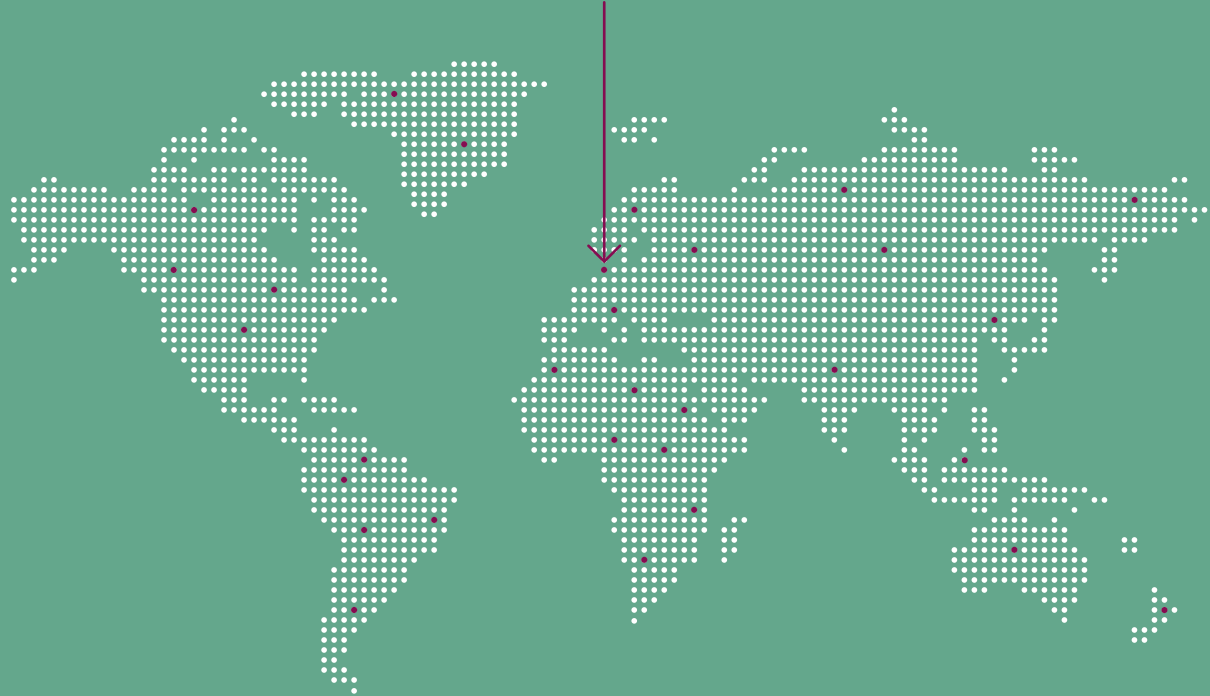
We want to provide a high-quality diet for all.

We know: Industrial agriculture geared to high yielding varieties and monoculture does not give everyone access to a healthy and varied diet. There are 30,000 edible plants; today the world's population is fed by only 30. Using agro-ecological methods, small family farms produce a large variety of foods, protect the soil, manage with little or no pesticides and can cope with the challenges of the changing climate.

That is why MISEREOR is urging governments to support the use of agro-ecological farming methods.

 www.misereor.org/seed-for-diversity

There are **30.000** edible plants; today **the world's population is fed by only 30.**



Small farmers promote the diversity of plant species and foods from field to fork and thus counter the **loss** of **biodiversity** & reduction in **plant species**.

- has run practical projects for almost 60 years to help people help themselves, and works with partner organisations from within each country;
- is the Catholic aid agency through which people in Germany support justice and solidarity with people in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Oceania;
- sees it as its duty to raise awareness of political and economic decision-makers, to call out human rights violations and campaign for sustainable development cooperation;
- has the German Central Institute for Social Issues (DZI) Seal of Approval

MISEREOR donations account:

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