



# Monsanto

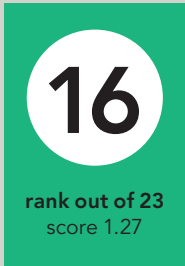
## Corporate data

Headquarters: St Louis, Missouri, United States of America  
Ownership type: Listed  
Group revenue (2017): USD 14,600,000,000  
Seed revenue (2017): USD 10,913,000,000

www.monsanto.com

Access to Seeds Index

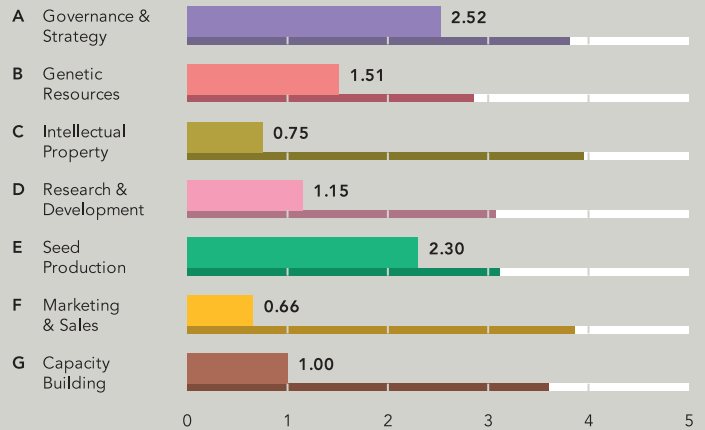
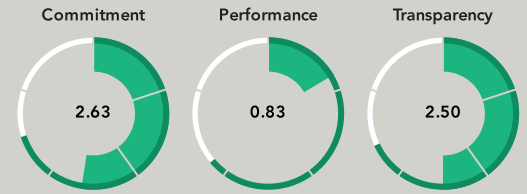
Monsanto is an agricultural company that operates in two segments: seeds and genomics, and agricultural productivity, which includes agrochemicals. The seeds and genomics segment covers both field crop and vegetable seeds under multiple brands, with DEKALB maize and Seminis vegetables among the most prominent, as well as developing biotechnology traits and licensing germplasm and traits to other seed companies. In Western and Central Africa, the company has a business location in Burkina Faso and also operates in Nigeria. In 2018, Bayer completed the \$66 billion acquisition of Monsanto. Activities to fully integrate Monsanto into Bayer are ongoing.



## Western and Central Africa

Monsanto ranks 16th in the 2019 Index for Western and Central Africa, with a clear disparity between the company's global Commitments and region-specific activities. Its strongest score, in Governance & Strategy, is reflective of its sustainability strategy Growing Better Together, which addresses

sustainability and smallholder farmer targets, albeit with a lack of clarity on how the company contributes to local seed sector development and improving the region's enabling environment. Monsanto also performs well in Seed Production, courtesy of production activities in Burkina Faso and stringent labor standards. The company exhibits moderate strengths in other measurement areas, including corporate positions on the conservation of genetic resources and benefit-sharing. It also demonstrates transparent positions in Intellectual Property, although none of these are favorable to smallholder farmers. Monsanto's donation of technology to the African Agriculture Technology Foundation to develop regionally adapted cowpea varieties is a leading Research & Development practice. Limited evidence was provided relating to Capacity Building. Similarly, little information was disclosed on the extent of portfolio availability and associated marketing activities in the region, resulting in the company's lowest score in Marketing & Sales.



## Leading practices

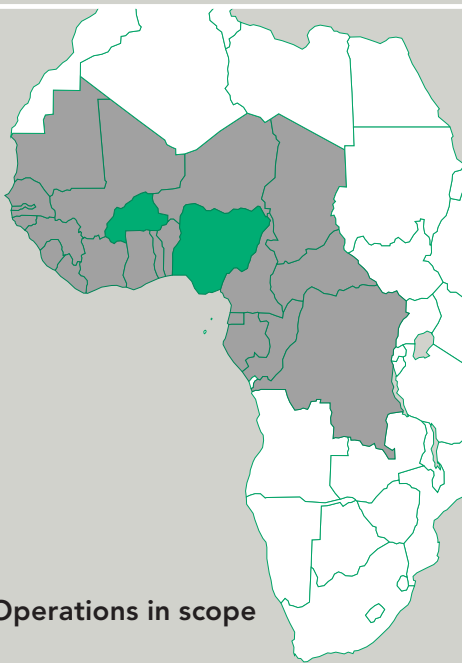
Monsanto donated technology to the African Agriculture Technology Foundation to develop cowpea varieties resistant to pests such as Maruca pod borer. In 2017, it expanded field trials into Burkina Faso, Ghana and Nigeria. In early 2019, Nigerian authorities approved the commercial release of a cowpea variety that resulted from this research and is genetically improved to resist the pest.

## Areas for improvement

Although Monsanto is transparent about its positions on patents, plant variety protection law and farm-saved seed, none are favorable to the needs of smallholder farmers. The company is encouraged to reconsider these positions with respect to the needs of smallholder farmers within its customer base.

The company does not disclose information related to its breeding programs for vegetables and whether these consider traits beneficial for smallholder farmers in Western and Central Africa. It is encouraged to disclose the scope of its breeding programs aimed at smallholder farmers.

The company discloses little or no information about the portfolio availability of its prominent brands, particularly DEKALB for maize and Seminis for vegetables. It is encouraged to improve disclosure of its sales activities in Western and Central Africa.



## Operations in scope

- Countries in scope
- Company presence
- 📍 Production locations
- 🌱 Breeding station/R&D

## Notable findings

■ Following its takeover by Bayer, Monsanto will no longer be a company name. The acquired products will retain their brand names and become part of the Bayer portfolio.

■ Monsanto was given approval by national authorities to trial genetically modified maize for insect resistance and herbicide tolerance (and to commercially release genetically modified cotton, which is outside the scope of index crops) in Nigeria in the 2015-17 index period.

## Portfolio information

### Index crops in portfolio

#### Field crops

Cowpea  
Maize  
Sorghum  
Soybean  
Wheat

#### Vegetables

Cabbage  
Carrot  
Cauliflower  
Cucumber  
Eggplant  
Gourd  
Green bean  
Green pea  
Lettuce  
Melon  
Okra  
Onion  
Pepper (hot)  
Pepper (sweet)  
Pumpkin  
Squash  
Tomato  
Watermelon