**Team ID: UG13**

**AgriTech Consulting**

**Team Member Names** **Year** **Major**

Member 1: Dhruvi Patel 2nd Statistics

Member 2: Gabriella Puig 2nd Finance

Member 3: Yoni Mann 2nd Accounting

Member 4: Micah Bayle 2nd Information Systems

**Advisor:**  Dr. Brian Ray

**Topic Title:** “Rewriting Monsanto’s Past: The Ethics Behind Agricultural Technologies”

**Audience:**  Bayer Company Board of Management

**Sustainable Development Goal**

# SDG 2: Support resilient food systems to ensure long-term food security toward zero-hunger efforts.

# SDG 15: Adopt eco-friendly methods to protect life on land.

**Executive Summary**

In today’s rapidly evolving agricultural landscape, agricultural technologies are ever more prominent, and with this evolution exists both opportunity and challenge. Pesticides have been vital in leveraging agrochemicals to build more resilient crops and ensuring access to sufficient nutrition. Unfortunately, this comes with its own variety of risks ranging from misuse to overreliance.

In 2018, The Monsanto Company, a once notable agrochemical corporation, was acquired by Bayer, an industry leader in agricultural technology. Monsanto was subject to many lawsuits due to environmental and humane concerns, with one famous example being of carcinogens in their star product: Roundup. Monsanto’s mistakes were attributed to the company’s lack of research and transparency. Today, The Monsanto Company stands as a stark reminder of the ethical complexities inherent in the battle between advancing technology to promote food security and the protection of life on land. A leading global LLC, Bayer has sustainability pledges which are imperative to meet, including commitments to the agricultural industry. Our recommendation prioritizes increasing education for small-scale farmers regarding pesticide application, investing in research and development to enhance crop resilience in order to combat world hunger, and promoting biodiversity through alternative agricultural technologies to reduce negative environmental impacts. By further educating 100 million small-scale farmers as well as reducing environmental degradation by 30%, we can support resilient food systems but not at the cost of the environment.

The Monsanto acquisition proved counterproductive for sustainability and eco-friendly efforts, but by taking in our recommendation, Bayer can rewrite the flawed past of agrochemical companies and can pave the way to a more agriculturally resilient future by 2030.