



# Grievance mechanism

Our grievance mechanism ensures transparency and accountability in our agrocrop processes. We prioritize addressing concerns promptly to maintain trust. If you encounter any issues related to our products or services, utilize our user-friendly grievance form on our PDF.



# **Agrocrops Grievance Mechanism Policy**

# **Stakeholders Grievance Mechanism Policy**

Agrocrops Stakeholders Grievance Mechanism is a non-judicial accountability mechanism that responds to grievances and demands for redress by individuals, communities and organizations negatively affected or potentially negatively affected by Agrocrops group activities. It encourages them to raise their complaint without fear of victimization or disadvantage and draws upon the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework for non-judicial grievance mechanisms.

#### I. Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to provide a mechanism for individuals, communities or organizations to raise a grievance about perceived or real instances of wrong or unfair treatment. All grievances will be reviewed by Agrocrops Management, who will ensure that such grievances are dealt with promptly, fairly and by other related policies of the group.

#### II. Scope

Agrocrops will accept grievances from employees, contractors, suppliers and any other stakeholder associated with Agrocrops and within their Grievance Mechanism scope. A 'grievance' is defined as any type of problem, concern, or complaint related to the organization and its operations A grievance may be about and act, omission, situation, or decision that an individual or organization thinks to be unfair, discriminatory, or unjustified.

**Content**: A grievance<sup>1</sup> should be:

- a) A statement about a perceived or real wrong or unfair treatment,
- b) Related to Agrocrops behavior and
- c) Factual and evidence-based.

**Form**: The grievance should be lodged through the Agrocrops website's Grievance Form. The submission should be as complete as possible and in English, unless otherwise agreed by Agrocrops, and should include any supporting documentation. The grievant should:

- a) Provide sufficient information to demonstrate the relevance to Agrocrops of the statedgrievance;
- b) Suggest a remedy, which is agreeable to the grievant or the affected parties;
- c) Add supporting evidence when possible.



# Grievances can be lodged by:

- a) Agrocrops suppliers and their business partners;
- b) Workers/employees that belong to Agrocrops supply chains;
- c) Stakeholders<sup>2</sup>, including third parties with explicit authority<sup>3</sup> to represent a grievant.
- <sup>1</sup> This is different than a complaint which is generally an expression of dissatisfaction;
- <sup>2</sup> Individuals, communities or organizations that are affected and/or may affect AGROCROPS's operations, activities, markets, industries and outcomes;
- <sup>3</sup> AGROCROPS reserves the right to determine the concerned third parties as legitimate to represent those individuals.

# Agrocrops reserves the right not to accept or to close a grievance investigation if:

- a) The grievance is out of scope (in content, in form or in type of grievant);
- b) Insufficient information is given to pursue an investigation (e.g., general, unspecified, andtherefore un-actionable);
- c) Information requested by Agrocrops is not submitted in due time;
- d) Legitimacy to represent affected individuals or communities is not explicit and proven.

# **Confidentiality and data protection:**

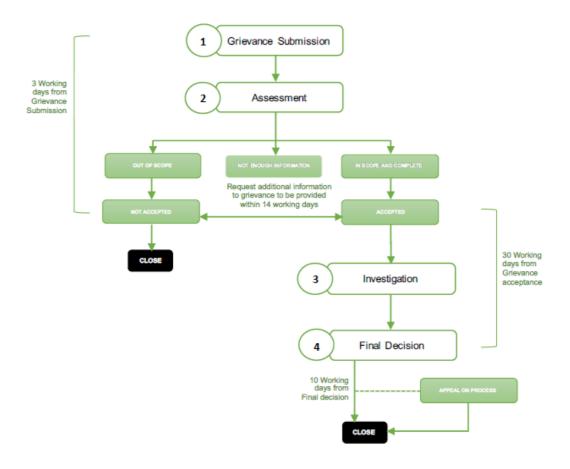
Agrocrops owes a duty of confidentiality to the grievant. No communication and procedural steps towards remediation will disclose any sensitive or personal information. A grievant personal detail will only be made available to Agrocrops employees or agents involved in the grievance process.

#### III. Procedure

The key steps of Agrocrops stakeholders Grievance Mechanism procedure are summarized in and described in the below flowchart:



#### Agrocrops Grievance Mechanism Process



**Step 1: Grievance submission**: The grievant shall submit the grievance to Agrocrops through the Grievance Form on the Agrocrops website. This form includes two blocks of information<sup>4</sup>:

- a) Grievant's details: including first name, last name, email address, organization/companyname, type of grievant and country.
- b) Grievance details: including who the grievance is being submitted against, country of issue, reason of the grievance, previous attempts to solve the grievance and preferred remedy.

**Step 2: Assessment**: Within 3 working days, Agrocrops will assess if the grievance falls under the predefined scope and decide whether the grievance is acceptable. We may contact the grievant for more details to be able to assess the acceptability of the grievance. If the grievant does not provide the requested information within 14 working days, the grievance will not be accepted, and the casewill be closed.

- a) If the grievance is accepted, the grievant will receive a formal acknowledgement and details of the next steps in the procedure.
- b) If the grievance is not accepted, Agrocrops will inform the grievant of the



reasons why the submitted grievance does not fall within the Grievance Mechanism's scope. No appeal of the non-acknowledgement is possible.

**Step 3: Investigation**: Within 20 working days of the date the grievance is accepted, Agrocrops will proceed to look into the circumstances of the case, speak with the parties involved, and confer with relevant stakeholders. The grievant may be contacted to contribute additional information.

**Step 4: Final Decision**: Within 10 working days of the date the investigation has been concluded, Agrocrops will outline investigation findings, define remedial actions and communicate them to the grievant. The final decision should be reasonable, proportional to the grievance and consider culturalnorms. It will become final by the 10th working day after its communication to the grievant, unless the deadline is interrupted by an appeal. No appeal on the final decision is possible.

#### IV. Monitoring and evaluation

Three months after the closure of the case, Agrocrops may contact relevant parties (if relevant), to verifythat they have acted according to the agreed remedial actions.

Agrocrops will review the stakeholder's Grievance Mechanism process where necessary to continuouslyimprove the grievance handling procedure.

Consolidated statistical data on grievance cases will be posted on a yearly basis in the Agrocrops Sustainability Report, which can be found on our website.

<sup>4</sup> If a grievance was previously filed with another relevant body/agency and an investigation has already begun for the same or a related issue, no further action shall be taken with the grievance procedure until the first case has been dealt with and a final verdict has been made available.

#### V. Roles and Responsibilities

Role/Position Title	Responsibilities
Grievance Committee (Team Comprises of	<ul> <li>Employee investigating the grievance and liaising with the external stakeholder/s.</li> </ul>
HODs & Grievance	Developing impartial resolutions and actions to rectify any
Officer)	issues.
	<ul> <li>Follow up and track progress of grievance.</li> </ul>
Grievance Officer	<ul><li>Receive grievances and forward to Grievance Committee.</li><li>Makes sure the grievance mechanism procedure is being</li></ul>
	adhered to and followed correctly.
	Maintains grievance register and monitor correspondence.
	<ul> <li>Monitor grievances/trends over time and report findings to the Committee.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Document any interactions with external stakeholders.</li> </ul>



Employees	Receive grievances in person.		
(Officers of HR, ESG,	Report grievance to the Stakeholder Contact Officer by		
Operations, Finance,	lodging the Grievance Form.		
Sales & Purchase)	May provide information and assistance in developing a		
	response and close out of a grievance.		

#### **Grievance form**

We will handle your grievance as soon as possible. Within 3 working days after submission, we will decide whether the grievance falls within the outlined scope. Within 30 days after admissibility, we will come to a final decision. If an appeal is lodged against our decision, we will decide on this within 10 working days.

rouri	Your name (nrst and last name) ":					
	I wish to raise my grievance anonymously					
	I request not to disclose my identity without my consent					
Conta	ct information*:					
	By post: please provide your full address By telephone:					
	By email:					
Comp	Company / Organization (name, address & country) *:					
Your position within the company / Organization*:						
Description of grievance or incident*:						
Date o	Date of grievance / incident:					
	One time incident / grievance date:					
	Happened more than once (how many times):					
	On-going (currently experiencing problem):					

What would you like to see happen to resolve the problem?

Please attach file(s) / photographs that provides evidence for the grievance.

Please send the filled-in form to <a href="mailto:grievance@agrocrops.com">grievance@agrocrops.com</a>



# **Annex: Grievance register format:**

Stakeholder	Date received	Stakeholder contact officer	Grievance Description	Outcome	If a resolution was offered, indicate if accepted or not accepted	Remarks

Note: Agrocrops Grievance Mechanism will be periodically reviewed to ensure its effectiveness and to make improvements as necessary.

<sup>\*</sup> Fields compulsory to be filled.