



## **Bayer Group Position on the Responsible Use of Gene Technology**

Bayer is an innovative international company dedicated to developing products that improve human health, nutrition, clothing, housing, mobility and information. In keeping with our guiding principle of [Science For A Better Life](#), Bayer employees constantly seek to enhance the quality of life throughout the world.

Research and development play an important role in this process. Bayer regards biotechnology and in particular gene technology as an essential research and development tool for driving progress in science and technology, and in developing new products. We believe that gene technology is a promising tool that can drive our core efforts in advancing health care, nutrition and high-quality materials, and we see the chance that its innovative power can also enhance the financial future of our company. We believe that gene technology can help us identify opportunities for manufacturing products in ways that are environmentally friendly and economical in terms of resources.

In our use of gene technology, we at Bayer are fully aware of our responsibility to protect both humans and the environment. As such, our [Sustainable Development Policy](#) directs our gene technology efforts. The appreciation of human health and safety, sense of responsibility for the environment and technical and commercial expertise are values of equal rank within our corporate policy. We use gene technology and commercialize products developed from this technology in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations.

Drawing on our extensive knowledge of humans, animals, plants as well as substances and polymers, we focus on gene technological applications in the fields of health care, agriculture and high-quality materials:

- We use gene technology to research, diagnose and determine the causes of human and animal diseases so that we can develop and produce drugs and medical products to prevent, palliate or cure them.
- We use gene technology to clarify and improve our understanding of the development and growth of plants and how to retard the organisms that harm them. This technology helps us to optimize chemical crop protection agents.
- We use gene technology to improve the quality and yields of crops used for food, animal feed and fiber. We are investigating its potential to improve the nutritional qualities and the non-food potential of crops, such as for health and biomaterial applications.

As outlined in our [Program for Legal Compliance and Corporate Responsibility at Bayer](#), we believe that our work in gene technology must be governed by our ethical values and, in particular, by respect for life and human dignity. For this reason, we categorically reject human germ-line gene therapy and the cloning to reproduce human beings, including the use of gene technological methods for these purposes. Lawful and ethical conduct is a fundamental key to the success of our business.

Being open and transparent is an important requirement for establishing confidence. We pay close attention to the opinions of our stakeholders and encourage a genuine dialogue on the developments of gene technology. We are committed to increasing public understanding of this beneficial technology.