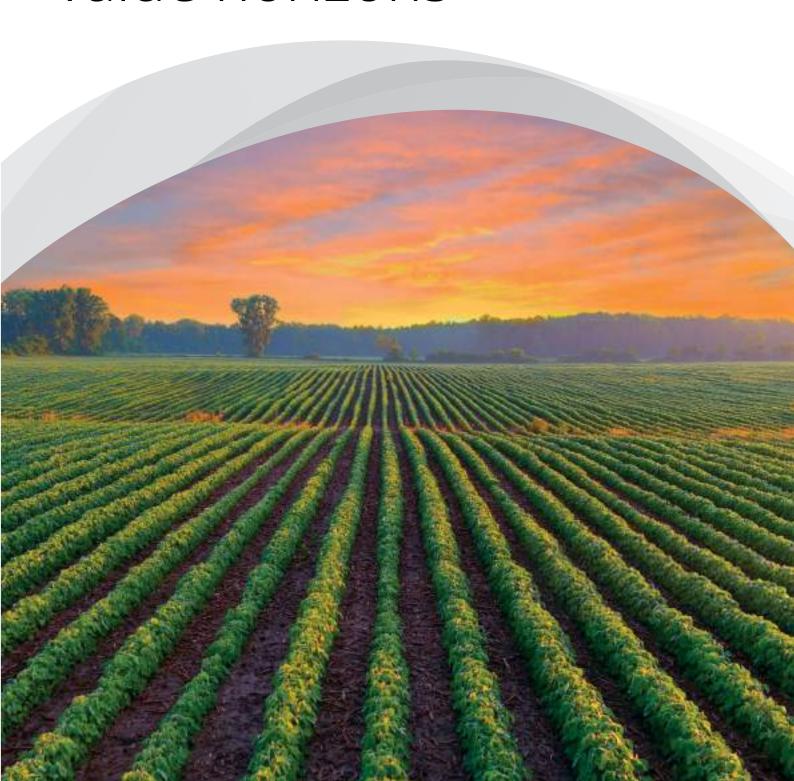
# **UPL Limited**

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23



# **Reimagining Sustainability**

# Expanding value horizons



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# **Reimagining Sustainability**

# Expanding value horizons

UPL, a visionary leader in the agriculture solutions space, is reimagining sustainability in the global agriculture sector and spearheading a transformative journey. By embracing this ethos, we seek to expand our value horizon across three key pillars: growing shareholder value, increasing farmer

incomes, and fostering sustainable agriculture. Through innovative approaches and strategic partnerships, we aim to strike a harmonious balance between profitability and environmental stewardship. By intertwining economic prosperity with social responsibility, we are paving the way for a brighter future, where agriculture thrives, farmers prosper, and shareholder value reaches new heights. This holistic approach sets a powerful precedent for industry-wide change, demonstrating that sustainable practices can drive long-term success for all stakeholders involved.

Our three focus areas:

Realigning businesses to unlock shareholder value

Read page 26

Creating value for farmers through innovative solutions

Read page 30

Making the food systems more sustainable

Read page 36

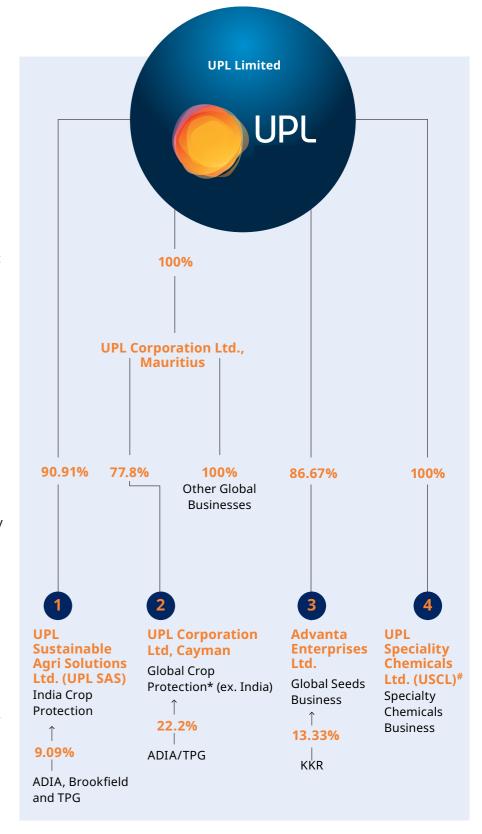




# **Created platforms to drive the next phase of growth**

During the year, we have realigned our businesses to create pure-play platforms to deliver accelerated growth. These pureplay platforms are International Crop Protection, India Crop Protection, Global Seeds, and Specialty Chemicals. Further, we brought onboard marquee investors in the Global Seeds Platform and the India Crop Protection platform. Ergo, the realignment unlocks value for UPL shareholders by facilitating 'fair value recognition' of the 'distinct pure-play platforms.'

- 'A wholly-owned subsidiary of the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA), Brookfield and TPG' invested ₹ 1,580 crore (~US\$ 200 million) for 9.09% stake in UPL Sustainable Agri Solutions Ltd. (UPL SAS) – the India Crop Protection Platform at an equity valuation of ~₹ 17,380 crore (~US\$ 2.2 billion)
- KKR invested US\$ 300 million (~₹ 2,460 crore) for 13.33% stake in Advanta Enterprises Ltd. – the Global Seeds Platform at an equity valuation of ~US\$ 2.25 billion (~₹ 18,450 crore)
- A wholly-owned subsidiary of the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) & TPG holds 22.2% stake in UPL Corporation Ltd, Cayman, which is the Global Crop Protection Platform (ex-India) i.e., International Crop Protection Platform
- Specialty Chemicals Business (incl. AI manufacturing) is proposed to be transferred to a whollyowned subsidiary of UPL Ltd. at a consideration of ₹ 3,572 crore. The new entity is called as UPL Speciality Chemicals Ltd. (USCL)

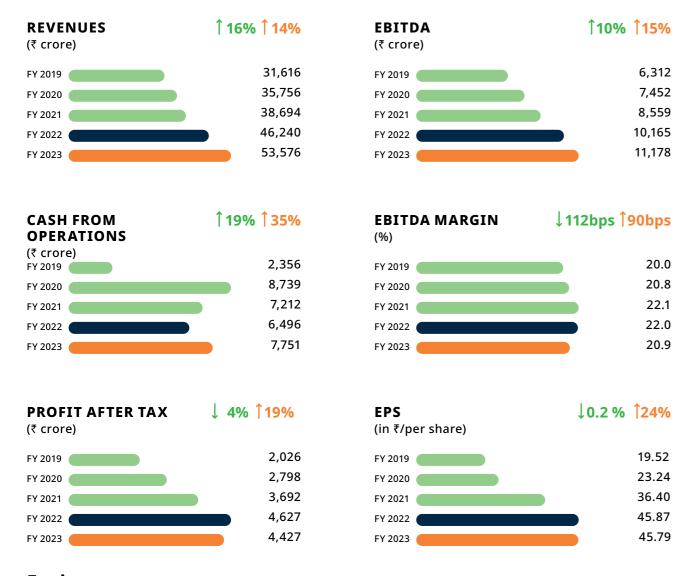


<sup>\*</sup>International Crop Protection Platform

<sup>\*</sup>Shareholders of UPL Ltd. have approved the proposed transfer of Specialty Chemicals business (incl. AI manufacturing) to USCL at the shareholder meeting on July 20, 2023. The transaction is expected to be completed in the current FY.

# FY 2023 at a glance

# **Sound financials**



# **Environment**

# 20%

Power from renewable sources at two of our largest manufacturing plants in FY 2023

# 10%

Reduction in per tonne water consumption FY 2023 vs. FY 2022

# **61** MW

Renewable Energy Capacity installation with 33 MW for wind energy and 28 MW for solar energy

# 1%

Reduction in per tonne CO<sub>2</sub> emissions FY 2023 vs. FY 2022

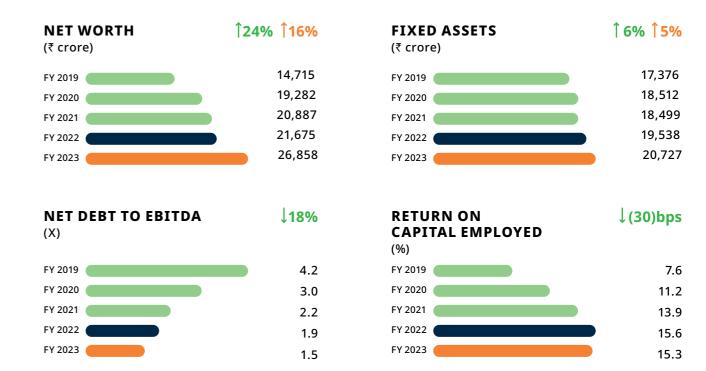
# 28%

Revenue from differentiated and sustainable products (% of crop protection revenues)

# 20%

Reduction in per tonne waste generation in FY 2023 vs. FY 2022

# **Strong balance sheet**



Notes: EBITDA and EBITDA margin for FY 2020 before adjustment of purchase price allocation impact of Arysta acquisition.

Profit after Tax refers to Profit after tax before minority interest, exceptional items and share of profit of associates Net worth for FY 2022 and FY 2023 does not include the amount pertaining to perpetual bonds

# REVENUE MIX BY REGION (%)



# **EMPLOYEE COUNT BY REGION\***





# Social



CSR spend#

# For UPL Ltd. Standalone

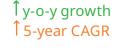
# 1.5 million

CSR beneficiaries

# 13,000+

Employees\*

\* For UPL Group



Δ

# Corporate profile

# Pioneering sustainable agriculture

We are a leading company in the agri-solutions sector, offering an integrated portfolio of agriculture solutions encompassing everything from seeds and conventional crop protection products to BioSolutions and post-harvest products, as well as physical and digital services. Being present across the agri-value chain, we strive to promote the development of sustainable food systems through our range of solutions which helps farmers improve their yields, strengthens their resilience to climate change, and increases their profitability by reducing production costs.

We provide a comprehensive range of solutions for various row and speciality crops across the globe, covering the entire crop lifecycle. Our product portfolio includes patented and post-patent agricultural solutions such as crop protection, BioSolutions and seed treatment. Our offerings also include post-harvest products and agronomic services for farmers. With our diverse portfolio, we aim to create value for farmers throughout the lifecycle of their crops.

# OUR PHILOSOPHY

Our **vision** is to be an icon for growth, technology, and innovation.

Our **mission** is to change the game – to make every single food product more sustainable.

# **OUR PURPOSE: OpenAg**

OpenAg is an agriculture network that strives to revolutionise agriculture with the vision of sustainable growth for all, operating under the guiding principle of "No limits, no borders". The very basis of the network is Collaboration and-it aims to drive change in agriculture by creating a sustainable growth network which transcends boundaries and unlocks opportunities for all stakeholders.

# **VALUES**



# **ALWAYS HUMAN**

We are all about connecting with people, in a human way – showing respect, demonstrating trust, celebrating diversity. For us, technology is an enabler, not the endgame. We see the value in human connectivity and how it creates new opportunities for everyone. With this, comes our promise to protect people's safety in every way we can.



### **NOTHING'S IMPOSSIBLE**

There isn't any limit to our ambition or our ability to grow. We are not afraid to run with new ideas, work with new partners, anticipate new needs, push ourselves beyond our comfort zones or simply ask 'Why not?'. We dare to change the game and create a new food economy for the world.



### **WIN-WIN-WIN**

We serve a cause bigger than ourselves – sustainability of global food systems. We win when we create sustainable solutions based on responsible choices, when everyone we serve and partner with grows too, and when together we achieve sustainable growth for society as a whole – the biggest win of all.



# ONE TEAM, ONE FOCUS

We are one team, for maximum impact. One team with shared goals. We all play for the team and no one plays against the team. We have a laser-like focus on what our customers need, anticipating their future needs and on how we can create innovative solutions and experiences for them.



# **AGILE**

No one is faster or more efficient. We thrive on targets and challenges that, while possibly daunting at first glance, only excite and energise us. Wherever we operate, speed and agility are in our DNA. The world needs our urgency.



# KEEP IT SIMPLE, MAKE IT FUN

Food systems are highly complex and present huge challenges. We cut through this by keeping it simple. People value simplicity, customers especially. And everyone likes fun, so let's have some, doing that we love to do.



# Our offerings

# **Providing diverse solutions**

UPL's strategic shift towards establishing four pure-play platforms, executed during the year, marks a significant transformation that will streamline operations and unleash the potential of each platform, having varied growth prospects, profitability, and capital intensity. This strategy will enable the generation of value for all our stakeholders. This new approach is designed to optimise our market presence across various segments, continuously elevate the quality of our products and services and enable us to respond swiftly to market dynamics and seize emerging opportunities across all segments of the crop value chain.

# **Crop protection**

As a leading player in the crop protection industry, our primary objective is to enhance crop adaptability and contribute to global food security. We prioritise the customisation of cutting-edge formulation technology to meet the specific needs of our customers. Our extensive portfolio of products covers all the stages of the crop lifecycle providing comprehensive solutions. By closely understanding farmers' challenges, we develop tailored solutions that effectively address farmer pain points, resulting in more impactful outcomes. Our commitment to excellence drives us to continually innovate and deliver solutions that empower farmers and promote sustainable agriculture.

As part of our strategic realignment, we have restructured our Crop Protection business into two distinct entities: International Crop Protection (UPL Corporation, Cayman) and India Crop Protection (UPL SAS). This strategic division allows us to streamline our operations and effectively address each region's unique challenges and opportunities. By adopting this approach, we aim to enhance our focus on specific market dynamics and tailor our solutions to the needs of our customers in different regions. This division enables us to optimise our resources, leverage local expertise, and drive growth in a targeted and efficient manner.

# **UPL Corp., Cayman**

In our international crop protection platform, we aim to offer cutting-edge crop protection solutions, including biosolutions to address the evolving needs of farmers across 130+ countries. We also foster collaborations with other global agrochemical companies and companies across the agri value chain as a part of our OpenAg approach. By leveraging partnerships and collaborations, we enhance our ability to develop and deliver advanced technologies and solutions that promote crop health and productivity.

### **UPL SAS**

We established UPL Sustainable Agri Solutions Limited (UPL SAS) with a vision of revolutionising Indian agriculture and empowering farmers to build economic resilience. We undertook this strategic initiative to drive sustainable agricultural practices and provide innovative solutions tailored to the unique challenges and opportunities of the Indian farming community. Through developing and deploying cutting-edge agricultural solutions, we seek to support farmers in optimising their yields, reducing environmental impact, and achieving long-term economic viability.

# Offerings

- Herbicides
- Fungicides
- Insecticides and acaricides
- Seed treatment
- Adjuvants
- Biosolutions
   (Natural Plant Protection)
- ProNutiva

# **Advanta Enterprises**

Through Advanta, we deliver innovative and top-notch seeds that foster sustainable crop production and profitability for farmers. We leverage our biotech and research stations to develop highly tolerant, climate smart and high-yielding seed varieties. Our key competitive advantages stem from our superior germplasm and expertise in technology and bioscience. This winning combination has propelled us to a prominent position in the market, offering a wide range of best-in-class seeds. We remain committed to providing farmers with the necessary resources to thrive and succeed in their agriculture endeavours.



# **Key brands**

Field corn





# **Grain and forage sorghum**





# Vegetables and fresh corn



### Sunflower and canola



# **Key technology brands**



World's first imidazoline-tolerant technology for sorghum



Helps overcome earlystage growth challenges driving superior yields in corn and sorghum



Offers high level of tolerance to aphid pressure in sugarcane



Technology transfer ground centres

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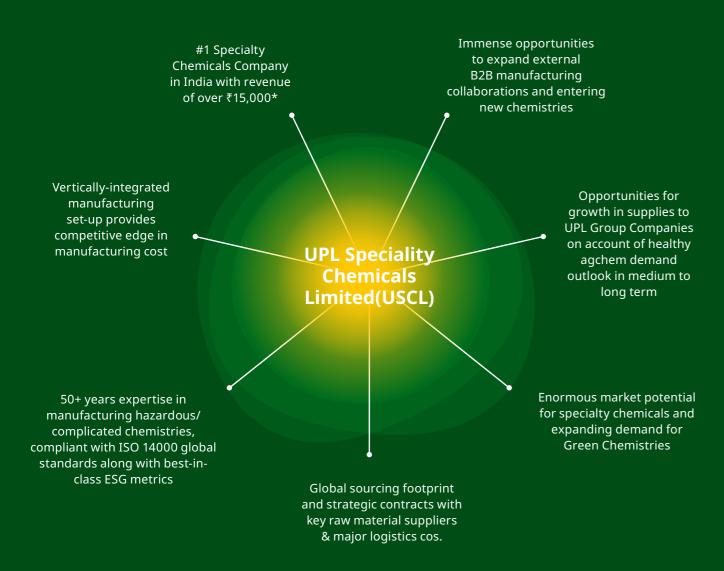
# Our offerings

# UPL Speciality Chemicals Ltd<sup>1</sup>

The platform will be housed under 'UPL Speciality Chemicals Ltd.' (USCL). The platform supplies high-quality agchem active ingredients and specialty chemicals to the UPL Group companies (UPL Corporation and UPL SAS) and 600+ other external B2B clients.

# Our major chemistries:

- Grignard reaction
- Nitration
- Phosphorus and sulphur derivatives
- Chlorination
- Hydrogenation
- Phosgenation
- Cyanation



### \*Frost & Sullivan

# Supply agrochemical active ingredients to UPL Group companies (UPL Corporation and UPL SAS)

With over fifty years of expertise in manufacturing complex chemicals through vertically integrated operations, including 12 technical plants, the specialty chemicals platform is well-positioned to support the growth and diversification of the UPL Group over the forthcoming years.

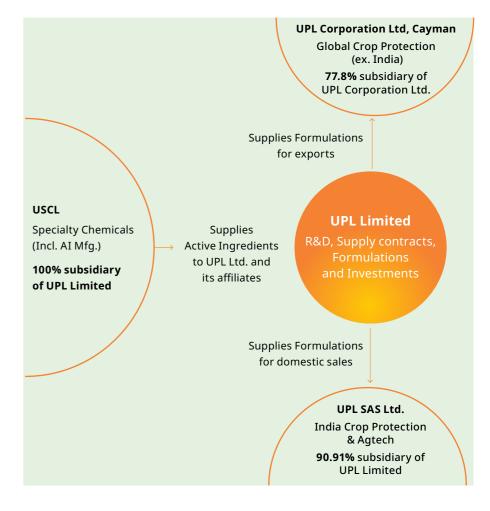
# Supplying specialty chemicals to 600+ external B2B clients across sectors

By leveraging our extensive experience, expertise, state-of-the-art manufacturing facilities, and stringent quality standards, we aim to consistently deliver superior speciality chemicals that meet the evolving needs of our customers across high-growth sectors like agrochemicals, pharmaceuticals, and paints, among others, both in India and in the export markets.

## Other key offerings

### Post Harvest - Decco

With a steadfast focus on innovation, this business segment strives to develop smarter and safer technologies that safeguard the food's freshness, flavour, and nutritional value, all while minimising wastage across the entire food system. By continuously pushing the boundaries of research and development, we aim to deliver cutting-edge solutions that optimise food preservation, reduce spoilage, and enhance overall sustainability. Our unwavering commitment to advancing food technology enables us to tackle the pressing challenges of food waste, ensure efficient utilisation of precious resources and provide consumers with high-quality, nutritious food for extended periods. Decco's main categories of solutions:



### **Decco FullCover**

An innovative electrostatic application system that permits the application of very low volumes of fruit coatings.

### **DeccoNaturCover**

A formula that contains a base of natural extracts that protects fruit against dehydration and maintains its natural appearance for a long time.

### **DeccoArcAqua**

A patented technology for the release of ozone in water-based solutions.

### Soil and water technologies

Recognising the pivotal role of soil health in crop development, UPL has developed Zeba. This is an innovative, patented, granular technology that effectively manages soil and water, fostering comprehensive enhancements in various soil health aspects. With UPL Zeba, growers can directly enhance water efficiency and enrich soil nutrition, empowering them to achieve optimal crop growth. Moreover, UPL Zeba is environmentally friendly and leaves no residues throughout its diverse applications, ensuring a sustainable and residue-free approach to soil management. This cutting-edge solution revolutionises soil health management, providing growers with a reliable tool for optimising agricultural practices.

## Some Key Use-Cases for Zeba

- Nursery production
- Plant module planting out support
- In furrow
- Trees and forestry
- As coating materials for seeds

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Shareholders of UPL Ltd. have approved the proposed transfer of Specialty Chemical business (including AI manufacturing) to USCL at the shareholder meeting on 20th July, 2023. The transaction is expected to be completed in the current FY

# Global visibility

# **Creating value across the globe**

Our global presence extends to over 138 countries, and we strive to deliver value to an even wider audience through an expanded product range. With a customercentric approach, we prioritise building a portfolio that creates value for growers in all our market segments.



# **UPL Group Revenue**

Region	Revenues (₹ crore)	Products	Plant(s)*
India	6,539	173	17
North America	8,735	187	1
Latin America	21,975	526	9
Europe	7,324	434	9
Rest of the world	9,002	858	7

Field station Manufacturing facility ■ New Agtech

Chemistry

Products and plants are in numbers
Products where Net Sales > US\$ 0.01 million
\* Plants include Decco's fruit coating plant in Europe and recently acquired Kudos
Chemie Speciality Chemicals plant in India



# **Business** model

# Leveraging resources for sustainable value optimisation

**Our resources** 

# **Financial capital**

We strategically allocate financial resources to efficiently operate our business, ensuring effective management of financial risks and optimising the cost of capital.

- Net worth: ₹26,858 crore¹
- Net debt: **₹16,902 crore**

# **Intellectual capital**

Our unique expertise and deep market understanding enable us to cultivate ground-breaking solutions and reinforce our dominant position in the market.

- R&D facilities: 30
- R&D spend: ~3% of revenues
- Patents granted: 1,884
- Registrations: **14,236**
- R&D professionals: 1,000+

### **Manufactured capital**

We effectively leverage the manufacturing capabilities of USCL, our other partners and our in-house formulation capabilities to optimise the production of high-quality products. Our commitment to manufacturing excellence revolves around upholding rigorous quality, safety, and dependability standards.

- Manufacturing units: **43**<sup>2</sup>
- Capex: ₹2,360 crore

# Social and relationship capital

- We must nurture strong partnerships with our key stakeholders across the business value chain and within our communities to operate profitably and sustainably.
- Suppliers: **3,000+**
- Trade body membership: 20+
- CSR Spends: **₹30.8 crore**

### **Human capital**

Our employees' expertise, knowledge, motivation, and conduct instrumental in executing and enhancing our business aspirations.

- Employees: 13,000+
- Women in the workforce: **15%**

# Natural capital

We strive to maximise the efficient utilisation of natural resources, minimise waste generation, and reduce our environmental impact.

- Renewable and non-renewable
- Water
- Land
- Fuel

<sup>2</sup> Plants include Decco's fruit coating plant in Europe and recently acquired Kudos Chemie Speciality Chemicals plant in India

# Our value creation model

# Our Pillars

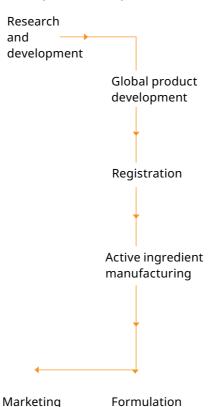
### Vision

To be an icon for technology, growth, and innovation.

### Mission

Change the game – to make every single food product more sustainable.

# Core process competence



and distribution and packaging

UPL's priority remains efficiently harnessing our critical business resources to generate optimal value for all our stakeholders.

Win win win

# Values



Always human



**OpenAg Innovation Pull Model:** 

Driven by farmers' challenges

Farmer pain point

Create disruptive,

unique, and

patented solution

Develop initial,

agile solution

One team, one focus



Nothing's impossible



Agile

# make it fun

# EcosystemInput suppliers

- Distributors
- Farmers
- Food wholesalers/traders
- Food manufacturers
- Food retailers
- Consumers
- Industry associations
- Media
- Cooperatives
- Government
- Restaurant
- Agriculture chemical distributors
- Non-government organisations

# **Outcomes**

# Financial

- 16% growth in Revenue
- 10% growth in EBITDA
- ₹ 10/share dividend

### Intellectual

- 1,884 New patents across the globe
- 14% Innovation rate

## **Environment**

- 60% Plants are zero liquid discharge
- 1% Reduction in per tonne CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- 10% Reduction in per tonne water consumption
- 20% Reduction in per tonne waste generation

# People

- Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate (LTIFR): 0.36
- Higher people productivity
- Better talent management and retention

# Social

- 1.5 million CSR beneficiaries
- 80% Global spend covered through our procurement sustainability assessment programme

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Net worth does not include the amount pertaining to perpetual bonds

# Chairman Emeritus' message

# Creating a balance between plates and the planet

Our continuous efforts on the ESG front have once again been validated by Sustainalytics, as they ranked us as the highest-performing top-tier global crop protection company in their 2022 ESG Risk Ratings.

R.D. Shroff
Chairman Emeritus



# Dear stakeholders,

It is with great pleasure and a sense of accomplishment that I address you as the Chairman Emeritus of UPL. Since I embarked on the journey at UPL, the Company has achieved significant successes. I have made the decision to step down from my roles as Chairman and Managing Director of the Company to now focus on community development and furthering the progress of India's agriculture and chemical industry. This marks a new chapter in which I will dedicate my energy to these important endeavours.

The year in review was eventful. While we started experiencing a more open operating environment, the world was impacted by several challenges, including broad-based inflation and the war between Russia and Ukraine, which slowed down the pace of global recovery. Furthermore, supply chain disruptions, the fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic, geopolitical conflicts, and the rising impacts of climate change have led to all-time high food prices, pushing a significant number of people toward food insecurity. Society increasingly relies on the sustainability of the agriculture sector, which serves as the backbone of our food system. The sector must transition to more sustainable practices to feed a global population of 8 billion and produce 50% more food by 2050.

With a strong commitment to driving farmer incomes and combatting climate change, we, at UPL, are determined to transform the agriculture sector from conventional to a more sustainable one. Our focus lies in building farmer resilience through sustainable agriculture systems and reducing the environmental impact of farming. By developing farmer-centric solutions, we align our efforts

with the goal of a greener future, boosting grower economics and overall ensuring a sustainable and environmentally friendly approach to agriculture. Through our emphasis on research, technology, and farmer education, we aim to foster a resilient agricultural system. Collaborating with stakeholders, UPL is making significant contributions to ensure a more secure and sustainable food future for the world's growing population.

# **Creating holistic value**

Our commitment towards creating value extends beyond financials, as we prioritize empowering and developing communities through our multi-pronged CSR initiatives, across the countries of our presence. Collaborating with NGOs worldwide, we expand our reach and amplify our impact. Through targeted interventions in areas such as quality education, entrepreneurship, and skill development, we have made a substantial positive difference in people's lives.

# **UPL's Ethos and Governance**

We prioritise and uphold the highest standards of corporate governance. Our strong core values form the foundation of our identity and drive our mission to create a more sustainable future. Our exponential growth is a testament to the guidance and dedication of our experienced and diligent Board and leadership team.

In May 2022, an unfortunate incident occurred at our Ankleshwar unit, resulting in the loss of two precious lives. This tragic event deeply saddens me. As an organisation, we remain resolute in our commitment to Zero Harm, and we are dedicated to transforming the safety culture within our Company. Harnessing the

power of artificial intelligence, we strive to bolster people's safety and prevent such incidents in the future. Additionally, we have engaged an external consultant to accompany us on this transformative safety journey.

### Caring for the environment

At UPL, environmental sustainability is at the core of everything we do. Through research, innovation, and responsible manufacturing practices, we strive to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, conserve water resources, protect biodiversity, and promote soil health. By integrating sustainable practices into our operations and empowering farmers with ecofriendly solutions, we play a bigger role in fostering a more sustainable and resilient agricultural sector while preserving our planet for future generations.

# **Creating a brighter future**

Our continuous efforts on the ESG front have once again been validated by Sustainalytics, as they ranked us as the highest-performing top-tier global crop protection company in their 2022 ESG Risk Ratings. We will continue to work alongside our farmers, partner organisations, and other stakeholders to reimagine sustainability in every aspect of our operations.

I take this moment to express my heartfelt appreciation to every stakeholder for their unwavering and invaluable support. I extend my deepest gratitude to each member of the UPL family, whose unwavering commitment has played a crucial role in propelling the Company towards the pinnacle of success and ensuring the realisation of our collective aspirations.

## **R.D. Shroff**

**Chairman Emeritus**