

14<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Ms. Hilary Hanahoe  
Research Data Alliance  
Rutherford Appleton Laboratory  
Harwell  
Oxford  
Didcot  
Oxfordshire, OX11 0QX  
United Kingdom

Dear Ms. Hanahoe,

On behalf of the Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition (GODAN), it is my pleasure to write this letter in support for the creation of an Agriculture Community of Practice (CoP) within the Research Data Alliance (RDA).

The Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition (GODAN) initiative is an alliance of 1200 national governments, non-governmental, international and private sector organisations, committed to the release, dissemination, use and reuse of open data to stimulate innovation and economic partnerships with the goal of contributing to the fulfilment of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Since its inception in 2015, GODAN initiatives have reached and benefited millions of producers, distributors, processors and consumers from 5 continents. Thanks to its cross-cutting, participative approach, the GODAN alliances allows for the integration of technologies as diverse as genomics and satellite observation, medical research and agronomy alike. GODAN and IGAD aims are very aligned. GODAN has been an active participant in IGAD from the very start and has been closely involved in many activities of IGAD.

GODAN strongly believes that having an Agriculture CoP is the next stage of growth for IGAD. For example, GODAN has been contributing to IGAD's Capacity Development in Agriculture Data WG. All outputs of the WG has now been successfully completed. The WG outputs are now awaiting endorsement which we hope will happen soon. Having CoP in Agriculture will help keep building the impact for the Capacity Development WG outputs and enable more wider adoption of the RDA recommendations. GODAN will work closely with the Agriculture CoP for this.



André Laperrière  
Executive Director

