



## **Invitation to the Interest Group in Agricultural Data (IGAD) Pre-Meeting P9**

**University of Barcelona, Faculty of Library and Information Science  
Barcelona (Spain)  
3-4 April 2017**

The [Research Data Alliance](#) (RDA) was launched as a community-driven organization in 2013 by the European Commission, the United States Government's National Science Foundation and National Institute of Standards and Technology, and the Australian Government's Department of Innovation with the goal of building the social and technical infrastructure to enable open sharing of data.

With more than to 4,300 members from 111 countries (September 2016), RDA provides a neutral space where its members can come together through focused global Working and Interest Groups to develop and adopt infrastructure that promotes data-sharing and data-driven research, and accelerate the growth of a cohesive data community that integrates contributors across domain, research, national, geographical and generational boundaries.

Formed in 2013, since its inception the [Interest Group on Agricultural Data](#) (IGAD) has grown in community strength to over 100 members, becoming one of the RDA's most prominent Thematic Groups. IGAD is a domain-oriented group working on all issues related to global agriculture data. It represents stakeholders in managing data for agricultural research and innovation, including producing, aggregating and consuming data.

Beyond this IGAD promotes good practices in research with regard data sharing policies, data management plans, and data interoperability, and it is a forum for sharing experience and providing visibility to research and work in agricultural data. The Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition (GODAN) initiative supports its partners to join IGAD and participate actively to work on open data, data interoperability and capacity development.

One of IGAD's main roles is to serve as a platform that leads to the creation of domain-specific Working Groups. To date one successful Working Group has formed under IGAD

and four more are in their inception phase: the Wheat Data Interoperability, the Rice Data Interoperability, Soil Data, AgriSemantics and On-Farm Data Sharing all playing an active role at the most recent RDA 8 in Denver (CO, USA). GODAN is actively promoting the membership of these working groups to its partners and some will function as GODAN working groups.

### **Till RDA Plenary Meeting 8**

The last IGAD Pre-Meeting took place in Tokyo (Japan) during the RDA P7, and focussed on a wide range of topics within the agricultural research data management area as a preparation for the RDA 7th Plenary Meeting. 50 IGAD members – split into three key discussion groups, came up with concrete plans of action aimed at opening up access to agricultural data – the RDA's mission. [Here's](#) an overview of what was discussed. During the RDA P8 in Denver (CO, USA) in September 2016, IGAD presented the [results of the working groups](#), and the pre-meeting was postponed to RDA P9 for logistics reasons.

### **Pre-meeting at RDA Plenary Meeting 9**

The next pre-meeting will take place in Barcelona (Spain) before the RDA Plenary Meeting 9, and will provide an opportunity to evaluate how the group has evolved during the last months, what are the latest developments and to focus on research data management and semantics. For that, and following the successful methodology applied at P7, we are organizing a pre-meeting to showcase and discuss in the context of open and research data and with special attention to rice, wheat, other crops, agrisemantics and soil research data. The RDA IGAD community is ever expanding and adding interesting new topics to its portfolio. At the P9 pre-meeting, we are excited to invite participants to discuss new topics: capacity development for agriculture research data management, weather climate data and metrics and indicators in agricultural sciences.

The two-day meeting, will include presentations during the first day, related to the topics below, while the second day will focus intensive discussions and interactions. Towards this objective, it is proposed to organize nine discussion groups around the following topics:

1. AgriSemantics
2. Rice Data Interoperability (joint GODAN WG)
3. Wheat Data Interoperability
4. Other crop Research Data Interoperability
5. Soil Data Interoperability (joint GODAN WG)
6. On-Farm Data Sharing
7. Metrics and indicators in agricultural science
8. Climate/Weather Data
9. Capacity development in the context of research data in agriculture (joint GODAN WG)

## Plenary 9

The conclusions of this pre-meeting will be brought to the RDA Plenary Session during the Agricultural Data Interest Group Session by the chairs of each discussion group.

## Participation

We are pleased to invite you to actively participate in the pre-meeting. You can be part of this event in one or more ways; based on any of the topics identified above, let us know your preferences before November 15, 2016:

- I would like to make a short presentation (10') to illustrate what are the challenges, solutions and issues identified in my own institution (send title and short description)
- I would like to chair a discussion group
- I would like to attend the meeting and participate in the discussions

We welcome your contribution and involvement in this pre-meeting.

Looking forward to meeting you in Barcelona,

Co-chairs of the Interest Group on Agriculture Data (IGAD)  
Research Data Alliance (RDA)



Imma Subirats-Coll  
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)  
of the United Nations  
Rome (Italy)



Devika P. Madalli  
Indian Statistical Institute (ISI)  
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## **Organizing Committee**

- Elizabeth Arnaud (Bioversity - CGIAR, France)
- Ruth Bastow (Global Plant Council, United Kingdom)
- André Laperrière (GODAN Secretariat, United Kingdom)
- Devika Madalli (Indian Statistical Institute, India)
- Ben Schaap (GODAN Secretariat, The Netherlands)
- Ninomiya Seishi (University of Tokyo, Japan)
- Imma Subirats (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Italy)

## **Local Committee**

- Ernest Abadal (University of Barcelona, Spain)
- Fernanda Peset (Polytechnic University of Valencia, Spain)
- Carme Reverté (IRTA Research, Technology, Food & Agriculture, Government of Catalonia, Spain)
- Antonio Sánchez-Padial (National Institute for Agricultural and Food Research and Technology - INIA, Spain)

## **Technical Support Staff**

- Karna Wegner (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Italy)
- Ruthie Musker (GODAN Secretariat, United States)