



Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition (GODAN)

A Collective Action within Key Focus Area (KFA) 2: *Turning Knowledge and Innovation into Enterprise*

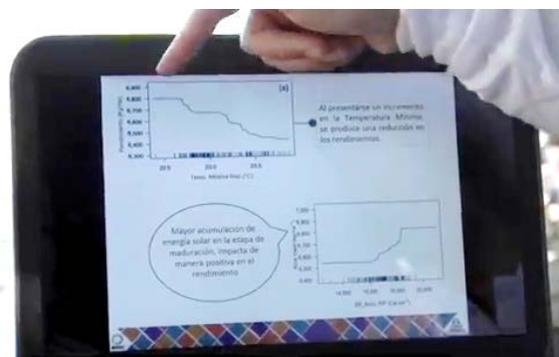


Open access to research data, government data and agri-food value-chain data is vital for agricultural development as well as food security and food safety.

There is a need to harness the growing volume of data generated by new technologies to solve long-standing problems and to benefit farmers and all actors participating in innovation systems and along value chains.

Lack of institutional, national, and international policies and openness of data limit the effectiveness of agricultural and nutritional data from research and innovation. Making open data work for agriculture and nutrition requires a shared agenda to increase the supply, quality, and interoperability of data, alongside action to build capacity for the use of data by all stakeholders.

The Partners in GFAR consider collaboration on improving data and information sharing to be key to addressing many of the challenges around food security, rural development, fair markets, risk management and sustainability in general. GFAR has fostered common initiatives for better sharing and use of data for many years, starting from the Global.RAIS and IISAST initiative in 2005 to CIARD in 2008 and now the **Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition initiative (GODAN)**.



GFAR is one of the founding members of GODAN, part of the Steering Committee and the Secretariat. GODAN involves more than 650 partners across the globe, many of whom are also partners in GFAR: its multi-stakeholder and voluntary nature and the inclusion of farmers make it an example of an action implemented in the “GFAR way”.

For these reasons, although it was created in 2013, before we defined the concept of Collective Action, we consider **GODAN a proto-GFAR Collective Action**, built on the same principles of the GFAR Collective Actions. GODAN is already running as a mature Collective Action: self-sufficient, with a Steering Committee, some leading and committed organizations, many partners, a Theory of Change of its own and funding for the first 5 years.

Together, we will set data free and put it to use for the best benefits of global agriculture and nutrition.

[Read more →](#)

About GODAN

GODAN contributes to the common purpose of Partners in GFAR of transforming agri-food research and innovation for greater development impact, through opening access to, and use of, agri-food data, to better meet the needs of resource-poor farmers and consumers.

GODAN (<http://www.godan.info>) was launched in 2013 at the G8 International Conference on Open Data for Agriculture. GODAN seeks to support global efforts to make agricultural and nutritionally relevant data available, accessible, and usable for unrestricted use worldwide. The initiative focuses on building high-level policy and public and private institutional support for open data.

The initiative encourages collaboration and cooperation among existing agriculture and open data activities, without duplication, and brings together all stakeholders to solve long-standing global problems.

What we do together

Partners in GODAN:

- advocate for open data and open access policies by default, in both public and private sectors, whilst respecting and working to balance openness with legitimate concerns in relation to privacy, security, community rights and commercial interests;
- advocate for the release and re-usability of data in support of Innovation and Economic Growth, Improved Service Delivery and Effective Governance, and Improved Environmental and Social Outcomes.

With a focus on open data for agriculture and nutrition, partners in GODAN:

- advocate for new and existing open data initiatives to set a core focus on agriculture and nutrition data;
- encourage the agreement on and release of a common set of agricultural and nutrition data by increasing widespread awareness of ongoing activities, innovations, and good practices;
- advocate for collaborative efforts on future agriculture and nutrition open data endeavors;
- advocate programs, good practices, and lessons learned that enable the use of open data particularly by and for the rural and urban poor.

We encourage Partners in GFAR that have not yet joined the GODAN movement to do so, and similarly GODAN members to register themselves as Partners in GFAR.

**Partners in GFAR, become GODAN partners:
<http://www.godan.info/pages/thinking-becoming-godan-partner>**

**GODAN partners, become Partners in GFAR:
<http://www.gfar.net/about-us/be-a-partner>**

For more information, contact Valeria.Pesce@fao.org

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