

Washington D.C., January 29, 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write this letter of support for the application of Wageningen University and the University of the District of Columbia's College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences (CAUSES) to the Rockefeller Foundation's Food System Vision Prize 2050.

The Wageningen – UDC CAUSES team is ideally positioned to submit a cutting edge - yet realistic vision for a Regenerative and Nourishing Food Future 2050 for communities all over the world.

Wageningen has been one of the number one ranked Universities for Agriculture and Food systems in the world for over more than ten years.

And the College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences of UDC is an innovator in its own right having developed its award winning Urban Food Hubs model which is now in various stages of implementation in four locations across Washington DC.

The UDC-model combines technology, cultural sensitivity, and stakeholder engagement to provide access to fresh food, jobs, and green infrastructure in some of the most neglected neighborhoods in Washington DC.

This gives the Wageningen-UDC team a solid basis for further developing its vision of a sustainable and culturally sensitive circular food economy that is health oriented and utilizes innovative technology while showing respect for local ecosystems.

As the Agricultural Counselor for the Netherlands in the United States I am very enthusiastic of this collaboration that will have the full support of my Ministry and the Government of the Netherlands.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. And I am looking forward to be in closer contact with you and your Foundation's important work if you would consider that of value.

Sincerely,

Marianne Vaes
Counselor for Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality
Embassy of the Netherlands

Cc : Prof. Dr. L.O. Fresco
President of the Executive Board
Wageningen University & Research
Postbus 9101
6700 HB Wageningen
The Netherlands