

Wageningen, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 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 organizer of the WUR Urban Greenhouse Challenge and given the close alignment of the objectives of the WUR Urban Greenhouse Challenge with the goals articulated by the Wageningen UDC CAUSES team, I am delighted to be a partner in their Vision and support the efforts of the team I believe this Vision will inspire the international community of future change makers and motivated, mission-driven students that we work with and provide them with the opportunity to learn and contribute to a sustainable, equitable and healthy future for urban dwellers.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Best wishes for the important work of your Foundation.

Sincerely,

Rio Pals

*Manager Student Challenges*

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**WUR Student Challenges**



**SPARK THE FUTURE,  
JOIN THE CHALLENGE!**