

**Abstract for IGAD/RDA : Sharing Experiences and Creating Digital Dialogues Virtual Meeting  
May 25-29, 2020**

**Presentation Title:** Is there a relationship between data collection, data curation and data sharing?  
Experiences from a restoration project in East Africa and the Sahel

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**Abstract**

Without proper curation, a dataset risks being completely un-usable for future research projects, making impossible to spread the research results. Having good data management practices, which data curation is part of, not only ensures accessibility of high-quality data but also allows for the generated results to be easily shared.

Building on the concept of open data sharing, the presentation aims at providing an overview of the strong relationship between data collection, data curation and data sharing by discussing the data management plan of the ICRAF project "Restoration of degraded land for food security and poverty reduction in East Africa and the Sahel: taking successes in land restoration to scale". The project produced a series of dataset surveying rural households in Kenya, Ethiopia, Mali and Niger using ODK questionnaires. All datasets were subsequently curated by ICARDA's data curation team. We argue that a tight collaboration between the collection and curation teams is essential to produce a good collection plan which in turn facilitates data sharing and results in datasets re-usable by researchers and other interested parties. Moreover, the sharing process requires the same level of involvement by both teams as demonstrated by the virtual write-shops we were forced to re-structure in order to adapt to the global pandemic once our planned meeting was cancelled.