



**AGCO**

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**Subject: Support for North Dakota State University and Partners in Advancing Agricultural Technologies**

Dear Members of the SBARE,

I am writing on behalf of AGCO Corporation to express our unequivocal support for North Dakota State University (NDSU) and its pivotal role in advancing agricultural technologies through initiatives such as the NSF Engines program. Our endorsement extends to NDSU's collaboration with GrandFarm, Dakota Smart Farm, and the NDSU Research & Technology Park.

As a leader in agricultural solutions, AGCO recognizes the extraordinary potential of the synergy between precision agriculture, artificial intelligence, machine learning, digital solutions, and data science. NDSU's commitment to these areas, evidenced by their ongoing projects (e.g., CCAST, Big Data Pipeline), aligns perfectly with our vision of a data-driven, technologically advanced agricultural sector.

The partnership between NDSU and other organizations such as Microsoft, RDO, and John Deere exemplifies the collaborative spirit essential for technological progress and economic development. This collective effort bolsters North Dakota's position as a significant ag-tech leader and contributes significantly to the state's agricultural and economic landscape.

We acknowledge the immense value NDSU brings in providing access to advanced research, facilities, and a talented group of students and graduates. These young minds are future leaders in agriculture and potential contributors to companies like ours through internships and employment.

AGCO Corporation wholly supports NDSU and its partners in pursuing the FARMS NSF engine project. We urge the continued prioritization of digital investments as needed for the FARMS engine and to ensure the competitiveness of NDSU agricultural research and education more generally. We believe that our collective efforts will lead to groundbreaking advancements in agriculture that will benefit not just North Dakota but the global agricultural community.

Sincerely,

David Batcheller

Site Leader

AGCO Corporation

