Dear Dr. Edmunds,

We are pleased to submit our manuscript titled “Data from: Rodent trapping studies as an overlooked information source for understanding endemic and novel zoonotic spillover.” to the Gigabyte Journal for the series call on papers describing datasets on vectors of human diseases. This dataset meets the criteria outlined in the series call, containing data on rodent and pathogen occurrence across West Africa that will be of use for researchers assessing the hazard of zoonotic pathogen emergence in this region. This dataset, to our knowledge, contains 18,484 small mammal records novel to GBIF and 2,055 novel pathogen records. All data is released under an open CC0 designation.

The associated dataset has been formatted in conjunction with the Health data team at GBIF using Darwin Core Terms which will support incorporation into their system. This work is associated with a recently published PLOS NTD manuscript which is referenced in this manuscript containing further analysis of this data (Simons *et al.*, 2023).

The authors of this work report no potential competing interests and all authors have approved the manuscript for submission.

Kind regards,

David Simons, on behalf of the authors.