Abstract

The future of agriculture will be driven by data, and its effective management can help deliver SDG outcomes, improving livelihoods and increasing food security and nutrition. Agricultural data and their use for better decision-making is key to digital transformation of agriculture, but farmers’ willingness to adopt digital solutions is affected by concerns regarding fragmented and unclear data governance arrangements. This reduces the availability and accessibility of agricultural data that are valuable for agricultural policymaking, for agricultural innovation and the development of services for the sector.

The challenge is to find a balance between protecting the privacy and confidentiality of agricultural data, farmers’ economic interests in that data, while making it possible to leverage their potential for the sector’s growth and innovation, which are vital for better livelihoods and increased Data management policies must ensure the beneficiaries of data across the entire agrifood value chain stand to benefit from data shared. Without the adequate safeguards for data of diverse types, sources and sensitivities, the value of this data can be lost.

This side event aims to share the concerns and potential of data management policies from a farmer’s perspective to promote data-driven decision-making to help farmers monetize their data and drive more climate smart interventions. Increased collaboration is needed between the multiple actors involved in this space which include: generators of data (farmers), data management entities, third party platforms, and government.

Lastly, the side event will be an opportunity to highlight the recently endorsed CFS guidelines on Data in promotion of greater use of data collection and monitoring tools, and the challenges to doing so. Best practices on data management policies exist and should be shared with all CFS constituencies in support of the uptake of CFS guidelines on data.

Objectives

- Share the importance and potential for data to promote data-driven decision-making;
- Promote the better use of agricultural data to improved livelihoods and increased food security and nutrition;
- Identify the data management concerns of farmers, small, medium and large;
- Provide examples of data management policies that benefit beneficiaries throughout the entire agrifood value chain.