

CFS Side event 11: Improved data management for increased sustainability, food security and nutrition

24 October 2023

13:30-14:45

Speakers:

1. Anthony Muriithi, Kenya Agriculture Attache, and CFS Data Workstream Rapporteur
2. Ellen Luger, USDA Minister Counsellor and US representative to FAO
3. Jose Rosero Moncayo FAO Director of Statistics Department
4. Kyle Bridgeforth, farmer/owner Bridgeforth farms and representative of Solutions from the Land [SfL](#)
5. Christopher Hillbruner, USAID Division Chief for Resilience, Environment and Food Security
6. Megha Desai, Senior Coordinator for the Self-employed Women's Association [SEWA](#),
7. Mark Ball, Global Head of Public Affairs for Syngenta, member of the Digital Agriculture Association [DAA](#).

The side event, *Improved data management for increased sustainability, sustainability, food security and nutrition* provided a rich exchange of viewpoints on the importance of data use for improved decision-making, while highlighting data governance concerns, and the need to achieve a balance between open data, privacy and intellectual property.

The event shared 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. Since greater collaboration is needed among the multiple actors involved in this space, this varied set of individuals were chosen to speak to the related challenges and opportunities from their perspectives.

Mr Muriithi provided opening remarks to the event based on his learnings as the Rapporteur in charge of the CFS Data Workstream. Ms Luger introduced the topic and panelists, as well as framing the discussion by highlighting the relevance of this topic.

The Farmers' perspective was provided by Solutions from the Land's Kyle Bridgeforth, who shared the recently released [Report](#) on Data Policy Guidance on Farm Data: strengthening collection, analysis and use of agriculture and food system data for SDG attainment. Mr Chris Hillbruner provided his expertise based on USAID activities on the topic. And finally, from the point of view of a data enabler, Mr Ball from Syngenta provided examples of what is currently being done on the ground, which enlightened the audience of the potential of digital agriculture.

The multistakeholder audience was composed of government, academic, civil society and private sector representatives, which enabled a rich discussion during the Q&A moderated by Mr Moncayo. He then delivered closing remarks by underlining the value of the CFS workstream.