Inclusive Data Practices for Sustainable Future

Session Partner: Digital Green

Background:

Despite the recognized importance of data for sustainable and equitable food system transformation, where the efficient operation of this intricate system heavily depends on the accessibility, precision, and effective use of data, there is a significant gap in food system data, particularly in middle and lower-income countries like India. Therefore, to enhance the monitoring and analysis of food systems, it is imperative to make substantial strides in the availability and quality of data, enabling the identification of relevant policies and actions to improve human and planetary health. Additionally, the implementation of accountability mechanisms informed by data is crucial to fortify the governance of food system.

However, recently, substantial efforts have been made to procure data on all components of food systems. The increasing availability of food-related data provides an opportunity to discover new insights into food and food systems. These insights hold the potential to improve the quality of products and services, optimize decision-making for better food availability, and ultimately contribute to enhanced health outcomes. Therefore, as technology continues to advance, the role of data in shaping the future of food systems will only become more pronounced.

In this context, Digital Green will be convening a session on data and food systems in the Indian context as part of the Food System Dialogue 2023. The session will commence by showcasing three distinct experiences from Digital Green's initiatives. These examples will broadly illustrate the pivotal role of data in generating impact on the ground and facilitating market players in delivering targeted information, products, and services to farmers. Additionally, the discussion will probe on the insights gained regarding the significance of data systems in fostering the adoption of climate-smart agriculture. This segment will also encompass effective methods of data collection, contributing to improved adoption rates. Furthermore, the session will address issues of ownership and consent management systems, delving into the available technical solutions for these aspects.