Data systems in developing countries have improved markedly, partly in response to the data needs imposed by the Millennium Development Goals. However, agriculture and food systems data systems still lag substantially. For example, timely and accurate estimates of production are not available even for major crops in many countries with negative implications for the functioning of markets as well as for policy formation.

This session reviews issues in the agricultural data system and considers specific actions for improving data systems with a focus on production information.

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