The collection of agriculture statistics is an enormous enterprise largely supported by public funds. Access to agricultural survey and census microdata by the research community and other stakeholders is however limited. Opening up access to datasets would lead to increased engagement with stakeholders and in more diverse and innovative use of the data, which would result in better-informed policymaking in adding much value to the data. But disseminating microdata involves solving multiple technical, legal, and ethical challenges.

The past few years have seen the development of multiple standards and tools to preserve, document, catalog, anonymize, disseminate and analyze data in accordance with international best practice. Pushed by a movement towards increased transparency and accountability, government agencies are increasingly taking advantage of these solutions to share microdata. But the agriculture sector lags behind. Session [40] - Platforms for data dissemination and data analysis will focus on identifying and discussing the barriers, solutions and benefits of a more open access to, and use of, microdata from agriculture surveys and censuses.

We welcome submissions on this theme. Specific topics of interest include but are not limited to the following:

- Incentives and disincentives for microdata sharing
  - Costs, risks, and benefits of sharing microdata from agricultural surveys and censuses
  - Evidence of impact of agricultural microdata dissemination
  - Quantification and qualification of the demand for agricultural microdata (uses and users)
  - Respective roles of the public and private, national and international, stakeholders

- Technical solutions
  - Technical requirements for an efficient (shared?) infrastructure to support dissemination of data in the new, global data ecosystem
  - Innovative data management and dissemination tools
  - Metadata standards, taxonomies and ontologies to improve data discoverability and usability
  - Practical solutions to privacy/confidentiality protection
  - Building technical capacity in microdata management and dissemination