

# **Group Discussion on Economics & Livelihood Impacts of HPAI**

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# Methodology

- Reviewed several published and grey literature and data from various sources, as well as information from associations (feed millers association, poultry association etc)

# Discussion on data/info sources

- *Are there any data sources and/or studies that have not been included in the background paper?*
  - Case study on AI in Ghana by the national AI Working Group (AIWG)
  - Reports from communications subcommittee of the AIWG
  - Various regional reports from GAR, Brong Ahafo, Volta Regions
  - Update from MOH/GHS on health status of farm workers on index farm (Tema)

# Discussion on data/info sources

- Value chain study on poultry and poultry products in LBM (VSD) (Contact Dr Akunzule)
- Livestock growth trend study and value chain study commissioned by MOFA
- Animal Research CSIR has a lot of research on local/village poultry (Contact Godwin Ameleke)
- Papers from the workshop organised by Dr Akunzule
- Paper by Prof Gueye (1998, 2000, 2002, 2005, 2007)
- OICI Tamali Office nutrition and anthropometric data
- Data on feed ingredient imports and prices, available at FAO website

# Discussion on data/info sources

- USAID CRISP Nutrition project.
- Cost of biosecurity measures per chicken available from the Poultry Farmers' Association
- List of biosecurity measures that is being developed by MOFA (VSD) could be included as an appendix
- Compensation guide could be included in the background paper as an appendix

# Discussion on data/info sources

- Consumption patterns and substitutions with other meat products due to HPAI,
- Prices of all meat sources are available at SRID/LPIU of MOFA
- More data/information on the nutritional role of poultry meat and eggs (data from Public Health Unit of GHS)
- Information on the loss of jobs and bankruptcy due to HPAI as presented by the Poultry Farmers' Association

# Summary of Key Findings

- The Ghanaian economy mainly agricultural: Agriculture contributes 41% to the GNP and employs 60% of the labour force
- Livestock/poultry contributes 7% to the agricultural GNP.
- Livestock /poultry component serves as safety net which provides vital sources of cash for emergency needs.
- Despite efforts by the government domestic poultry production has always lagged behind demand, as a result of high cost of production.
- Free range (village) poultry accounts for 60-80% of the national poultry population at any time. These birds contribute very significantly to rural livelihoods (for protein food security and income supplementation)
- Considerable losses of production and loss of livelihoods of poultry producers of all sizes due to HPAI outbreaks and scare

# Discussion Key Findings

- *Do you have anything to add to these?*
  - Government interventions on domestic poultry production
  - Import taxes on poultry imposed and lifted in 2002 and the policy development process- Ghana National Poultry Farmers association have some information – Reports from Drs Akunzule and Birner
  - Competition from poultry meat imports should be emphasised
  - Reasons for not meeting domestic demand from domestic production – animal husbandry, technology (bottlenecks)

# Discussion Key Findings

- Gender issues related to decision making on rural poultry production and marketing and spending of the income – rapid appraisals
- Seasonal issues should also be mentioned
- Positive impacts of HPAI in terms of
  - improvements in the VSD
  - farmers' knowledge
- How has HPAI affected urban production of poultry and the legal framework (by laws of local authorities)
- Movement from poultry production to larger livestock production was not mentioned (poultry first step in the livestock ladder growth)

# Knowledge Gaps

- Comprehensive census of poultry population and live birds markets with geo-referenced farm locations and mapping of farming systems as a basis for value chain risk assessment.
- Comprehensive study of socio-economic impact of HPAI (both outbreaks and the scare) in Ghana

# Discussion on Gaps

- *Are there any other gaps that should be included in the list?*
  - Socio-economic impacts on variety of stakeholders (poultry farmers of all sizes, poultry keepers, eggs traders, others in the value chain). “We must know who has been affected by HPAI?”
  - Impacts of compensation being tied to biosecurity – need different policies for different sizes of farmers/producers; tie compensation to those biosecurity measures over which farmer has control? Socio-cultural setting of biosecurity should be taken into consideration

# Discussion on Gaps

- Investigate the impact of AI on poultry consumption and nutrition
- Knowledge, attitude, practices and perceptions with regards to HPAI and biosecurity – with various private actors in the poultry value chain (feed millers, poultry farmers of all sizes etc.)
- How did HPAI affect farmers' access to financial assistance /credit?
- Supply and demand elasticity of poultry inputs and outputs
- Trade impacts, esp with neighbouring countries
- How does AI affect the global food price crisis and how does food prices affect poultry production?

# Initial proposal to fill these gaps

- Linking with other endeavours/projects on the ground:
  - Investigate the possibility of combining this project with the UNDP Alternative livelihoods project
  - USAID STOP AI project on biosecurity surveillance and outbreak response management (conducting training of stakeholders in all three zones of the country)

# Initial proposal to fill these gaps

- Country wide qualitative and quantitative data collection in selected sites through
  - Surveys to investigate the losses suffered by poultry producers of all sizes and all actors in the value chain (feed millers, maize farmers, pharmaceuticals, vet drug companies, egg sellers, hospitality industry, small scale sellers of food, semi-processers, processors) in all three agro-ecological zones
  - Focus group discussions at the community level to understand community level biosecurity measures

# Initial proposal to fill these gaps

- Knowledge Attitude Perception and Practice surveys, esp with regards to biosecurity investment
- In-depth studies with poultry farmers to look at best/worst/medium practices with respect to biosecurity (important information for extension workers)
- Anthropometric measures and food consumption data
- Contingent valuation studies to investigate the perceptions on consumption of poultry products as a health risk