



Summary of Lessons Learned on Poultry + Cattle, Sheep and Goats Programming in the BAY States

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Inputs	What has worked well?	What has not worked well?	Key recommendations
Shelter/Settlement	-	- Lack of or poor state of animal shelter exposed livestock to threats including harsh weather and potential theft.	- Basic livestock shelter should be considered to protect livestock. This could come as a beneficiary contribution especially where materials can be accessible, or a subsidy provided for the materials and skills for construction.
Veterinary Services	- In Kaga, the partners reported that as a result of vaccination there was a reduced post distribution mortality. -	- Some locations encountered disease outbreak. There was PPR outbreaks in Jere and Konduga in Borno State; Fune and Bursari in Yobe and Michika and Madagali in Adamawa State. - Some animals were not vaccinated before distribution. This makes them and others susceptible to disease. - Some locations did not have access to veterinary services especially in the remote areas. - Some animals were poorly tagged, which led to ear injury. -	- Livestock should be vaccinated before they are distributed. During procurement of livestock as well, vendors, actors and authorities should ensure that livestock are vaccinated against CBPP and BQ in cattle, and PPR in sheep and goats. - Tagging should be done well. The right sizes of ear tags should be used (small and large tags for small and large ruminants respectively. When puncturing of ear during tagging, bigger blood vessels and nerves should be avoided. - Government and actors should support in creating community level veterinary

			<p>support services. This can be strengthening further with the formation of farmers in cooperatives to harness efforts in accessing veterinary support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Field associates/assistants should be trained (practical demonstration highly suggestive) on how to perform ear tagging. -
Feeds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Availability of feed in some of the locations where as shortages were also reported in especially in the dry season. - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relatively high-quantity packaging hence making the feeds difficult to afford by the beneficiaries as majority are in minimum weights of 50kgs. - Lack of standardized packaging of feeds by vendors hence making it difficult for procurement departments of various organizations. - Remote locations faced difficulty in accessing feeds mainly due to insecurity and limited suppliers. - Time gap between purchase of feed and distribution of livestock where some actors distributed livestock and followed by feeds at a much later time. This poses protection risks to livestock farmers as they are forced to look for means of accessing feeds. In some 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beneficiaries should be taught how to preserve crop residues (especially leguminous crop residues like ground nut haulm) and use as animal feed, in addition to utilization of bran and chaff from cereal - Partners should ensure that the livestock farmers will have access to feeds. This could be by own capacity, provided by the organization or any other actor. - The livestock feeds support should also be delivered in a timely manner to ensure efficiency and effectiveness of the projects. - In hard to reach areas, beneficiaries should be trained to make use of available supplementary feeds. -

		cases, livestock and inputs is sold off at prices lower than they were procured as a way of getting rid of them.	
Water			
Livestock provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Timing of livestock distribution is key to successful outcome particularly goats should be distributed before the rain season. Additional care should be provided also during the rainy season since disease and parasites thrive during the rainy season. The rain season often comes with mineral deficiency for the livestock. - For Cattle some breeds that thrived well in the North East included Bunaji, Wadara, Rahaji. For Sheep, balami and Yankasa thrived well. The goat breed here is the Sahel breed including the white and red ecotypes. This doesn't mean that these are the only breeds that should be supported. However, these are some of those that have been reported to be doing well. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some breeds did not thrive well - Some vendors did not meet the technical specifications. - Supply of goats during rainy season is a not recommended. - Some households didn't have the capacity (especially in terms of labour and protection related issues) to keep those animals. - Some beneficiaries sold their cattle and replaced them with younger ones - Some beneficiaries slaughtered the livestock and sold it as meat for "fear of losing them" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Various breeds to be distributed must be confirmed to have been accustomed to this environment. Breeds must not necessarily be resident but best adapted to the environment - Actors should involve technical experts as part of the livestock programming to contribute to quality assurance in livestock procurement and general management. - Vendors should ensure proper transportation conditions for livestock so that they arrive in healthy and stable condition. - Goats and sheep are recommended to be distributed before the rain season - Partners are strongly encouraged to do Post Distribution Monitoring and continuous monitoring to further empower the beneficiaries.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is availability of young livestock stock in some markets. However, the whether the supply may be low to meet the demand. - 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actors should do household analysis to ensure households targeted have capacity to manage the livestock. - Timing depends on the kind of project the partners want to implement either as breeders or fatteners (e.g RAM) - Livestock feeds and inputs should be supplied at same time as a package. - Partners should assess the possibility of presence of younger livestock in the markets.
<p>Other Key Issues <i>(Marketing, Targeting, Organization of farmers, Risks, Program Approach, etc)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Majority of the participants selected reside in the community, hence making access to the resources such as water, accessible grazing areas easy. - Ensured the beneficiaries have previous experiences in livestock keeping skills. This made it easier for them to start implementation. - Beneficiaries residing close to larger cattle markets made profit, particularly areas closer to the urban/large town areas - Cooperation and collective responsibility among livestock keepers, where groups of farmers brought together their livestock 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of farmer group cooperative to collectively discuss local challenges and finding out solutions. - Farmers in the rural areas got lower value for their livestock after sale given the remoteness of their location. An example is large cattle in Mafa fetched relatively lower prices due to limited access to livestock markets. - Some vendors were not technically competent - There are cases where tagged livestock targeted for theft on the assumption that they are “free”/(donated). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For livestock activities targeting non-residents (IDPs), critical analysis must be made to ensure they will have access to complementary services such as water, grazing areas, etc from within the host community. - Mapping of available cooperatives and linking livestock farmers to them to access services such as savings & credit and to benefit from additional advantages that come along with collective bargaining and action. - Farmers should be encouraged and supported to form cooperatives to support them in improving collective planning and action to access markets, feeds, medical among others

and either hired one herdsman or herded in shifts proved to be an efficient means of management given the low number of livestock that the households normally have. This is an example of how collective active can bring on efficiency in management several benefits especially for remote farmers.

- There are locations where farmers ensured multiple use of livestock. For instance, using livestock for draught (pull) purposes.
- Some Vendors met expectations by delivering quality services.

- Provide training and constant monitoring for the beneficiaries.
- Targeting should be context specific.
- Ensure that partners build strong capacity of their technical officers. The Livestock in Emergency Guidelines (LEGS) is a key document that can be used for capacity building of staff.
- Internal processes in organizations should be strengthened or implemented in order to ensure only qualified vendors are reached.
- Timely procurement and delivery of inputs is key.

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Inputs	What has worked well?	What has not worked well?	Key recommendations
Shelter/Settlement			
Veterinary Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vaccine and drugs are available in various town/urban locations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vaccines and drugs are not readily available the rural areas. The key locations with difficulty in accessing these services include Kaga, Mafa, Dikwa, Ngala, Bama and Monguno LGAs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Government and other actors should look at ways to collaborate with government veterinary department and non-government service providers in order to livestock extension service delivery particularly to the rural areas, in order to reduce the dependency on producers of chicken as veterinary service providers.
Feeds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feed are available in various town/urban locations. - The below feeds are available in the local markets and at affordable prices for farmers to buy. The feed worked efficiently and effectively in terms of growth of chickens. - Amo feed (chick marsh/grower marsh) - Vital Feed (Starter and Finisher) - Free ranging (Shaft, Kitchen waste) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poultry feed are not readily available in the rural market, given that the majority relocated to the urban areas especially Maiduguri Metropolitan Council (MMC) especially as a result of the security risks involved with the transportation in the rural areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Partners should identify Agro-dealers in the LGAs and link them up with poultry feed distributors in MMC for delivery to LGAs
Water			

<p>Livestock provision</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Geographical target of programming worked well for households close to the market with participants living in host communities. - Poultry market has worked most especially within southern part and central part of Borno as especially for Noiler breed. - Noiler as a breed is accepted different locations with the characteristics of it free ranging and adapted to weather in North East. - Suppliers have provided capacity building for farmers and have other embedded services. - Chicks are available in various town/urban locations. - Demand for Noiler Breed in central and Southern Borno is high in the local markets. - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some breed did not adapt to environmental weather in some locations. - Demand for birds in the local markets in some locations is low as regards to the security challenges faced in the routes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organizations to diversify to reduce the use of one product (Noiler). - Organizations should look into the value chain of poultry rearing. - More sensitization to be conducted as well as linkage to other distributors in order to enhance the market. - Partners to ensure that breeds are tested and adaptable to the local context.
<p>Other Key Issues <i>(Marketing, Targeting, Organization of farmers, Risks, Program Approach, etc)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Using the market-based approach worked well in feasible contexts has worked well and households having more ownership and profitability. - Poultry rearing is accepted as a means of livelihood. - Farmers are being trained in technical poultry practices and business management. - Identification/ targeting of markets have worked well. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conventional type of programming (In kinds) was not as successful as compared to market-based approach, as it is not recording sustainability most especially in deep fields where assistance have been running for years and there is still no significant change happening for community members to own programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where applicable and feasibility proven, programming should be looking at shifting to market-based approach to influence sustainability and ownership of program. - More awareness and sensitization to be conducted on organization and benefits of cooperatives in locations where they are absent.



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- Farmers association are available and working in some locations. For instance, in Bakassi camp where poultry farmers come together for the sale of eggs. This increases market access for their eggs and allows them to purchase feeds in bulk hence more efficient.
- Collective purchase and sale worked well most especially in the deep fields.
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- Technical capacity of farmers is built but still have a gap on that.
- It is difficult training farmers most especially in the rural areas due to language barrier.
- Operational processes in some organizations have slowed the procurement procedures for procurement of complementary livestock inputs such as feed, veterinary products, etc which increases poultry mortality.

- Organizations should ensure procurement processes implemented efficiently and effectively.