MINUTES OF THE LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES WORKING GROUP MEETING

Location: FAO Maiduguri Office, Conference Room
Date: 21 March, 2019
Time: 2:00 PM – 3:45 PM

AGENDA

1. Welcome, opening remarks and round of introductions (5 min)
2. Review of action points and approval of minutes of the previous meeting (5 min)
3. Experience sharing and lessons learned from 2018-2019 (40 min)
   a) Presentation on its project, Poultry Development for Resettlement (PDR) in Borno State by Mercy Corps (20 min)
   b) Presentation on Delivering FAO Livestock Emergency Programme: What we learnt, by FAO (20 min)
4. Updates on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) Situation in Nigeria by FAO
5. Partners’ updates (20 min)
6. AOB (5 min)

SUMMARY OF ACTION POINTS

1. The Sector with support from partners to set up smaller working groups to develop guidance on
   a) Livestock procurement and quarantine b) Common Diseases, signs and symptoms c) Livestock feeds production d) Harmonization of inputs for activities (including the minimum inputs required for each of the activities for sustainability).
   Two previous meeting action points carried over to the next meeting.

No | PROCEEDING | ACTION POINTS
---|-------------|---------------
1 | Welcome, Opening Remarks and Round of introductions |
   - The Deputy FSS Coordinator opened the meeting, followed by participant self-introduction.
   - The Sector looks forward to receiving the new Director of Livestock and having him/her chair next meetings.

2 | Review of action points and approval of minutes of the previous meeting |
   1. The Sector with support from partners to set up smaller working groups to develop guidance on a) Livestock procurement and quarantine b) Common Diseases, signs and symptoms c) Livestock feeds production d) Harmonization of inputs for activities (including the minimum inputs required for each of the activities for sustainability) – Pending.

The action point of recommending standardizing input packages, guidelines on procurement of livestock and disease could not be implemented as it is better to ensure a relatively stable attendance before we can go ahead with task forces to develop the guidance notes above.

2. Partners to share their training plans for the first and second quarters for sector compilation to encourage exchange/coordination – Pending.
Partners were given a quick refresher on how to fill the 5Ws
Minutes were adopted

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<th>Experience sharing and lessons learned from 2018-2019</th>
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<td>Presentation on its project, Poultry Development for Resettlement (PDR) in Borno State by Mercy Corps</td>
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The program benefits the population of Borno State in three key ways:
- First, by revitalizing the poultry market through the introduction of affordable, hybrid chickens.
- Second, by providing vulnerable households with the means to engage in a safe income generating activity (poultry rearing).
- Third, by providing households with access to a nutritious source of protein in the form of chicken and eggs, and thereby improve their nutritional status.

Program targets 1,600 vulnerable returnee households with a priority focus on female-headed households as well as associations, groups, individuals, and/or small business poultry farmers selected to be Mother Units.
- The program will set up Mother Units producing hybrid chickens and provide vulnerable households with the means to acquire chickens for egg-laying and further poultry rearing.
- To assist with the set-up and training of Mother Units, Mercy Corps partnered with AMO Farm who were tasked with providing the drugs (vaccines) and feed needed for the Mother Units to rear the day-old chicks.
- Upon the chicks reaching 5 weeks, they will be transferred to Small Holder Poultry Farmers using a voucher modality.
- The households will then rear the chickens to a size where they can be used for egg-laying or meat (for internal household consumption or for sale).
- Cost share formation of VSLA at least 2 per community.
- Throughout the program, Mercy Corps will explore ways to include the livestock extension services of Borno State, as well as to find creative ways of collaborating with other market actors to scale up the intervention and ensure its sustainability.

The project distributes Noiler birds which is a dual purpose breed (Eggs and Meat) of chicken developed by Amo Farm Sieberer Hatchery Limited for Small Holder Farmers.
- The project locations include Maiduguri, Dikwa, Biu, Gwoza, Damboa
- The program will use Market Systems Development Approach to support the poultry market to function better on its own in Borno state. To that note the program was piloted in Biu and Maiduguri

Among the key achievements by the project include;
- Mercy Corps linked registered and selected Small Holder Poultry Farmers (SHPF) to Amo farm.
For sustainability, the promotion made SHPF buy chickens for rearing rather than getting for free.

A cap was set for minimum of 5 and maximum of 10 using a voucher modality.

Next Steps

- Organize a learning session to document lessons learnt and plan on how to scale up to locations with different context from the pilot area.
- Periodic Monitoring
- Continue project in Biu and Maiduguri and scale up to Dikwa, Gwoza and Damboa


**Updates on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) Situation in Nigeria by FAO**

- The disease was first reported in Nigeria in February 2006.
- During the 2006 to 2008 outbreak, over 945,862 birds were culled.
- Financial implication to the country was estimated at $24 million.
- HPAI H5N8 outbreaks occurred concurrently in a commercial poultry farm and a Live Bird Market (LBM) in Kano and Lagos States respectively.
- Overall, a total of 26 states were affected involving 743 farms with over 3 million birds culled.
- Two strains of HPAI H5N1 and H5N8 viruses are now circulating in Nigeria. Both are potential pandemic threat.
- HPAI H5N8 outbreaks resurgence concurrently reported in a commercial poultry farm and a Live Bird Market (LBM) in Bauchi and Plateau States in January 2019.
- Up to date, 5 states (Total 8 LGAs) have reported outbreaks. The states include Bauchi, Kano, Nasarawa, Ogun and Plateau.
- Given the location of Bauchi and Plateau, this puts the North East states at risk of exposure due to the trade since most of the birds coming to the North East come from the two states.
- Risk of recombination of 2 virus strains

**Current efforts to contain the disease outbreak.**

- Sole sanitary measures are applied such as depopulation of infected farms/areas, disinfection of farms, movement control poultry and poultry products
- Compensation scheme in line with the national policy.
- FMARD submitted request to FAO for support to control and contain the disease outbreak.
- FAO Country representative has officially written to the Honourable Minister of Agriculture to know the government plan on this ongoing situation.
- FAO provided support mainly capacity building on Good Emergency Management Practices (GEMP) and HPAI disease outbreak investigation for federal and state veterinary officers, supply of field materials (PPEs, disinfectants and sprayers) and laboratory reagents, consumables and sampling materials.
- FAO will provide additional supply of fields material
- Risk assessment and risk mapping ongoing.
- Capacity building on biosecurity measures for farmers and live bird market operators and field veterinary officers from 36 states and FCT Abuja.
- Support of the field epidemiological investigation

### Risk of the disease spread

**Serious risk of disease spread:**

- All neighbouring states of the affected states. This is due to the live bird trade route and transportation mode.
- The demand of indigenous poultry meat in high consumption centers such as Abuja, Lagos among others.
- States at risk include Abuja, Katsina, Lagos, Jigawa, Yobe, Benue, Taraba, Niger and Ondo.
- There is a risk of spread to other west and central African countries mainly Benin, Cameroon, Chad and Niger.
- In the absence of appropriate measures to contain the outbreaks, the disease is likely to become endemic with high economic impact on Nigeria’s poultry industry and public health.
- Need for concerted international effort to contain the disease in the country to safeguard investments, livelihoods and public health.
- Prevent the spread over to west and Central African region.

The Maiduguri Veterinary Teaching hospital which partners with the government and the FAO has offered availability to provide support especially in checking the stock from which birds will be bought from to ensure safety.

### Conclusion

- The outbreaks of HPAI H5N1/H5N8 has devastated the poultry industry and has negatively affected the livelihood of farmers leading to farm closures and loss of jobs.
- There is need for concerted effort to support government to contain the disease to safeguard the poultry industry and livelihoods of people of Nigeria.
- Urgent need to mobilize resource of $1,000,000 USD
- FAO is seeking support of the Development partners and donor community.

It is also recommended that partners in Borno, Yobe and Adamawa get disease free birds at source visited by the quarantine officer.

FAO mentioned it is possible to hold a quarantine space for Borno specifically to host poultry which could be under study.

With projects such as Mercy Corps chick brooding project, this can potentially provide local access to farmers in the North East without getting out of the region, hence reducing the risk of spread of such diseases in future.

Impacts of NE Crisis on Livestock Livelihoods

- Livelihoods lost
  - Killed
  - Abandoned
  - Confiscated by Non State Armed Groups
  - Embargos on livestock by the military

- Livelihoods at risk
  - Feed shortages
  - Livestock diseases
  - Movement restriction:
    - Coping strategy (transhumance) impeded
    - Livestock markets disrupted

Strategic Objectives of the project

1. To protect key livestock-related assets
2. To rebuild key livestock-related assets

**Protecting key livestock-related assets**

- Feed supplies: Emergency feeding in situ
  - 2016-2017 Cycle: 520 MT (4,860 HHs)
  - 2018-2019 Cycle: 1,512 MT (10,520 HHs)

- Veterinary Support: Mass medication/vaccination programmes:
  - 2016-2017 Cycle: 300,000 heads (30,000 HHs)
  - 2018-2019 Cycle: 120,000 heads (10,598 HHs)

**Rebuilding key livestock-related assets**

- Provision of Livestock:
  - Replacing livestock assets:
    - 2016-2017: 41,400 animals (11,100 HHs)
    - 2018-2019 cycle: 27,040 animals (7,010 HHs)
  - Building livestock assets:
    - 2018-2019 cycle: 34,920 animals (2,910 HHs)

**Lessons Learned**

Programme Design

1. Data limitations: very few need assessments had been done. This is also due to the fact that the herders don’t stay in the conventional IDP camps hence accessing them is difficult.

2. Funding cycle vs livestock cycle (narrow window for implementation). Sometimes the funding comes at the end of the livestock season of key activities. For instance, sometimes the funding came late hence missing some of the key seasons below when the funds are most needed.
   a. Breeding season
   b. Vaccination season
   c. Lean season

**Targeting**

- This is a time intensive activity.
- Identity management (CBPP) is difficult due to lack of identification for herders, since most of them don’t have ID cards. Therefore, community targeting and identification is the only solution.
- Herder mobility also further makes targeting more difficult.
• Data limitations, herder locations often missed in humanitarian assessments

Input Quality
• Localization of inputs. For instance, if one is buying goats in Gwoza LGA, then they should be goats localized to Gwoza.
• Quality assurance for the inputs.
• Logistical nightmare in delivering inputs.
• There is need to standardize inputs for all the categories of livestock in the different livestock activities.

Input distribution
• Transferring assets is cumbersome:
  – Moving assets. For instance women headed households find it difficult moving their goats from the distribution points. They have to come with additional household members in order to do this or even face a cost to transfer the goats back home.
  – Physical assets. For instance, distributing cages for the livestock.
  – No shows of beneficiaries in some cases.
• Voucher vs market functionality in some areas.

M&E
• Herder mobility: particularly medication/vaccination and feeding programmes
• Takes time for visible impacts

FAO M&E Figures:

Goat Restocking:
• 56% of beneficiaries are host community, 22% returnees and 22% IDPs. 55% of the goats distributed have reproduced, 45% not yet reproduced.
• Most of the income from the goats (43%) goes to household services such as healthcare, school fees etc. 35% goes to farming inputs.
• 79% of HHs receive a liter of milk per day from the goats. 68% of the households do not consume goat milk as consumption of goat milk is not common in the culture.
• 37% of the beneficiaries reported that livestock to a great extent provided income to the house. 34% mentioned somewhat while 29% mentioned it was very little.
• 8% of the households reported experiencing a protection issue and 14% of women beneficiaries reported domestic violence as a result of the goat distributions.
• Beneficiaries also reported that they are forced to remove the ear tags as the non-beneficiaries see them as “free” livestock hence likelihoods of being stolen.

For the full presentation: https://fscluster.org/nigeria/document/presentation-delivering-fao-livestock

Discussion
It was also encouraged to have cages for poultry to be made at the beneficiary houses or at least as close as a possible since some cages get damaged while in transit and also costly as well to transport. To emphasize this, partners have encouraged more trainings for local manufacturers of cages.

Partners also emphasized the need to protect the local breeds especially for the goats especially as current procurements for goats in ongoing.
**Partner Updates**

**ICRC**
- After piloting poultry project and first phase, planning to expand to 50 more households
- Planning to support the state veterinary departments through veterinary trainings for staff, cold chains and diseases diagnosis equipment in Borno, Yobe and Adamawa etc

**VSF**
- Targeting 1000 HHs in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe with each HH going with 4 goats (3 females and 1 male each). LGAs selection ongoing.

**UNDP**
- Planning to distribute livestock in 33 communities. Distributions started in 33 communities Damboa, Biu, Konduga, Banki, Izge.
- One of the contractors who had delivered livestock to a field location in Banki was attacked and killed

**FAO**
- Distributed cages, drinkers, feeders to 75 HHs in Jere.
- In the pilot project, they had distributed poultry to 10 HHs in Bakasi Camp. Birds were 15 weeks laying eggs.
- FAO targeting 2,910 HHs for both meat and eggs with birds' feeds, cages. Each households gets 12 birds and multi vitamins also. In the EU funded project an additional cash support is provided to protect the birds.
- There is also vaccination in 5 LGAs against common diseases.
- FAO trained vendors on vaccination and also provides them kits including gloves and others. FAO can share their contacts with partners if requested.
- Studies show that beneficiaries who have benefitted from veterinary support post distribution are more effective.

**Mercy Corps**
In addition to the presentation above, below are additional points.
- Going ahead with targeting small holder farmers in Damboa with livestock
- Second cycle will be in Biu (130 HHs) and Maiduguri (150 HHs)

**5. AOB: The chair of the meeting apologized for the unstable power supply during the meeting.**

**6. CLOSING**
- The meeting was adjourned at 3:45pm. And next meeting is scheduled on April 25th

**IN ATTENDANCE:** 13 partners were in attendance, 19 individuals (4 females & 15 males)
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