

Avian Influenza

Socio-Economic Impacts

Role of socio-economics in HPAI Outbreak/threat

Poultry plays major roles in household and national economies

- Credit to farmers
- Household banks
- All inclusive readily available and cheap Animal proteins for all including the rural poor- and especially critical in HIV/AIDS nutrition
- Cultural roles
- Supports farmers, upstream and down stream actors
- Has links to crops and other livestock



Role of socio-economics in HPAI Outbreak

- HPAI threatens both these roles and human health.
- Foreign Exchange Earner
- It is accompanied by major cultural, social and economic impacts
- Any control strategy must aim at mitigating these impacts and must be based on sound socio-economic judgments
- Calls for clear understanding of the socio-economic issues and factor them in the planning process.

Poultry Industry In Uganda

Free range Poultry accounts for more than 80% of the poultry industry in Uganda and is mostly owned by women

- *Identifying the person responsible is important in disease control*
- *Women who are vulnerable to poverty and food insecurity own this livestock asset-need to be protected*

The use the poultry sector to mitigate poverty levels and crisis times *Compensation is critical for the farmers without alternative livelihoods*

Poultry Industry cont'd

Poultry ownership transverses religion and ethnic lines-
HPAI control should consider socio-cultural issues
in poultry production

Land resource base and tenure systems

farmers produced poultry in small pieces of land while
others had no absolute ownership of land

*- Implications: the category cannot make absolute decisions
such as burial of culled chicken on such lands*



Poultry Industry cont'd

Livelihoods

- Village Poultry accounts for 80% of all poultry activities
- It is a bank
- Contributes to Foreign Exchange
- Businesses
- Employment



Poultry Uganda cont'd

- In most cases, farmers keep more than one poultry species- *Capture this in culling protocols*
- Indigenous chicken is kept by many households
- Different production systems – Free range to Intensive

Poultry In Uganda cont'd

Incomes

- Most Household income in the rural areas originates from poultry
- Gender issues in access to poultry assets.

Poultry has linkages with other agricultural economy: *crops and other livestock's productivity would be affected by HPAI impacts*

Animal health service delivery to poultry farmers

- The linkage between poultry farmers and MAAIF is weak because of liberalization and decentralization - *unfavourable with respect to HPAI control*
- *Service providers in the poultry sector are mostly private – unfavourable in HPAI*
- A lot of poultry postmortem is carried by the private sector- ill equipped *unfavourable finding with respect to HPAI control*

Constraints to poultry production

Constraints
Diseases
High costs of production
Poor feed quality
Lack of reliable markets
Lack of credit
Inadequate AHSP
Low market prices
Poor drug quality
Inadequate production knowledge

Disease constraints in descending order, compounding HPAI

Disease
Newcastle
Coccidiosis
Gumboro
Fowl pox
CRD
Fowl Typhoid



Poultry management

Majority of the indigenous and some commercial birds were raised at sub-optimal practices

Most indigenous/village poultry do not receive any vaccination at all

Village chicken freely mixes with the wild birds - **Bio-security is poor.**



HPAI Information gaps

- Preventive measures
- Clinical signs
- Vaccines and drugs
- Effects on human and poultry
- Transmission
- Actions to take when outbreak occurs
- Current status
- Who to contact
- How to deal with dead birds



Socio-economic impacts

Many farmers and business actors were affected by the threat of HPAI

The prices of chicks dropped immediately after the threat and later plummeted due to restrictions on importations

More commercial poultry producers were affected by the threat than those keeping the village poultry



Impacts-farmers

Changes in flock sizes

- Most commercial farmers reduced flock size attributed to HPAI threat

Panic or premature selling

Economic losses due to the threat of HPAI are yet to be computed in monetary terms



Panic or premature selling

Postponement/cancellation/reduced day old
chicks bookings

Losses to hatcheries in terms of unsold/dead
chicks



Changes in product prices

Farmers faced different drops in market prices for different poultry products/and or poultry in different areas- Factors to be considered in compensation plans

Extra cost of keeping birds longer than necessary

Due to lack of markets for the ready broilers, most commercial farmers had to keep their birds for periods beyond the stipulated market age – implying more losses in terms of feeds, housing and time



Other HPAI effects

- Commercial farmers abandoning the poultry business loss of capital wrt housing and other poultry infrastructure
- Anxiety or fear of not knowing whether it will strike their business or not.
- Reduced market access
- Capital diverted- difficult to restock- *need to consider a credit fund to assist farmers restock*
- Loss of jobs



Impacts business actors

More Producers and middlemen were negatively affected, while a few farmers with bio-safety measures on the ground gained

Reduced sales volume

Others impacts

- Price changes of inputs and outputs
- Movement restrictions increased cost of doing business or increased product prices
- Loss of jobs
- Increased operating costs
- Changes in prices of substitutes



Impacts business actors

- The impacts in decreasing order were:
- Hatcheries,
- Animal feed manufacturers,
- Day old chicks agent,
- Live poultry traders,
- Butcheries,
- Egg traders
- Service Providers
- Supermarkets
- Restaurants



Current strategies of dealing with HPAI threat

Farmers

- No strategy
- Disinfection
- Proper confinement- resource poor farmers may need financial support to confine birds and enhance bio-security
- Reduce flock sizes

Business

- Assurance to clients - **what will happen when situation changes?**
- Alert and watching the progress
- Diversification
- Improve on quality-proper sourcing etc



Summary

If the threat could do these, what about an outbreak

Do everything to mitigate for the current and potential socio-economic impacts



Way Forward

Evaluate resources availability with respect to preparedness for HPAI, diagnosis and containment

Capacity building

- Training/sensitization of MAAIF staff on socio-economics of Poultry diseases
- Train and establish a team for the purposes of conducting HPAI socio-economic surveys.



Way Forward cont'd

Identify and evaluate alternative livelihoods in case of outbreaks, the gaps, and key issues in case poultry industry needs to be restructured

Assess the possible requirement for, and evaluate possible mechanisms for short and medium-term support for maintaining livelihoods and rehabilitation of poultry owners, as a consequence of HPAI.



Way Forward cont'd

- Map poultry assets
- Develop and evaluation possible compensation mechanisms suitable for all stake holders will be involved.
- Explore the potential impacts under different scenario of culling
- Establish the current marketing/processing chains in the country for the purposes of trace backs.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**