



Scavenging for Protein and Micronutrients: Village Poultry in Timor-Leste

Dr. Joanita Bendita da Costa Jong National Director of Veterinary Directorate

Crawford Fund Annual Parliamentary Conference, Canberra, 30 August 2016



Timor-Leste: an overview

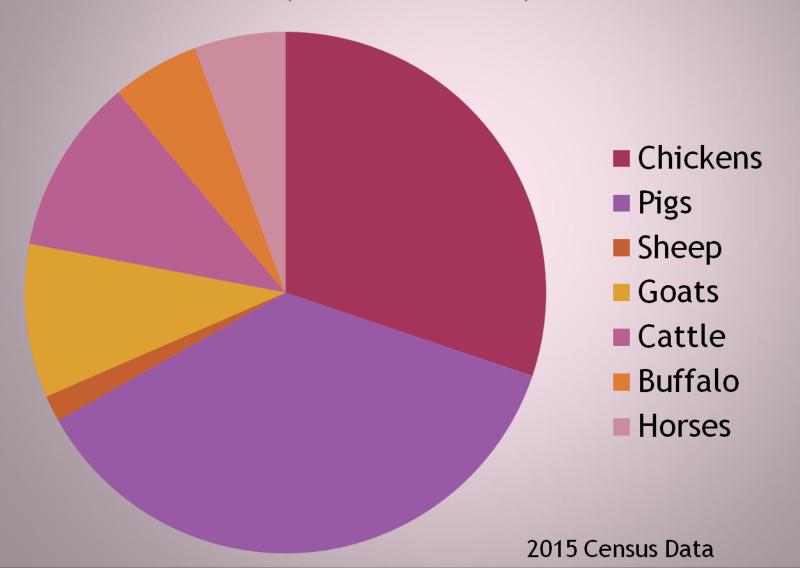
- Human population 1,167,242 (2015)
- Tropical climate with wet and dry season
- Stunting in children under 5 years 50%
- Poor dietary diversity with low in-take of animal-source food
- Animal health services in expansion phase

AGRICULTURAL POPULATION DATA FOR TIMOR-LESTE

Details	Numbers	Percentage (%)	
Total Households (HH)	184.000	-	
HH with Crops	160.000	86 %	
HH with no Crops	20.000	10 %	
HH with Livestock	178.000	97 %	
HH with Chickens	146.000	79 %	
HH with Pigs	177.000	96 %	

Details	Numbers		
No of Chicken	929.000		
No of Chicken/HH	6.35		
No of Pigs	420.000		
No of Pigs/HH	2.5		

Livestock ownership by agricultural Households (n=178,363)



Village poultry loss and waste

- High annual mortality due to:
 - disease, especially Newcastle disease
 - predation
 - under nutrition in chicks
- Loss due to theft

 Increased consumption of chickens seen during periods of high mortality

Village poultry health and biosecurity program overview

Funded by DFAT Government Partnerships for Development (GPFD)



- Aims to improve poultry production in 3 pilot villages and strengthen biosecurity arrangements in Timor-Leste
- 3 components of the program;
 - 1. Village poultry health and management
 - 2. Effective poultry vaccine cold chain
 - 3. Poultry biosecurity strengthening

SUMMARY OF AVAILABLE DATA FROM 5 VACCINATION CAMPAIGNS

Details	Nov-14	Mar-15	Jul-15	Nov-15	Mar-16
Total nº of chickens vaccinated	1865	2429	4218	3028	3076
Total nº of hh vaccinating	251	408	351	345	257
% ofhh vaccinating	20,4	33,1	31,0	28,0	20,9
Average nº of chickens vaccinated per					
households	7	8	12	11	12,0



Highlights

By improving the health of village poultry, there is

- decreased loss of chickens and eggs
- increased amount of chicken products available for consumption or sale
 - improved standards of living for communities.

- Critical and complex role of livestock in food security.
 - Food security ≠ Nutrition security.
- · Investments in women and girls yield some of the highest returns.

Thank you

Comments?

Questions?



References

http://dfat.gov.au/aid/topics/investment-priorities/gender-equality-empowering-women-girls/Pages/gender-equality-empowering-women-girls.aspx

http://dfat.gov.au/aid/topics/investment-priorities/gender-equality-empowering-women-girls/gender-equality/Pages/australias-assistance-for-gender-equality.aspx

Alders, R., dos Anjos, F., Bagnol, B., Fumo, A., Mata, B. and Young, M. 2002; 2nd Edition 2003. Controlling Newcastle Disease in Village Chickens: A Training Manual. ACIAR Monograph Nº 86, 128 pp.

Alders, R.G. and Bagnol, B. 2007. Effective communication: the key to efficient HPAI prevention and control. World's Poultry Science Journal 63:139-147.

Copland, J.W. and Alders, R.G. 2005. The Australian village poultry development programme in Asia and Africa. World's Poultry Science Journal 61:31-3

Randolph TF, Schelling E, Grace D, Nicholson CF, Leroy JL, Cole DC et al. Invited Review: Role of livestock in human nutrition and health for poverty reduction in developing countries. Journal of Animal Science 2007; 85: 2788-2800.

Turk JM. Poverty, livestock and food security in developing countries. CAB Reviews 2013; 8 No. 33: 1-8.