Household Dynamics within Livestock-Owning Smallholder Households: India, Ethiopia, Tanzania

At a glance

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Aim of study</th>
<th>To explore the trends/patterns in the dynamics of livestock ownership and care in smallholder households in India, Ethiopia, and Tanzania.</th>
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<td>Field study dates</td>
<td>September 2016 – January 2017</td>
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| Location | India (States of Odisha, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar)  
Tanzania (Babati, Karatu, Kiteto, Longido)  
Ethiopia (Adama, Debre Birhan, Fiche, Hagere Hiywet) |
| Total sample size | 240 Rapid Group Surveys  
303 Household Surveys  
Sample size of 2823 smallholder respondents |

Study Outputs Available on GALVdox

- Study write up
- Raw data files
- PowerPoint slides for use in presentations

Strategic Context - why did GALVmed undertake this study?

The purpose of the study was for GALVmed to build a better understanding of the household dynamics at play within livestock-owning smallholder households. In particular, it would afford a clearer focus on the issue of gender and livestock. This was considered necessary since previous GALVmed Monitoring and Evaluation studies (focusing on issues such as vaccine adoption, livestock productivity, etc.) have collected gender disaggregated data, but at a fairly limited level of detail. These wider studies have suggested highly variable trends and patterns in terms of livestock ownership and management between adult males and adult females. It was therefore considered necessary to undertake a one-off specialised gender study. This would provide the opportunity to drill considerably deeper into this topic of gender / household dynamics and to provide GALVmed with a much more detailed picture than is afforded through its standard livestock health related studies.
Headline Observations

The results of the study revealed clear and illuminating trends. The widely held generalisation that certain species of livestock are the preserve either of men or of women appears to be a misleading over-simplification. Both genders are active participants in the care of all species and children can also play an important role in the upkeep of household livestock. There are, however, clear trends in the activities undertaken by both men and women and, while these vary somewhat across geographies, they can be broadly described as:

- For poultry: women perform more labour in the ‘daily chore’ type activities (e.g. feeding, cleaning housing etc.) but the input of men increases substantially for the ‘management and money’ type activities (e.g. buying medicines / vaccines, when to sell / slaughter, what to do with poultry income etc.). This increase in involvement by men does not eclipse that of women in these ‘management and money’ type activities. Rather, it suggests that poultry production is a shared household enterprise, albeit with a higher level of input by women.
- For small ruminants: noticeable geographical variations exist, although the general trend of more input by men in the ‘management and money’ categories than in the ‘daily chore’ activities continues. In the Ethiopian and Tanzanian study areas, this input by men eclipses that of women, but, even here, approximately 30 – 60% of households have active input by women in ‘management and money’ activities. Again, as a generalisation it seems fair to consider small ruminant production as a shared smallholder household enterprise.
- For large ruminants: noticeable country variations exist but the perception that women have very little input or say in cattle (aside from milking) is shown to be largely inaccurate. Again, only in the Tanzanian study area is the role of women in ‘management and money’ activities eclipsed by men. As a generalisation, it seems fair to consider large ruminant production as a shared smallholder household enterprise, albeit with a higher level of input by men.

Further Studies

Further field studies in this area will not be undertaken. The evidence from this study supports the theory that livestock is best considered as a shared household enterprise rather than a specific male or female smallholder undertaking. It also highlights the dangers of collecting disaggregated gender data at a shallow or simplified level (as is often necessarily the case when the focus of the study lies elsewhere on animal health and productivity issues). GALVmed will seek to make this study widely available to donors and grantees active in gender / women empowerment work and where this data may be helpful in informing the objectives of this work.

Cross Reference: Other Related GALVmed M&E Studies

<table>
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<th>Study</th>
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<tr>
<td>ND Vaccine and Poultry Productivity Changes Studies (Africa/Asia)</td>
<td>These studies are before and after comparisons of poultry productivity in smallholder households associated with GALVmed’s Market Development field projects. Limited gender disaggregated data.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ND Vaccine and Husbandry Practices Study (India)</td>
<td>Comparing smallholder poultry husbandry practices between adopters and non-adopters of ND vaccine in India. Limited gender disaggregated data.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poultry Productivity Studies</td>
<td>The Poultry Productivity Studies are impact / productivity related studies looking to make a direct comparison between ND vaccine adopters and non-adopters. Limited gender disaggregated data.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ND Pilot Project Durability Assessment</td>
<td>This study assessed the long-term commercial viability of the ND vaccine supply chain. Adopters and non-adopters data collected. Limited gender disaggregated data.</td>
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