



Worldbank Report

By

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Workshop Title:

A 6-day Training Workshop for the State-Level Extension Agent on
Good Animal Husbandry Practices (GAHP's) and Extension
Procedure

Location:

Africann Heritage Institution, 54 Nza Street, Independence Layout,
Enugu

Date:

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Organised by:

Livestock Productivity and Resilience Project Enugu State Chapter
in collaboration with the Green Earth Agrobiz and Consult

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List of the abbreviations used

GAHP: Good Animal Husbandry Practices

GAHPs: Good Animal Husbandry Practices

L-PRES: Livestock Productivity and Resilience Support

NPC: National Project Coordinator

FFS: Farmers' Field Schools

FBS: Farmer Business Schools

F2F: Farmer-to-Farmer

FMARD: Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
(inferred from context)

NBS: National Bureau of Statistics (inferred from context)

FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization (inferred from context)

WFP: World Food Programme (inferred from context)

AI: Artificial Insemination (inferred from context)

CBPP: Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (inferred from context)

FMD: Foot-and-Mouth Disease (inferred from context)

PPR: Peste des Petits Ruminants (inferred from context)

Executive Summary

This report details the outcomes of the "Training of Trainers on Livestock Productivity and Resilience Support" workshop, a six-day intensive programme held in Enugu State, Nigeria, from July 7th to July 12th, 2025. This initiative, conducted under the auspices of the World Bank-funded Livestock Productivity and Resilience Support (L-PRES) Project, aimed to significantly enhance livestock productivity and resilience by strengthening the capacity of key stakeholders.

The workshop successfully engaged 140 participants, comprising both livestock extension agents and lead farmers, ensuring diverse representation with a nearly balanced gender distribution (55.6% male, 44.4% female). The curriculum was meticulously designed, utilising a comprehensive handbook on "Climate-Smart Good Animal Husbandry Practices (GAHP)" and employing participatory methodologies, including practical sessions like feed formulation.

Immediate outcomes, as measured through pre- and post-training assessments, demonstrate a substantial positive impact. Participants exhibited a significant increase in their knowledge of GAHPs and extension procedures, moving from a moderate baseline to a high level of understanding. Notably, confidence in communicating GAHPs to farmers surged from a very low pre-training level to a strong post-training self-assurance. Similarly, confidence in facilitating participatory extension methods, such as Farmers' Field Schools (FFS), also saw a marked improvement. The training effectively addressed long-standing misconceptions and empowered participants with practical skills, reflected in their stated intentions to implement new practices such as vaccination schedules, record-keeping, and feed formulation.

While the training achieved its immediate objectives, the post-training assessment identified anticipated challenges to the application of climate-smart practices, primarily cost (31.5%), farm resistance (27.8%), and access to tools/resources (24.1%). These insights are crucial for informing future interventions.

The report concludes with a robust monitoring, evaluation, and feedback framework, outlining plans for longitudinal impact assessment to track actual changes in productivity and livelihoods. Strategic next steps emphasize the institutionalization of training modules, the establishment of community-level support systems, the development of accessible digital resources, and ongoing policy dialogue to create an enabling environment.

In essence, this workshop represents a critical investment in human capital for Nigeria's livestock sector. By fostering a more knowledgeable, confident, and resilient network of professionals and farmers, it directly contributes to the L-PRES project's overarching goals of boosting productivity, enhancing resilience, and promoting the commercialization of livestock, ultimately moving Nigeria closer to its food security and sustainable development objectives.

1.1 Background and Rationale

Nigeria's livestock sector is a critical component of the nation's agricultural landscape, providing livelihoods for nearly 30% of its rural population and serving as a vital source of protein and income. Despite possessing a substantial livestock population, including approximately 18.4 million cattle, 43.4 million sheep, 76 million goats, and over 180 million poultry birds, the sector remains significantly underperforming (FMARD, 2017; NBS, 2022). This underperformance is starkly evident in its contribution to the national economy, accounting for less than 10% of agricultural GDP and a mere 2–3% of total GDP (FMARD, 2021). Consequently, Nigeria continues to rely heavily on meat and dairy imports to meet domestic demand, indicating a substantial gap between livestock numbers and actual production levels.

The underlying causes of this productivity gap are multifaceted and systemic. They include but not limited to:

1. **Inadequate Feed and Nutrition:** Poor quality and insufficient quantities of feed are major constraints, leading to suboptimal animal growth and productivity (FAO, 2020).
2. **Poor Genetics:** The prevalence of low-yielding local breeds and limited access to improved genetics hinder the potential for higher output.
3. **Frequent Disease Outbreaks:** Endemic diseases, often exacerbated by poor biosecurity and limited veterinary services, result in significant animal mortality and production losses.
4. **Limited Access to Veterinary Services:** Many livestock farmers, particularly in rural areas, lack access to timely and effective animal health interventions.
5. **Suboptimal Management Practices:** A lack of knowledge and adoption of modern, efficient animal husbandry practices contributes to low productivity and high production costs.

The consequences of this underperformance are increasingly severe, particularly in the context of Nigeria's escalating food insecurity. As of mid-2024, an alarming estimate of over 26 million Nigerians faced food crisis levels or worse, a sharp increase from 18.6 million in 2023 (WFP, 2024). This dire situation is further aggravated by economic instability, insecurity, and climate change impacts, which disproportionately affect vulnerable populations dependent on agriculture. Enhancing domestic livestock productivity is therefore not just an economic imperative, but a critical component of the national strategy to alleviate food insecurity and improve nutritional outcomes.

It is against this backdrop that the World Bank launched the Livestock Productivity and Resilience Support (L-PRES) Project. This ambitious US\$500 million initiative aims to transform Nigeria's livestock sector by boosting productivity, resilience, and commercialization across key value chains (cattle, goats, poultry, pigs, sheep and goat) in all 36 states (World Bank, 2023). A core pillar of the L-PRES project is strengthening the human capacity within the sector, thus the need for this training.

The rationale for this training workshop is thus firmly rooted in addressing these identified challenges and directly supporting the L-PRES project's objectives. Livestock extension entails communicating with livestock owners in a systematic and organised manner to assist them in acquiring the necessary knowledge and skills to increase production and reduce costs. Improving the capacity of livestock actors along the value chain, particularly extension personnel and lead farmers, is paramount. This training, was thus centred around the "Climate-Smart Good Animal Husbandry Practices: A Comprehensive Handbook for Livestock Extension Training", was designed to:

- Bridge Knowledge Gaps: Equip extension agents and farmers with up-to-date, scientifically sound knowledge in Good Animal Husbandry Practices (GAHPs) across various commodities (cattle, sheep, goats, poultry, and swine).

- **Promote Climate Resilience:** Integrate climate-smart practices into animal husbandry, enabling farmers to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change and build more resilient production systems.
- **Enhance Extension Efficacy:** Improve the skills of extension agents in delivering effective and participatory extension services, ensuring that knowledge reaches a wider farming community.
- **Foster Commercialisation:** Impart critical business and marketing skills, including livestock production economics and record-keeping, to transition subsistence farming towards more profitable, market-orientated enterprises.
- **Catalyse Impact:** By focusing on training extension agents and lead farmers, the workshop aims to create a sustainable multiplier effect, where trained individuals become local change agents, disseminating knowledge and skills to a larger cohort of farmers in their respective communities.

This training workshop is therefore a strategic intervention, designed to empower livestock stakeholders with the tools and knowledge necessary to overcome systemic barriers, enhance productivity, build resilience, and ultimately contribute significantly to Nigeria's food security and economic development, in direct alignment with the World Bank's L-PRES project goals.

1.2 Workshop Objectives

The overarching objective of this training workshop was to enhance livestock productivity and resilience in Nigeria by strengthening the capacity of extension agents and farmers in climate-smart, good animal husbandry practices.

Specific objectives included:

1. To empower livestock owners with the knowledge and skills to become experts in their fields, enabling them to make critical and informed decisions for profitable and sustainable farming.

2. To sensitize livestock owners to new ways of thinking and problem-solving in livestock management.
3. To improve participants' understanding of effective livestock extension services, approaches, and methodologies.
4. To impart comprehensive knowledge and practical skills in Good Animal Husbandry Practices (GAHPs) across various commodity value chains, including cattle (beef and dairy), sheep, goats, poultry (layers and broilers), and swine.
5. To educate participants on livestock production economics, marketing strategies, and essential record-keeping practices.
6. To introduce concepts and benefits of crop-livestock integration for enhanced resource efficiency and sustainability.
7. To promote the adoption of climate-smart practices to mitigate the impacts of climate change on livestock production and build resilience.
8. To foster collaboration and teamwork among experts and actors within the livestock value chain