

Overview

Tanzania's poultry sub-sector is comprised of traditional and commercial production systems. Traditional poultry kept are mainly chicken (90%) with the remaining small proportion being ducks, ostriches, pigeons and geese. According to the Tanzania Poultry Breeders Association (TPBA), traditional chicken shows a high potential to improve food security, household income of rural people, particularly disadvantaged groups such as women and children. Commercial poultry production in Tanzania is still on a low scale due to lack of skills and technical knowhow, lack of capital for investment, unorganized market for poultry and poultry products, unreliable supply of day-old chicks, lack of reliable supply of quality poultry feeds, high veterinary medicine costs, poultry feed costs and lack of poultry processing industries. Tanzania's per capita consumption of poultry meat is estimated at 15 kg per annum (FAO 2015). Through the Poultry Strategic Partnership, SAGCOT is working with its partners to address challenges and opportunities in the sub-sector.

Key Stakeholders in the Poultry Partnership

Public Sector
Private sector
Development Partners
Farmers Oganisations



The Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT)

Is a public-private partnership that seeks to catalyse responsible agribusiness investments in the country's southern corridor. The SAGCOT Centre Ltd serves as a partnership broker and information hub among SAGCOT partners to facilitate socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable value chain investments. The SAGCOT Centre actively promotes and facilitates strategic partnerships in order to promote a harmonized approach and to improve synergies among key stakeholders within and across priority value chains.

How important is the poultry value chain?

Poultry Value chain represents one of the most promising pathways for poverty alleviation through provision of employment to women and the youth. 70% of the smallholder poultry keepers are youth while 40% are women. Furthermore, the value chain continues to make a critical contribution to improved nutrition and food security. The ongoing transformation of the poultry industry, particularly among smallholders continues to improve standards of living through increased incomes and improved nutrition.

According to FAOSTAT, in 2017, Tanzania processed approximately 104,000 metric tons of Chicken meat with a 5-year Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 4%. In addition to producing meat and eggs, poultry manure is a great source of fertilizer and is a potential revenue stream for farmers. In most local communities poultry is also used as a repository of wealth and used as medium of exchange.

Transforms farmers' food security and improves livelihoods.

Poultry holds high potential for rapid modernization with growing demand in urban, peri-urban and rural areas. In Tanzanian, 96% of livestock farmers keep indigenous chickens, usually in small flocks of up to 20 birds, which supply 94% of the poultry meat and eggs in rural areas. There is differentiated demand for chicken type and breed in urban and rural areas. Consumption is skewed on medium- to high-income populations in urban areas, but demand is high throughout the country.

Seeks end-to-end value chain solutions

Exotic breeds predominantly goes through a distributor for meat and or eggs, the latter is as a result of large quantities being produced by a commercial farmer at a given time when compared with small number of indigenous chickens kept by households.

The indigenous chicken breed are kept as small flocks in free-ranging low input production system. They provide vital nutrition and are a source of income to most households in rural areas while exotic breeds are produced in large quantities through a well-structured commercial system.

Epitome of public-private partnership

An assessment of Poultry value chain in the corridor indicates that poultry is private sector driven but it is regulated by the public sector hence the need for public-private partnership. The Poultry strategic partnership brings diverse stakeholders together particularly the public and private partners and it is a platform for these stakeholders to align their interests and leverage their influence in developing and strengthening the poultry value chain.

The Poultry strategic partnership is comprised of partners, who are Smallholder poultry keepers, Private Sector players such as Silverlands, AKM Glitters, Tanfeed (Moragg), NMB, CRDB, Agrovets; public sector including Regional Secretariats, President's Office – Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), Local Government Authorities (LGAs), Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC), Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, TALIRI, Tanzania Bureau of Standards, Apex organization like Tanzania Animal Feed Manufacturer Association, Tanzania Poultry Breeders Association, Poultry Layers Association.

Offers linkages to other value chains

Due to the high demand of feeds in the commercial poultry farming, the sub-sector has the ability to provide linkages to other value chains that provide intermediate goods and services particularly the commodities such as maize which is a major ingredient in the poultry feed as well as sunflower and soya seed cakes which are key protein ingredients in the poultry feeds.

Helps to improve soil fertility

Poultry manure is used as an organic fertilizer to enrich soils with nutrients for production of horticultural crops, mostly in small fields around households. Poultry manure is rich in Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Potassium and is considered a key fertilization component for soils low in Nitrogen. Most of the manure is obtained from improved poultry breeds (broilers, layers, Kuroiler and Sasso), which are usually managed under confinement.

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Inclusive and sustainable impact

Ownership and division of benefits: As opposed to cattle, sheep and goats, small scale poultry is a source of employment to a diverse range of people in the local communities. Poultry producers are predominantly women and most of the financial benefits accrued from the sale of live poultry and eggs are usually utilized by women. Youths engage in buying and selling of eggs and live chicken and some are engaged in rendering value addition activities like roasting of chicken and frying of eggs. Orphans and people with disabilities have been organized in entrepreneurship groups that produce chicken for eggs and meat through different initiatives in the cluster such as the Africa Bridge project. Most of commercial chicken producers employ full time workforce particularly youth males and females with average of one person per chicken producer.

Support to small scale investments: As a business strategy, medium and large-scale producers and processors are building capacity of the local communities through corporate shared value investments and provision of extension services. Support is also provided to small scale producer groups in order to create reliable market channels; as well as provision of technical support for smallholder producers to enhance quality of the agro-produce in the value chain. Silverlands and AKM Glitters are the main suppliers of day-old chicks and poultry feeds, in collaboration with other partners such as Tanzania Livestock Research Institute (TALIRI) and the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) have supported the African Chicken Genetic Gain project which aimed at scaling up improved dual purpose Kuroiler and Sasso chicken breeds.

Key Challenges

- Production of improved day-old chicks and chicken Low production and supply of day-old chicks, inadequate disease surveillance system, limited provision of timely Vaccination and treatment and limited use of improved technologies for hatchery and poultry feeds production
- Increased value on poultry and its by-products Lack of accredited poultry abattoirs that ensure safe meat in the market, Unstable electricity supply, issues related to quality control and lack of awareness on local poultry processing and packaging.
- Access to finance for poultry value chain actors Lack of culture for self-financing to invest on poultry value chain, and limited support to women and youth groups to secure funds from LGAs to invest on poultry business.
- Unstructured market systems Unpredictable and unstructured market for poultry sub-sector, few poultry keepers who are using Business Development Services, inadequate awareness to the society to consider consumption of quality poultry products as a source of nutrition and limited awareness of the consumers on the availability of one-month old chicks.
- Policy and business enabling environment There is no zonal level laboratories to test for animal feeds quality, poor enforcement of the check list for sellers of poultry feeds ingredients provided by the MLF, lack of feed inspectors at the LGAs to ensure standardization of policy at national level.