



**BUSITEMA
UNIVERSITY**
Pursuing Excellence

**ASSESSMENT OF GENDER PARTICIPATION IN VILLAGE CHICKEN
PRODUCTION IN ONGINO SUB COUNTY, KUMI DISTRICT**



BY

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AUGUST, 2014

DECLARATION

I, **Opejo Simon Peter** declare that this research dissertation is my own work and has never been submitted to any university or any other higher institution of learning for any academic award

Signature..... *Jwp pp* Date..... *31st - 07 - 2014*

APPROVAL

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DEDICATION

To all my friends who never stopped encouraging me to finish this dissertation and my parents as they have made me to be whom I am.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|------|
| DECLARATION | ii |
| APPROVAL | ii |
| DEDICATION | iii |
| ACKNOWLEDGMENTS | iv |
| LIST OF TABLES | vii |
| LIST OF FIGURES | viii |
| LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS | ix |
| ABSTRACT | x |
| CHAPTER ONE | 1 |
| INTRODUCTION | 1 |
| 1.1 Background | 1 |
| 1.2 Problem statement. | 2 |
| 1.3 Main objective | 2 |
| 1.4 Specific objectives | 2 |
| 1.5 Research questions | 3 |
| 1.6 Significance of the Study | 3 |
| 1.7 Justification of the study | 3 |
| 1.8 Scope of the study | 4 |
| CHAPTER TWO | 5 |
| LITERATURE REVIEW | 5 |
| 2.1 Genetic diversity and distribution of village chicken | 5 |
| 2.2 Importance and use of village chicken in Uganda | 6 |
| 2.3 Concept of gender | 6 |
| 2.4 Women and Agriculture | 6 |
| 2.5 Gender Division of labor in agriculture | 6 |
| 2.6 Gender participation in village chicken production | 7 |
| 2.7 Social characteristics of households involved in village chicken production | 8 |
| 2.8 The level of women involvement in decision making and marketing of village chicken products | 9 |
| CHAPTER THREE | 10 |

| | |
|--|----|
| METHODOLOGY | 10 |
| 3.1 Study area | 10 |
| 3.2 Sample size determination | 10 |
| 3.3 Operational design | 11 |
| 3.4 Sampling Design | 11 |
| 3.5 Data analysis | 11 |
| 3. 6 Data Presentation | 11 |
| 3.7 Challenges encountered | 12 |
| 3.8 Ethical considerations | 12 |
| CHAPTER FOUR | 13 |
| RESULTS | 13 |
| 4.1 Social characteristics of households involved in village chicken production | 13 |
| 4.2 Involvement of family members in village chicken flock management | 16 |
| 4.2.1 Daily management activities | 16 |
| 4.2.2 Involvement of family members in Health management activities | 17 |
| 4.2.3 Other management activities | 18 |
| 4.3 Decision making over use of resources and marketing of village chicken products. | 19 |
| 4.3.1 Decision making over use of resources of village chicken products. | 19 |
| 4.3.2 Decision making over Marketing of village chicken products | 21 |
| CHAPTER FIVE | 22 |
| DISCUSSION OF RESULTS | 22 |
| CHAPTER SIX | 27 |
| CONCLUSION | 27 |
| 6.1 Conclusions | 27 |
| 6.2 Recommendations | 27 |
| REFERENCES | 28 |
| APPENDIX ONE: QUESTIONNAIRE | 33 |

LIST OF TABLES

| | |
|---|----|
| Table 4.1 Social characteristics of households involved in village chicken production | 11 |
| Table 4.2 Involvement of family members in Daily management activities | 14 |
| Table 4.3 Other management activities for village chicken production..... | 16 |

LIST OF FIGURES

| | |
|--|----|
| Figure 4.1 Marital status of the respondents | 12 |
| Figure 4.2 Ownership of village chicken among family members in Ongino Sub County..... | 13 |
| Figure 4.3 Gender involvements in feeding and watering of village chicken | 14 |
| Figure 4.4 Involvement of family members in Health management activities | 15 |
| Figure 4.5 Decision making over use of resources of village chicken products | 17 |
| Figure 4.6 Decision making on sale of chicken..... | 18 |

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| MAAIF: | Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries |
| FAO: | Food and Agriculture Organization |
| NAGRIC&DB: | National Animal Genetic Resources Center and Data Bank |
| UCC: | Uganda Communications Commission |
| NA RO: | National Agricultural Research Organization |

ABSTRACT

The study was carried out to assess the gender participation in village chicken production. The survey focused on social characteristics of households rearing village chicken, determination of the level of women's involvement in daily management of village chicken flocks and level of women's involvement in decision making over use of resources and marketing of village chicken products.

Random sampling technique was employed in administering standard questionnaires to 100 households randomly selected to the study.

Regarding ownership of village chicken, the study showed that women owned majority of the flocks 68%. Women had the highest responsibility in activities like; feeding and watering 54%, letting the chicken out in the morning and in to the house in the evening 66%, cleaning of chicken houses, collection of eggs, record keeping, monitoring of hens during incubation, taking care of the chicks. The men participated in construction of chicken houses 65%, health management 49%, security of the birds and ensuring that there is breeding cock. The level of women's involvement in decision making over use of resources and Marketing of chicken products showed women were key decision makers 45% in marketing of chicken and eggs, consumption of chicken and eggs 52% but never had full control over the use of earnings generated from the sale of chicken and eggs, this was the same case to girls and boys.

The findings of this study indicated that women performed more activities during the daily management of village chicken flocks as compared to men, boys and girls. Women have limited access and control over the use of resources like finances generated from the sale of chicken and chicken products. The study recommended that all barriers against women should be discouraged when it comes to the area of village chicken production.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The world poultry population has been estimated to be about 16.2 billion, with 71.6 % in developing countries, producing 67, 718,544 metric tons of chicken meat and 57,861,747 metric tons of hen eggs (Gueye, 2005). Estimate on livestock in Africa shows that poultry population is the highest (Sonaiya *et al.*, 1998). In East Africa over 80% of human population live in rural areas and over 75% of these households keep indigenous chicken and Uganda is not exception to this situation (Kitalyi, 1998).

The poultry industry in Uganda is composed of 21.8 million birds (MAAIF, 1998) and estimated to consist mainly of chicken comprising of 10 million birds. Over 90% of Ugandan chicken are indigenous stock reared under the Backyard system (Olaboro, 1990), producing an average of 50 eggs per hen per year. Village poultry production plays a significant role in income generation and poverty alleviation in a condition where many people are landless or have no formal skills to participate in income earning activities (Aklilu *et al.*, 2008).

In a number of African countries, approximately 80% of the chicken flocks are owned and largely controlled and managed by rural women (Gueye, 1998). According to (Gueye, 2003), the management of rural chicken in Africa is a family affair. Construction of chicken house and major decisions on sale of chicken and eggs and consumption of chicken products is under the control of men, while looking after chicken, controlling and utilizing the earnings from the sale of eggs and chicken belongs to women.

Similarly, (Tadelle & Ogle, 2001) indicated that in Ethiopia, management of chicken is fully in the domain of women, while decision on control and access to resources varies considerably. (Kitalyi & Andre, 1998) also reported that there is gender plurality in decision-making in village chicken production in the Gambia. Generally speaking, societies view men and women differently (Wombeogo, 2007).

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