LIVESTOCK SERVICES IN TANZANIA: ACTIONABLE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
Lessons from an experimental livestock vaccination campaign

SMALL REFORMS MAKE LIVESTOCK SERVICES MUCH BETTER
Less costs and improved farmers’ livelihoods

The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, District Authorities and the Tanzania Veterinary Laboratory Agency implemented an experimental vaccination campaign against Newcastle Disease in chicken in 27 districts.

BOTTOM-UP APPROACH
The vaccination campaign was designed by livestock field officers. They have the best knowledge of the situation on the ground.

EXPERIMENTATION
Livestock officers formed different groups, that followed either old or new rules. Their different performances tell us whether new rules are better than old rules.

THE CHICKEN VACCINATION CAMPAIGN: A SUCCESS

IMPRESSION
With new rules in place:

- LIVESTOCK OFFICERS SERVE 5% more agricultural households*
- FARMERS PAY 17% less for livestock services and are better off

* Households deriving >50% of their income from agriculture.
** Households keeping a flock of 11/12 birds.

ACTIONABLE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Make VACCINES AVAILABLE for collection at the 8 TVLA zonal centres.
- Request LIVESTOCK OFFICERS to PURCHASE VACCINES. Vaccines are often subsidized, yet 100% of livestock field officers are willing to pay for them.
- Request LIVESTOCK OFFICERS to COVER their TRAVEL EXPENSES. A service fee is sufficient to make a vaccination campaign work.
- Authorise LIVESTOCK OFFICERS to CHARGE SERVICE FEES. Uncertainty about the legitimacy of service fees reduces outreach.
- Consider ESTABLISHING a MAXIMUM SERVICE FEE. A well-chosen fee makes farmers better-off.
- CONTACT FARMERS for effective MONITORING AND EVALUATION. Over 90% of farmers can be reached by phone.

Small changes, BIG PAYOFFS

SMALL CHANGES in rules and regulation, and at almost NO COST, make livestock services work better, improve farmers’ livelihoods, and support LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT.