

Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project Highlights

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Scholar Program 7

POLICY PROJECT SCHOLAR'S CHRISTMAS VACATION – LEADING DATA COLLECTION ACROSS IBADAN, NIGERIA

Following the training of 25 enumerators on December 17-18, 2016, Wale Ogunleye led the team to gather information from households in almost 200 communities in 18 wards across four local governments in the Ibadan area.

"Leading this activity further built my leadership capacity particularly in terms of ensuring things are done appropriately in the midst of being friendly," Ogunleye said.



Wale and subset of enumerators listing poultry farms in Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria

The work was challenging, as the team had to list various actors along the poultry value chain including small, medium and large scale poultry farms, scattered across the study area.

"I believe my presence at the different locations where the enumerators worked boosted their morale, especially on days when we visited highly remote locations and enumerators had thought a rational man would try to avoid visiting such places," Ogunleye said. This reveals the importance of personal commitment and direct involvement of researchers themselves in their field work



"I also believe that the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project scholar program, through this exercise, has contributed towards improvement of research in Nigeria," Ogunleye said. "First, the enumerators used were either students or lecturers, thus individuals who are constantly involved in research in Nigeria. Through their participation, these researchers and researchers-in-training got a better appreciation of the complete, scientifically based process of primary data collection and the importance of maintaining a correct database."

The lack of a database of poultry farmers and other actors along the poultry value chain made it necessary for this activity to be conducted. Once the rationale for and objectives of the listing exercise were explained to the enumerators, they gained a better understanding of the role of proper sample frame development and consequent sample selection in research, which is an important factor in establishing validity of any study.









"Second, I believe that participation in studies like this will serve as motivation for participants to do all within their means to ensure good record keeping and maintain solid databases when they are in position to do so in the future, either in their studies or when engaging in research more generally," Ogunleye said.

Ogunleye's experience is an example of how the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project scholar training program trains one to train another.

by Wale Ogunleye and Saweda Liverpool-Tasie

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