

# Using participatory & inclusive approaches with smallholder goat and sheep farming families



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# Participation & Inclusion is on Multiple Levels

1. Addressing issues **relevant & usable** by smallholders
2. **Including** farmers in research & intervention design
3. Including **different kinds of farmers** in activities



# First Steps for Inclusion

1. Include farmer's views
2. Use practical assessment methods (at first)
  - Quick & cheap for project
  - Farmers can maybe use too
3. Try practical interventions



# Recurring Theme

- Women & men smallholder farmers want more **information**



“We don’t want NGO handouts, we want to make a better life by having information to look after our animals better”

– *Women’s discussion group, Sujawal*

“...this is really wonderful opportunity to learn new things.”

**...request to keep continue your work here so women get awareness...**

– *Women’s feedback in Creep Feeding reporting & training workshop*

# Example: Setting up a Creep Feeding Trial

- Check current feeding practices
- Align feeding recommendation with current household work
- Adapt if needed
- Report back results
- Check practicality & uptake

Consult → Test → Measure →  
Report → Update



# Example: *Pilot Creep Feeding Trial*

- Very strong farmer participation
- Farmers thought the intervention was effective BUT...
- ...commercial feed was too expensive for them to keep using
- Needed to adapt to make strategy more inclusive of farmers' situations



# Different Ways to be Inclusive

## Inclusion and participation for...

- Women
- Youth
- Men
- Different socioeconomic groups etc

## 'Socially' e.g. through

- Social mobilisation
- Women-accessible activities
- Project gender mainstreaming within project

## 'Technically' ...

- Interventions that meet women's & other's needs
- Practical & relevant



"This project didn't say anything verbally - they proved the technique of creep feeding by research and it's really a valuable work. Many organizations are working here but no any organization organized such a big workshop here - I am really grateful."

– Farmer, male, Sindh

# Conclusions

- Inclusion takes many forms
- Using participatory approaches with farmers opens the door to more inclusion
- Inclusion can involve taking common strategies (e.g. creep feeding) and making them accessible, practical & relevant to women's & other's needs



# Thank You



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