

# PARTICIPATORY APPROACH TO BETTER SUPPORT POULTRY FARMERS IN BIOSECURITY







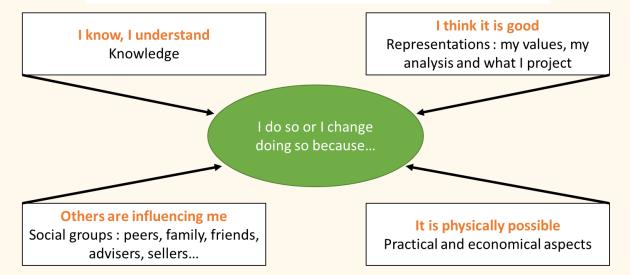
#### **MAIN KEY POINTS**

- Participative workshops constitute an interesting tool to accompany the farmers in the management of change
- The meetings animated by a facilitator, accompanied by the vet/advisor, consist in a working phase, a debate and an action plan. It is part of a 3step approach at farm level including diagnosis, follow-up and final assessment.
- This tool has been successfully applied to biosecurity, allowing farmers to change their practices and mindset.

#### The participatory approach : definition and objectives

- Thanks to discussions between peers, it aims at empowering farmers to find solutions adapted to their own development issue (different from a training coming from the adviser)
- It can help changing practices (that is often a source of stress for farmers), or to be confirmed in a practice.
- It helps understanding a variety of points of view, motivations, limits and barriers for other farmers.
- It is both an attitude and a philosophy that encourages learning, discovery and flexibility.

#### 4 factors that can explain a change of practice



## PARTICIPATORY APPROACH TO BETTER SUPPORT POULTRY FARMERS IN BIOSECURITY

## Structure and flow of a participative meeting

Welcome participants and ice-breaking activity

#### The working phase

on a targeted question, allowing the participants to express themselves

### Presentation of key messages

to be remembered or a summary of the group work, by the meeting facilitator.

### Debate between participants

(questions and answers) which allows them to take on board new points of view, new concepts, new solutions, etc.

### Conclusion and action plan

that each person intends to carry out on the farm.

#### **Organisation**

- Optimal number pf participants: 6-15
- Duration: ½ day or 1 day including meal
- Facilitator : vet/adviser
  + a co-animator (who should have been specifically trained)



#### A trained facilitator knows how to:

- Adopt the right verbal/non verbal attitude, and a listening behaviour
- Ensure equal speaking time for all participants
- Handle conflicts/disagreements between participants
- Build confidence between participants, favoring open discussions
- Manage meeting timing

# Examples of animation techniques to stimulate exchanges:

- Brainstorming
- Roundtables
- « angel and daemon advocate »
- world café



### Good preparation is the key of a successful meeting:

- Choice of a sufficiently attractive, limited and precise theme
- Objectives precisely defined before the meeting
- Choose the audience according to the theme and the objectives to guarantee a richness of the exchanges. The farmers must have a common framework (same production organization/specifications), a common objective to allow group cohesion and comparison.
- **Diversity of the audience with "good" and "bad" practices** to encourage discussion.

## PARTICIPATORY APPROACH TO BETTER SUPPORT POULTRY FARMERS IN BIOSECURITY

#### **Benefits for the participant:**



- Feeling of belonging to a professional group and professional recognition
- Rich discussions that lead to solutions and allow farmers to progress together
- Credibility given to exchanges between peers
- Realise that other farmers and stakeholders are facing the same constraints.

#### Benefits for the facilitator:



- Building trust
- Be aware of and correct preconceived ideas
- Get to know some farmers better and be inspired by the discussions to bring good ideas
- Be an actor in the technical progress of the farmers

Initial diagnosis

Individual interviews of farmers

Triggering the change with a 1<sup>rst</sup> participatory meeting

Monitoring progress (individual interviews)

Consolidating the change with a 2<sup>nd</sup> participatory meeting

Final assessment Individual interviews of farmers

Example of use of the participatory approach in a 3-step process applied to biosecurity

#### The participative approach has been proven to be successful for farmers:

in a 3-step process applied to biosecurity, to trigger and consolidate the change, in conjunction with individual assessments of farmers attitude before and after the meetings.

In Netpoulsafe project, the participative approach will be used in the pilot farms in France, to work on the farm biosecurity plan, to improve some specific points.

#### For more information:

- Le Bouquin S., Koulete E., Kling-Eveillard F., Boudet S., Scoizec A, Rousset N., 2020. Biosecurity in poultry farming: a participatory approach to promote compliance with biosecurity measures. ISESSAH 2020 on Wednesday 11th to Friday 13th
- Partage project
- NETPOULSAFE project : https://www.netpoulsafe.eu





This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No.101000728 (NetPoulSafe).