

## REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-55772

**Title:** Adaptation de l'approche communautaire à la gestion des 1 affections animales dans le Pôle de Développement 2 Agricole 3 au Nord-Ouest du Bénin

### Recommendation:

Accept as it is .....

Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision .....

Do not accept (*Reasons below*) .....

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		Good		
Techn. Quality		Good		
Clarity		Good		
Significance		Good		

Reviewer Name: Dr. Thirunahari Ugandhar

### Detailed Reviewer's Report

#### General Comments

The manuscript entitled “Adaptation de l'approche communautaire à la gestion des affections animales dans le Pôle de Développement Agricole 3 au Nord-Ouest du Bénin” addresses an important and relevant issue in animal health management in rural West African contexts. The study is well grounded in participatory development theory and presents practical field-based evidence on the effectiveness of community-based animal health interventions. The bilingual presentation (French and English) enhances accessibility to a broader readership.

The manuscript demonstrates good coherence between objectives, methodology, results, and conclusions. The use of MARP and the establishment of village-level committees are well justified and clearly described. The findings provide useful insights for policymakers, development practitioners, and researchers working in livestock health and rural development.

However, the manuscript would benefit from improvements in clarity, structure, and scientific rigor in some sections to strengthen its contribution.

#### Major Comments

##### 1. Clarity and Consistency of Terminology

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The terms *affections animales*, *maladies animales*, and *épizooties* are sometimes used interchangeably. It is recommended to clearly define these terms early in the manuscript and use them consistently throughout.

Similarly, clarify whether the focus is primarily on **poultry health** or **multi-species livestock health**, as the results emphasize poultry vaccination more strongly.

### 2. Methodological Details

The description of the MARP methodology is appropriate, but additional details would improve reproducibility:

Number of participants involved in village meetings.

Criteria for selecting agro-éleveurs and voluntary farms visited.

Duration of each phase of data collection.

The six-month testing period of the model mentioned in the objectives should be more clearly documented in the methodology and reflected in the results.

### 3. Results and Discussion Integration

The discussion section would benefit from deeper comparison with similar studies conducted in West Africa or other sub-Saharan African contexts.

While social dynamics are mentioned (leadership, role of VVV), these aspects could be analytically strengthened using concepts from community governance or social capital.

### 4. Impact Assessment

The reduction in mortality is mentioned qualitatively. If available, quantitative estimates or comparative mortality rates before and after intervention would significantly strengthen the evidence.

The long-term sustainability of the committees and vaccination campaigns should be discussed in more depth.

## Minor Comments

### 1. Language and Style

Several sentences are long and could be simplified for better readability, particularly in the introduction and theoretical framework.

Minor grammatical and typographical errors are present (spacing, agreement, punctuation) and should be corrected.

In the English abstract, phrases such as “*animal disease*” should be pluralized (*animal diseases*) for accuracy.

### 2. Tables and Figures

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Tables should be consistently numbered and referenced in the text (e.g., Table 1 and Table 2).

Figures (Photos 1–3) should include clearer captions indicating location and relevance.

Units and percentages should be harmonised (e.g., spacing before %).

### 3. References

Ensure uniform citation style across all references (italics, capitalisation, punctuation).

Some references could be updated with more recent literature on community-based animal health systems

### Technical and Editorial Suggestions

- Add a short **limitations section** highlighting constraints such as sample size, duration of observation, or reliance on self-reported data.
- Strengthen the **policy implications** by linking findings to national livestock health strategies in Benin.
- Consider adding a **conceptual framework figure** summarising the community-based management model developed.

### Overall Recommendation

#### Accept with minor to moderate revisions

The manuscript has strong practical relevance and scientific merit. Addressing the above comments will significantly improve its clarity, robustness, and impact.