



# Strategic Plan for the Implementation of Support to Private Veterinary Practices in Nigeria

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## Context

- The private sector employs close to 80% of registered veterinarians in Nigeria
- No clearly defined framework for integrating them into the National Veterinary Service or supporting them
- Private veterinarians operate largely unregulated and with synergy or collaboration with public veterinarians., leading to lost opportunities in animal health development and promotion.
- A robust and vibrant animal health service can be largely attained by the adoption of a sanitary mandate under the public-private partnership in the veterinary domain through collaboration, synergy, shared risks and resources, and clear delineation of responsibilities and benefits.

## Methodology

- A mixed method involving quantitative and qualitative approaches to ensure comprehensive insights into Nigeria's current landscape of private veterinary practice.
- A national-level study covering key stakeholders in the public and private sectors of the veterinary field to analyse and map veterinary practices.
- This included assessing various aspects such as location, practice type, experiences, governance, and staffing.
- The focus extended to evaluating the business environment and understanding specific needs like input, equipment, legal requirements, etc. In-depth interviews with key informants and Focus group discussions with key stakeholders were conducted. Data was collected with the help of the Kobo Collect Tool.

## Results

- 72.38% had financial needs while 14.08% had substantial needs for essential tools and equipment.
- The survey also identified moderate requirements for inputs and personnel (8.43%) and (0.72%) respectively.
- Furthermore, Infrastructure and facility needs were 3.95%, while 0.45% was attributable to specific requirements of the overall needs.
- The implication of this study is that FMAFS must (i) prioritise financial assistance programmes to address financial challenges faced by private veterinary practice. (ii) facilitate equipment procurement to enhance the quality and efficiency of veterinary services. (iii) Address moderate needs such as training programs and hands-on experience. (iv) Invest in infrastructure by allocating resources to improve or establish facilities. Monitoring and evaluation of results

## Conclusions and recommendations

- The challenges outlined showed a clear picture of the impediments faced by private veterinarians.
- The recurring theme of insufficient capital emerges as a critical barrier, with implications for setting up and expanding practices. Issues like quackery, insecurity concerns affecting the choice of location, and the reluctance of private veterinarians to report disease are identified as challenges that require interventions.
- The recognition of the field-level significance of private veterinarians in disease reporting, coupled with the acknowledgement of their reluctance and the need for support mechanisms, presents a nuanced perspective.
- This understanding forms the basis for the proposed solutions, such as harmonised disease reporting systems, grants, and low-interest loans.
- The emphasis on addressing challenges collectively is evident in the recommendation to empower private vets and foster collaboration between private and public health. This aligns with the broader objectives of creating a resilient veterinary system that collectively tackles challenges and contributes to overall livestock health.

Raw Labels	0-5	6-10	11-15	>=16	Grand Total
Abia	7	13	10	6	36
Adamawa	6	4	8	12	30
Akwa Ibom	12	12	2	5	31
Anambra	7	8	9	6	30
Bauchi	7	7	3	1	18
Bayelsa	9	12	5	5	31
Benue	9	16	5	8	38
Borno	13	10	3	5	31
Cross River	8	4	5	2	19
Delta	13	9	7	3	32
Ebonyi	9	7	4	4	24
Edo	11	7	5	7	30
Ekiti	8	4	2	6	20
Enugu	6	9	10	6	31
Federal Capital Territory	9	12	10	8	39
Gombe	13	6	7	4	30
Imo	12	9	4	4	29
Jigawa	5	5	7	3	20
Kaduna	13	11	8	9	41
Kano	12	11	6	6	35
Katsina	8	12	6	6	32
Kebbi	9	7	10	6	32
Kogi	7	7	5	5	24
Kwara	10	8	4	8	30
Lagos	14	11	1	4	30
Nasarawa	8	13	8	2	31
Niger	10	6	10	5	31
Ogun	7	12	7	8	34
Ondo	8	8	5	9	30
Osun	11	5	8	3	27
Oyo	11	8	5	6	30
Plateau	16	14	13	11	54
Rivers	9	10	9	5	33
Sokoto	13	9	4	7	33
Taraba	7	12	3	11	33
Yobe	9	7	6	7	29
Zamfara	9	7	8	6	30
	365	334	233	220	1142

Table 1: Type of Veterinary Practice Private Vets primarily engage in across Nigerian States

Raw Labels	1	2-5	6 & above	Grand Total
Abia	7	27	2	36
Adamawa	8	20	2	30
Akwa Ibom	13	16	2	31
Anambra	4	24	2	30
Bauchi	12	6	0	18
Bayelsa	11	19	1	31
Benue	0	35	3	38
Borno	4	28	0	32
Cross River	11	5	3	19
Delta	9	20	3	32
Ebonyi	3	20	1	24
Edo	11	14	5	30
Ekiti	1	14	5	20
Enugu	6	18	7	31
Federal Capital Territory	6	30	3	39
Gombe	9	20	2	31
Imo	13	13	4	30
Jigawa	4	9	7	20
Kaduna	2	26	13	41
Kano	0	31	4	35
Katsina	0	21	11	32
Kebbi	0	32	0	32
Kogi	10	13	1	24
Kwara	2	22	6	30
Lagos	2	25	3	30
Nasarawa	4	22	5	31
Niger	3	27	1	31
Ogun	12	15	7	34
Ondo	16	12	2	30
Osun	2	20	6	28
Oyo	1	22	7	30
Plateau	16	29	9	54
Rivers	10	20	3	33
Sokoto	6	23	4	33
Taraba	2	20	11	33
Yobe	16	11	2	29
Zamfara	0	23	7	30
	236	752	154	1142

Table 2: Distribution of Private practices across states in Nigeria by years of experience

