SOCIO-ECONOMIC EVALUATION AND HEALTH RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH SLAUGHTERING ACTIVITIES IN ZANGO ABATTOIR AND DOGARAWA SLAUGHTER SLAB, SABON GARI LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, KADUNA STATE, NIGERIA

OGBU, G.M.* AND YUSUF, O.R.
Department of Geography and Environmental Management, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria

ABSTRACT
Slaughtering activities are two-edged swords with socio-economic benefits as well as possible health implications for butchers and meat buyers, but these issues have been underrated, which has left a gap for both academic and policy making efforts. This study attempts to bridge this gap and therefore examines these issues in Zango abattoir (ZA) and Dogarawa Slaughter Slab (DSS), Sabon Gari LGA, Kaduna State. The methods employed for this research were informed of triangulation where combined field observation, questionnaires and interview schedule were used. The result obtained revealed that 25% of cattle at ZA suffered ringworm and 36% of goats at DSS suffer from chessy gland. The study showed that majority of the meat buyers patronise the slaughtering locations on weekly basis. Slaughtering activities were found to contribute greatly to socio-economic development of the two locations such as income and employment, provision of protein food for consumers, utilization of animal waste, bones and hooves for multiple agricultural, ornamental and secondary production activities. Based on the findings, it was concluded that despite the associated health risks, slaughtering activities are imperative for socio-economic wellbeing of various stakeholders. Hence recommendations proffered include provision of veterinary personnel at the slaughtering locations and standardization of slaughtering activities for widespread social, gender and occupational advantages among the people.

Keywords: slaughter, slab, health, risks, abattoir.
*Correspondence: ogbugodwinmicheal@gmail.com