



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND NDU

ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINE No. 1

POULTRY REARING

1.0 Purpose of guideline

This environmental guideline for the rearing of up to **5000 poultry birds** has been prepared by the Ministry of Environment & NDU to ensure that all environmental issues are duly taken into consideration by stakeholders.

2.0 Nature of development

The poultry sector has undergone a very rapid development from a part time backyard activity to a more intensive method of rearing. The most common methods of rearing are the deep litter system and the battery system.

3.0 Potential impacts

The major environmental issues associated with a poultry farm are odour, generation of solid waste and generation of wastewater. The different aspects, impacts and nuisances related to such activities are listed below:

Activity	Aspects	Impacts/ Nuisances
Construction phase		
Design of pens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poor ventilation - Pens incompatible with the surrounding environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Odour - Aesthetics and visual impacts
Site preparation / Construction of buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Generation of excavated soil, debris and construction wastes - Use of heavy machinery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dumping into bare lands, water bodies and drains - Noise, mud ,dust, traffic - Visual impacts
Operation phase		
Rearing activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Solid wastes generation , poultry litter/ droppings , rotten eggs , hatchery wastes, dead birds - Poor husbandry practices - Poor housekeeping (including cleaning and maintenance) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Odour and dust -Risks of contamination of water courses and groundwater - Flies / pests/ rodents - Risks of diseases (Health impacts and biosecurity risks)
Washing of poultry pens	Wastewater generation	Risks of contamination of water courses and groundwater

4.0 Siting of activity

In accordance with the Planning Policy Guidance 2004 of the Ministry of Housing and Lands, the selected site shall:-

- ◆ Satisfy a minimum distance of 200 m from the settlement boundaries and sensitive land uses
- ◆ Not occur within an Irrigation Zone
- ◆ Be at least 200 m from any slaughter house
- ◆ Be at least 200m from any borehole

5.0 Environmental conditions

The major environmental issues are **odour, effluent disposal and solid waste** and the following conditions shall be observed:

- (i) Wastewater and sewage generated from the poultry farm shall be properly collected and disposed of.
- (ii) All solid wastes generated from the poultry farm shall be properly collected and disposed of.
- (iii) All feeds and garbage shall be kept in covered containers. Feed spillage and accumulation of waste shall also be prevented.
- (iv) Necessary precautions shall be taken during site preparation, infrastructural works and during operation of the farm so as not to cause any nuisance by way of noise, dust, odour to the public and surrounding environment.
- (v) The Department of Environment of the Ministry of Environment and NDU shall be informed in writing of the dates of commencement of works on site and operation of the activity for monitoring purposes.

6.0 Enforcement

Under Section 13 of the Environment Protection Act 2002, the enforcing agencies for the different environmental medium or pollutants are as follows:

S. No	Environmental media/ pollutant	Enforcing Agency
1	Odour	Ministry of Health and Quality of Life
2	Inland waters, effluents	Ministry of Public Utilities
3	Solid wastes	Ministry of Local Government

The above-mentioned enforcing agencies shall monitor compliance with the conditions falling under their purview.

7.0 Offences

Any person who fails to comply with any regulations/standards referred to in this guideline shall commit an offence and shall:

- (i) on a first conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding 50, 000 rupees and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years.
- (ii) on a second or subsequent conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding 100,000 rupees and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 8 years.

8.0 Other considerations

The following measures are recommended by the Ministry of Environment and NDU in order to minimise environmental nuisances:

- (i) Providing adequate lighting and ventilation in the building by natural means as far as possible. Energy efficient building designs should be preferred.
- (ii) Maintaining building in a good state and painting at least once every two years.
- (iii) Maintaining the pens and the premises clean and tidy at all times to prevent any form of nuisance by way of odour or dust to the surrounding environment.
- (iv) Keeping litter dry as far as possible.
- (v) Preventing wastes from having access to any watercourse including drains.
- (vi) Proper landscaping of site to enhance its aesthetic value.

For further information, please contact

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