**S5. Survey Development Focus Groups**

Six focus groups were conducted in the three official AFRice project implementation sites in Alaotra-Mangoro. In each commune, one focus group was held at the commune head and one at a more rural location, suggested by the mayor of each commune. The goal in selecting rural sites was to obtain a balance of perspectives. A total of 99 individuals participated. Participants were selected to facilitate broad representation from local officials, members of local management committees, heads of women’s groups, farmers, and livestock raisers. Though the gender balance of the total participants was roughly equal (47% women), the gender break-down varied by group. All participants orally consented to participation.

Focus Group Location, Date, and Composition

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Commune** | **Fokontany** | **Participants** | **Date** |
| 1 | Manakambahiny | Manakambahiny | 12 (4 women, 8 men) | September 30, 2019 |
| 2 | Manakambahiny | Manaratsandry | 11 (5 women, 6 men) | October 1, 2019 |
| 3 | Ambohijanahary | Ambohijanahary | 13 (5 women, 8 men) | October 2, 2019 |
| 4 | Ambohijanahary | Sodeca | 24 (18 women, 6 men) | October 3, 2019 |
| 5 | Bemaitso | Bemaitso | 14 (6 women, 8 men) | October 4, 2019 |
| 6 | Bemaitso | Ambodifamotsotra | 25 (12 women, 13 men) | October 5, 2019 |

Topics discussed included: sources of household income, household assets, food security strategies and severity (see also S3), immigration, and important positions within communities.