FARM ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES ACTIVITIES IN ZAMBIA

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Introduction

All FAnGR activities co-ordinated by National Artificial Insemination Centre

Centre mandated as country’s National Focal Point for FAnGR since May 1999

Centre located about 210 Km from the capital Lusaka by road
On-going programs

In –situ conservation

A. Indigenous cattle breeds - currently only Tonga breed

B. Indigenous strains of chicken:
   ☐ Zambi
   ☐ Naked-neck
   ☐ Dwarf
   ☐ Frizzle furthered

Both programs include collection of various phenotypic data
On-going programs

Genetic characterization

Genetic characterization of Zambian Indigenous Cattle

Program done in collaboration with University of Zambia and National Institute for Industrial and Scientific Research

Supported by the International Atomic Energy Agency

So far only DNA isolated from the four Zambian Indigenous cattle (Angoni, Baroste, Tonga, Baila)
On-going programs

Livestock census

Comprehensive livestock census of all livestock species in the country

First of its kind in the country

Details such as breed names, sex and ownership included

So far a pilot livestock census completed in two districts
On-going programs

Support of Artificial Insemination and Increase of Efficiency of Local Zambian Cattle Breeds Project

Project of development cooperation between the Zambian and the Czech Republic

Objective: Breeding of bulls and production of semen for improvement of local breeds by crossing with improved breeds (Holstein, Jersey, Simmental and Boran)

Project to ensure availability of semen of local breeds (Angoni, Barotse, Tonga and Baila)

Gene bank for the breeds to be created under the project
Constraints

Absence of appropriate animal recording programs

Inadequate national policies to manage AnGR

Inadequate trained personnel in Animal Breeding and Genetics

Underdeveloped collaboration activities with various international institutions involved in AnGR development