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# Zambia Dairy Transformation Programme (ZDTP)

## Monthly Newsletter – June 2017

### Key highlights:

- Carrying out a comprehensive baseline survey in Balaka, Chibombo, Liteta, Fisenge, Kwanshama and Mufulira dairy cooperatives, collecting data on farmer demographics, infrastructure, resources, production, economics, needs and extension support.
- Initial visit by a Feed and Fodder Conservation expert to understand the current situation and possibilities for improving feed and fodder conservation practices of smallholder dairy farmers.
- Engagement with cooperative Boards in Fisenge, Kwanshama and Mufulira to develop action plans.

### Overview of activities carried out under ZDTP output areas:

#### **Output 0: Programme Management**

The ZDTP team have continued to connect with organisations working in the dairy sector to ensure ZDTP activities are relevant and appropriate. In June, this has included:

- ✓ Attending the Southern Province Dairy Implementers Coordination meeting with GIZ, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Njovu, SNV and Agriterra to ensure coordination of activities and sharing of lessons learned and material used.
- ✓ Attending a workshop hosted by the GIZ Global Project “Promotion of agricultural finance for agri-based enterprises in rural areas” to discuss finance models for the smallholder dairy sector.

#### **Output 1: On-farm production, inputs, systems and processes improved**

The ZDTP Extension Officers (EOs), five locally hired enumerators (four in Fisenge and one in Balaka) and Clever, our Programme Field Manager have spent this month carrying out the baseline survey in the six cooperatives with whom ZDTP is working. This was a census-style exercise, with visits made to all members of each cooperative. Data collection is currently being finalised and it is expected that preliminary results will be available in early August. However, it is already clear that membership lists require updating with some farmers visited indicating that they no longer have any dairy animals (died, stolen), others that they have no plans to supply milk to the Milk Collection Centre for the foreseeable future, and some members who are yet to receive animals through ‘Pass On’ schemes. The data collected will be used by ZDTP to develop appropriate interventions and implementing modalities, such as use of peer learning, one-on-one support and demonstration activities. Clever and the EOs will work with cooperative Boards to integrate data into existing systems (or where systems are absent, develop them), plus see how the data can be of use to other stakeholders such as Cooperative Officers or local Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MFL) Officers.

From 11<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> June, Dammika Carr, an expert in Feed and Fodder Conservation, made a preliminary visit to ZDTP’s operational areas in the Central and Copperbelt provinces.

During the visit, she interacted with ZDTP staff, farmers and provincial and district MFL staff. Given

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the focus of the IFAD funded Enhanced Smallholder Livestock Improvement Programme (ESLIP) on 'Feed and Fodder' and ZDTP's desire to work collaboratively and effectively with others, officers from MFL and ESLIP met up with Dammi on her visit to the Copperbelt. This was an excellent opportunity for the two programmes to start to develop a common understanding of each other's planned activities and ensure, where possible, harmonisation and avoidance of duplication. ZDTP looks forward to continuing this engagement with staff from ESLIP and MFL over the coming years.

### **Output 2: Capacity of farmers, extension officers and other dairy industry personnel increased**

Kapeza (Cooperative Business Support Officer) has concentrated on working with the three cooperatives in Copperbelt province to define priority areas of focus for the coming months. Plans are underway to collaboratively develop MoUs with each cooperative Board to define and direct the work which will be carried out through ZDTP support. There will be more on this in future issues of the newsletter.

**Figure 1: Dammika Carr at an ESLIP funded Heifer implemented demonstration plot in Mufulira with staff from IFAD funded ESLIP and MFL.**



**Figure 2: Kelvin (EO for Fisenge) and hired enumerators on the way to carry out baseline surveys.**



### **Output 3: Market-led milk handling, quality and processing capacity increased**

Kapeza has been following up with the Fisenge Board on the business case proposal for the 'Milk for Schools Pilot'. In order for this to move forward, plans need to be developed to ensure legislative compliance and financial sustainability (operating budget, milk volumes, estimated sales figures).

### **Output 4: Policy and regulatory framework improved**

Our focus on implementing the baseline survey, means that we have taken a short break from this higher-level activity. We look forward to engaging with MFL later in the year to understand areas of policy and legislation where ZDTP support would be relevant.

*We hope you've found this sixth edition of the ZDTP newsletter informative and welcome any questions, or comments you may have,  
With best wishes, The ZDTP Team*

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