

## Zambia Dairy Transformation Programme (ZDTP)

### Monthly Newsletter – January 2017

#### Key highlights:

- Programme Office established in Sunningdale, Lusaka
- Meetings held with the Department of Livestock Development at the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock in Lusaka, Choma (Southern Province) and Ndola (Copperbelt Province)
- Introductory meetings held with other key stakeholders in the Dairy Industry: SNV, GIZ, Dairy Association of Zambia
- Discussions held with the World Food Programme on the development of a 'pilot' schools milk programme; and the Zambia College of Agriculture (ZCA) on the support to be provided to develop the ZCA curriculum
- Introductory field visit to the Southern and Copperbelt Provinces to meet some smallholder dairy farmer cooperatives and their members

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

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

Since the start of this five year New Zealand funded Programme on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017, the ZDTP team has concentrated on establishing their Headquarters in Sunningdale, Lusaka and finalising a logo. Tania Thomson (Country Programme Manager) and Clever Chisuwo (Programme Field Manager) will be doing their best to meet with stakeholders in the Zambia Dairy Industry over the next few weeks and months.

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

The ZDTP field team will be composed of five Extension Officers (EO) who will be based at selected dairy farmer cooperatives (exact locations still to be determined). Recruitment for these EO positions is underway and will be completed by mid-February. The ZDTP EOs will work closely with other EOs (e.g. from Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MFL), Dairy Association of Zambia (DAZ), and dairy processors) to provide coordinated extension services to farmers. To prepare for this, Tania, Clever and Gus Davidson (Programme Director) began a week-long field visit to both the Southern and Copperbelt Provinces, where they visited Provincial Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MFL) offices, the Zambia College of Agriculture (ZCA), dairy cooperatives, plus some farmer members. They also linked up with EOs from Parmalat (Monze and Kitwe), SNV (Monze), DAZ (Monze) and MFL (Kitwe). Tania and Clever will be carrying out more field visits in the coming weeks to meet other important stakeholders, e.g. Provincial Permanent Secretaries and tribal chiefs; and to further understand the capacity of and support being provided to specific cooperatives. It is envisaged that ZDTP EOs will be placed with selected cooperatives in March/



**Figure 1: Tania Thomson (CPM) and Clever Chisuwo (PFM) meet with Extension Officers from Parmalat and DAZ in the Southern Province.**

April once this important preparation work has been carried out.

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

During this five year programme, the ZDTP team will focus on supporting selected dairy farmer cooperatives to develop and implement sustainable business models. ZDTP are in the process of recruiting a Cooperative Business Support Officer who will work closely with cooperatives on this initiative. It is anticipated that the successful candidate will be in post by mid-February. Under this Output area, ZDTP will also be working with ZCA to provide specialist support from Taratahi Agricultural College in New Zealand to develop the ZCA curriculum. An initial visit was held with the Principal of ZCA to agree on how to proceed with this activity.



*Figure 2: CPM and PFM discuss with a farmer the latest addition to his dairy herd*

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

ZDTP will be working with the World Food Programme (WFP) to define whether there is viable business case for implementing a 'pilot' school milk programme, which has the potential to be financially viable and sustainable. An initial meeting was held between ZDTP and WFP to discuss how to move forward with this activity.

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

An initial meeting was held with the Director and Deputy Director of the Department of Livestock Development (DLD) at MFL, who are an extremely important partner for ZDTP. The DLD staff were welcoming and confirmed their commitment to the ZDTP Programme. Further meetings will be held in February and it is hoped ZDTP will be able to establish a small office at Mulungushi House. Meetings were also held with:

- the Executive Manager and his staff at the Dairy Association of Zambia (DAZ) to discuss the involvement of DAZ EOs in the ZDTP 'Dairy Extension Team', and DAZ's role within ZDTP, which is expected include membership of the ZDTP Steering and Technical Committees,
- the Project Manager of the 'Market-Led Dairy Innovation Project' at SNV, to strengthen links made during the ZDTP design mission,
- the Project Coordinator and Junior Expert of the Green Innovation Centre at GIZ to introduce ZDTP, discuss potential areas of collaboration and agree mechanisms of communication.

*We hope you've found this first edition of the ZDTP newsletter informative and welcome any questions, or comments you may have,*

*kindest Regards, The ZDTP Team*

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