



Regional Dairy Workshop - Why Dairy? Why Jersey?



Why Dairy: The Rwandan Experience

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Cattle Rearing in Rwandan Perspective



- Cattle rearing are Rwandan culture since time immemorial
- Traditionally a cow played many social roles:
 - ✓ Symbol of friendship
 - ✓ Bride price
 - ✓ Social security
 - ✓ Food security





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Development of Dairy Industry in Rwanda

- ☐ After 1994 Genocide against Tutsi: virtually left with no livestock.
- ☐ From 1994 to date, the country has been restocking with improved dairy cattle breeds through various development programs
 - ✓ Importation of pure exotic breeds by individual farmers as well as partners (Heifer international, Send a cow; Bothar International and others
 - ✓ Government support program called “**One cow per poor family PROGRAM**”, popularly known in Rwanda as ‘**GIRINKA**’ ; an initiative of the President of REPUBLIC OF RWANDA;.
- ☐ Subsidies on selected Cattle production inputs
- ☐ Construction of Milk Collection Centres across the country and Milk collection points

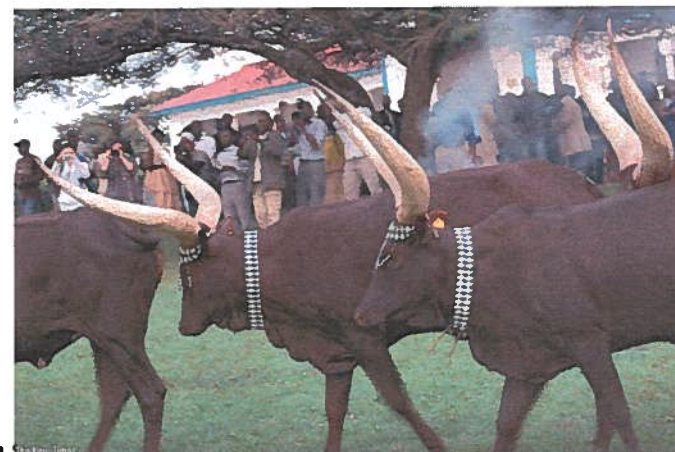
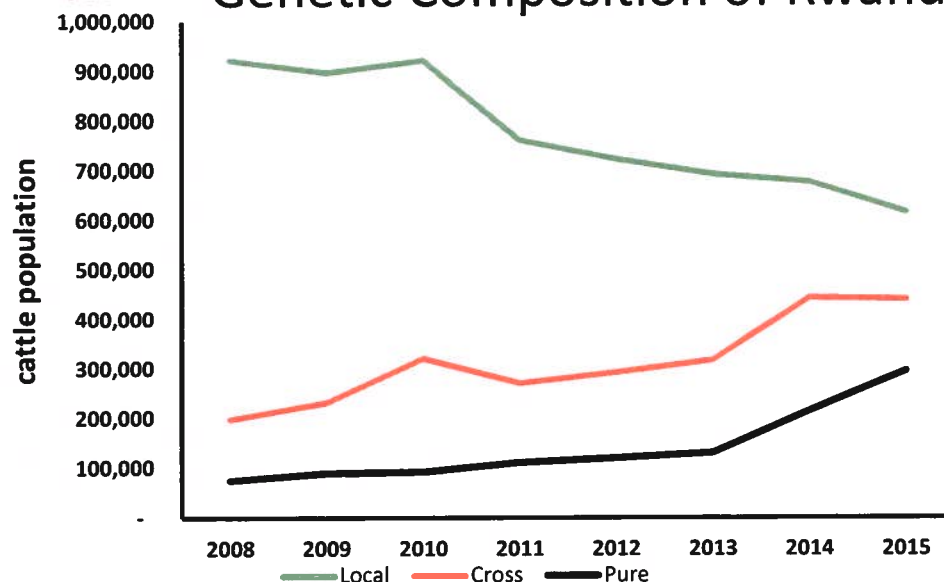




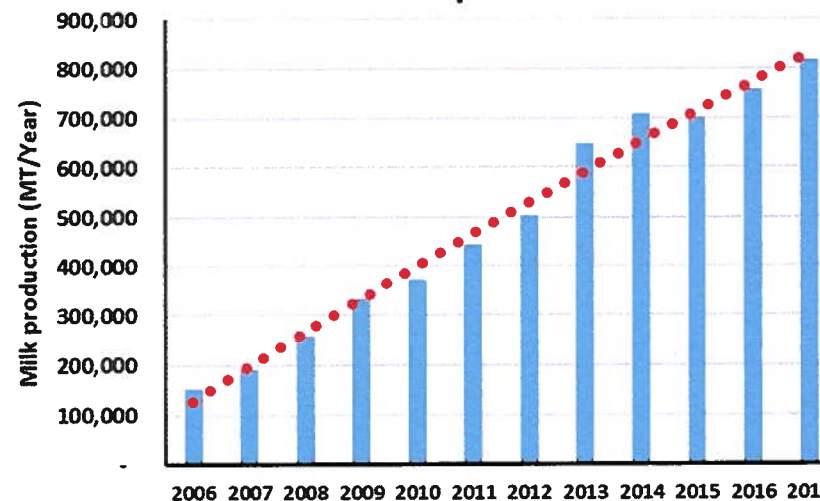
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Genetic Composition of Rwandan Cattle



Milk Production per Annum





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Dairy Sector Promoting Equity in Rwanda



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One Cow per poor family aka Girinka Program

- Girinka Program was initiated in 2006 by **H.E. Paul KAGAME**, the President of the Republic of Rwanda;
- One of the Home Grown initiatives to fight against poverty, malnutrition and promote social cohesion in a society coming out of the ashes of the genocide against Tutsi of 1994;
- A poor family receives a pregnant heifer with a package of medicines and feeds for 6 months;
- The receiving family is required to pass the first female calf to the next poor family on the list and the process continues;
- To date **354,713** of them have received cows





Impact of Girinka Program

❑ Social impact

- Improvement in the social welfare of receiving families;
- Increase in income to enable access to health services; education, improved nutrition, better shelter, increased household equipment (TV, Radio, phone,...);
- Social cohesion; decision making.

❑ Economic impact

- Participation in Increase of in-country milk production;
- Rwanda was able to start school milk program;
- Improved agriculture production;
- Improved environment protection.





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Impact of Girinka Program (ctd)

	Girinka Beneficiaries	Non-beneficiaries	ATT
Beans yield (kg/ha)	830.9	732.9	98
Maize yield (kg/ha)	1309.98	1040.05	269.93***
Calorie per adult-equivalent per day	2142.602	1876.33	266.27***
Weight for height z-scores	1.28138	1.046508	0.235
Weight for age z-scores	-0.476857	-1.140143	0.663***
Height for age z-scores	-2.475365	-3.226508	0.751**
Annual Income (Rwf)	104299.4	45495.1	58804.3***
Weekly expenditures (Rwf)	13473.7	9531.6	3942.3***

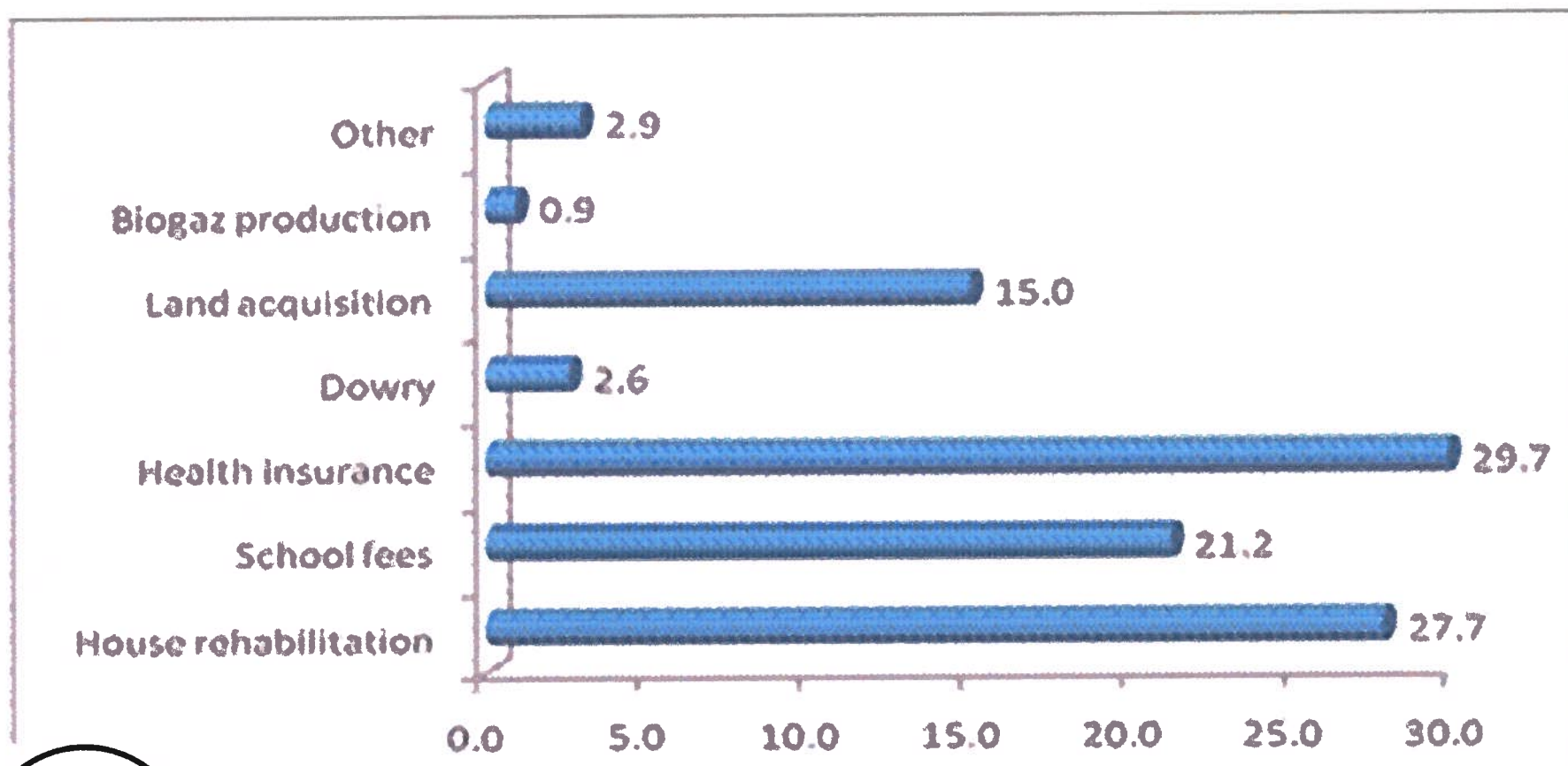




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Impact of Girinka Program (ctd)



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IDP villages and Girinka: Home grown Solutions



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Integrated Development Programs (IDP) Model Villages

- Rwanda Vision 2020 plans to settle 70% of rural population in viable planned settlements
- IDP Model villages are one of the mechanisms to implement the rural resettlement by relocating and settling households that are located in high risk zones
- On national basis, 44 IDP model villages have been developed throughout the country
- Girinka is an integral part of this model





One Cup Of Milk per Child

- Launched in May 2010 to:
 - ✓ Improve nutrition status of children attending school;
 - ✓ Enhance development of brain capacity of children;
 - ✓ Promote school retention of children attending pre & primary schools (3- 9 years old)





Job Creation in Dairy Sector

- ✓ Youth involvement in milk collection, transportation and trade
- ✓ Increasing number of cottage industries for dairy products
 - involving youth in cooperatives
- ✓ Increased number of women in milk marketing as individuals and in cooperatives
- ✓ Stimulated youth in ICT to develop farmer friendly applications informing stakeholders on various production and services
- ✓ Increased financial services and trustworthiness to access loans thus attracting entry of many persons into dairy farming activities





Opportunities in Rwandan Dairy Industry

- **Production and management**
 - ✓ Breeding
 - ✓ Superior progeny tested Bulls
 - ✓ Semen production
 - ✓ Infrastructure and services
- **Milk Collection and storage:**
 - ✓ milk transportation equipment;
 - ✓ milk storage and cooling facilities;
 - ✓ milk quality laboratory testing equipment;





Thank You



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