

Improvement of village poultry production by communities surrounding South Luangwa National Park, Zambia

This project focused on the sustainable control of ND in village poultry; improved village poultry husbandry and management strategies including marketing; and improved household welfare, including improved nutrition and food security as a means of reducing the need for communities surrounding South Luangwa National Park to hunt, eat and sell bushmeat. It is important to note that in the Tsetse-infested areas of the Luangwa Valley, ruminant production is extremely limited and so village poultry production is a vital part of communities' livelihood strategies. In households where poultry are the only livestock raised, both women and men take an active interest in the activity.

This project commenced in May 2007 in five Chiefdoms and results show that village chicken numbers have increased in villages where vaccination was conducted and decreased in control villages. More Chiefdoms are requesting to join the program and it is hoped that support will be forthcoming to expand activities.

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