

## **Abstract by Peter Amer - Costs and effectiveness of various national cattle breeding structure**

Different countries have contrasting mechanisms to support the rate of genetic progress in cattle breeding programs. In some instances, there is national support of genetic evaluation systems, and these genetic evaluation systems may span multiple breeds, multiple countries, and in the instance of Ireland, support dairy and beef cattle breeding simultaneously. There are substantial differences across countries, both in the amount of funds available, and whether these funds are obtained from breeders paying for services, levies applied to all commercial cattle farmers, or from national taxation. There are also different genetic improvement outcomes across countries, in terms of extent of reliance on importation for genetic improvement, contributions to genetic progress in other countries through germplasm export, and rates of genetic progress in economically important traits. This paper compares beef and dairy genetic improvement structures and outcomes of the USA, Brazil, Australia, France, UK, Ireland, and New Zealand.