AIR
Interbull and Interbeef potential services for African countries

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ICAR Technical bodies

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Brief Background

Interbull = ICAR Permanent Sub Committee
Interbeef = ICAR Working Group
Well established terms of references
Built on ICAR’s Guidelines for AIR
Extensive network of scientists, bodies and networks
Main focus = international genetic evaluation of farm animals for economically important traits
Expertise give opportunity for African Countries to tap into
Interbull
Established in 1983 by ICAR, EAAP and IDF
Established the International Bull Evaluation Service
Structured cooperation platform for genetic evaluation of dairy breeds worldwide
1993 MACE service (currently GMACE for Holstein)
Essential asset of the animal breeding and genetics community
81 populations of 6 breed groups, representing 32 countries from all continents, 40 different traits
Unique network of industry and academy, science and market, exporters and importers, partners and competitors
Interbull

Major transformation in Dairy genetics due to the use of genomic information

Interbull provides the forum and the means for both the scientific community and the dairy sector to develop solutions for the challenges ahead.

Interbull is made by its collaborators and for its collaborators
  ◦ Co-responsible for the achievements
Interbull objectives (terms of reference)

Facilitating communication
Documenting genetic evaluation systems
Facilitating international genetic evaluation
Providing international genetic evaluation services to members
Providing advisory services to members
Coordinating international research
Publication
Formation of technical working groups
Operating the Interbull Centre.
Interbeef

Experience demonstrated international collaboration in cattle breeding can be very successful.

Created a forum for international genetic evaluation services & share research results, discuss operational experiences & tackle a technology challenges

Help beef producers make more informed decisions on importation and possible exports of seedstock by fair comparison of genetic merit.

Challenges faced by many countries and beef cattle populations

Exporters of seedstock need information to identify beef cattle genetics desired in particular animal populations.

Trade potentially a tool for enabling beef cattle farmers to address problems related to comparing beef cattle across international borders.
Interbeef

Interbeef’s success is based on a high level of data exchange:
- pedigrees,
- phenotypes, in due course,
- genotypes.

Data sharing under the Interbeef model operate efficiently and protect the interests of the service users.

Interbull Centre provides the infrastructure and pivot point for services.
Potential for services to African countries

Knowledge base on basic and advanced **application of AIR systems**, suitable for the Continent and especially individual countries.

Application of the ICAR and especially the latest FAO **guidelines** on the application of AIR, but fitted to the needs and resource limitations of individual countries.

General **knowledge base** on animal breeding and genetics, including application of molecular genetics, such as genomics.
Potential for services to African countries

Setting up and application of breeding objectives within constraints of natural resources & economic realities of individual countries.

Sourcing appropriate genotypes (individual animals) suitable for the physical and economic environments, based on the setting of objectives and global diversity of genetic resources.

Setting up appropriate schedules & plans to incorporate breeds and other populations into the regular services of Interbull and Interbeef.

Assistance in access to Genomic Profiles suitable for the establishment of reference populations on the Continent.
THANK YOU

Group questions
1. What are your immediate requirements for AIR
2. How will this integrate in your current systems/database
3. Where can you benefit from ICAR/Interbull/Interbeef interaction

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