



International Trypanotolerance Centre

P. M. B. 14, Banjul, The Gambia, West Africa

Tel (+220) 446 29 28, Fax (+220) 446 29 24

Email: itc@itc.gm



To all addressees,

We are veterinary students from the University of Pennsylvania, working at The Sulayman Junkung General Hospital (SJGH) in collaboration with the International Trypanotolerance Centre (ITC) to assess the feasibility of a goat dairy operation in Bwiam.

Mr. Kebba Badgie, CEO of SGJH, recognized malnutrition as a serious issue in his hospital and the community at large. He imagined a role for dairy goats in providing milk to malnourished hospital patients and invited us to investigate the feasibility of implementing an operation to achieve this end. After discussing this idea with many Gambian organizations, we have developed a plan to address malnutrition from a preventative standpoint. A carefully managed goat dairy at SJGH will generate revenue for the hospital while providing Bwiam with locally sourced, high quality, affordable protein. Ideally, the dairy operation will grow into an animal health educational center and milk pasteurization cooperative for farmers in the greater Bwiam community.

We would like to invite you to a formal seminar with stakeholders that may be involved in this project. Before we finalize the project proposal and begin approaching organizations for financial support, we would like to bring all relevant parties together for a final presentation of details and goals, as well as a discussion of feasibility, challenges, and sustainability. We believe that this seminar is vital in centralizing our collective effort to properly direct the project in a way that promotes the health of humans and animals alike.

The seminar will take place on **Wednesday, August 10, 2016** at the **National Nutrition Agency (NaNA) Building** by **10:00 am**. Attached is a seminar itinerary and list of stakeholder representatives who are also invited.

Please contact us at your earliest convenience to inform us of your plans to attend. We hope that you are able to join.

Sincerely,

Brianna Parsons (2136178; bpars@vet.upenn.edu)

Corey Spies (cspies@vet.upenn.edu)

Time	Agenda Item
10:00 – 10:15	Introduction by Mr. Kebba Badgie
10:15 – 11:30	Proposal presentation by Corey Spies and Brianna Parsons
11:30 – 12:00	Brief discussion of project proposal
12:00 – 12:30	Lunch and group photo
12:30 – 2:00	<p>Small group discussion of challenges and sustainability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dairy Group: animal husbandry, herd health, and productivity - Outreach Group: healthcare options, community health, and smallholder farmer education - Business Group: financial viability, product marketing, revenue generation
2:00 – 3:00	Small group presentation and discussion
3:00 – 3:15	Closing remarks by Mr. Kebba Badgie