

17th KUASS
(Kyoto University African Studies Seminar)

**Conservation and Sustainable Use of Wildlife and Native Livestock
Genetic Resources in Ghana**

Date: Sep 26, 2013 (Thu), 15:00 – 17:00

Venue: Seminar Room (No. 318), 3F Inamori Bldg.,
Kawabata Campus, Kyoto University

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ABSTRACT:

Ghana is endowed with a rich diversity of native animal genetic resources, which contribute significantly to the livelihood of her people, especially the rural poor. In line with the overall biodiversity strategy of Ghana, the forest and wildlife policy of Ghana aims at conservation and sustainable development of the nation's forest and wildlife resources for maintenance of environmental quality and perpetual flow of optimum benefits to all segments of society. This presentation explores various actions including in-situ and ex-situ approaches, community involvement and participatory approach, public education and awareness creation, and the conduct of relevant research that have been put in place to ensure the sustainable management and conservation of wildlife resources in Ghana. In conjunction with wildlife conservation, it is both logical and necessary to sustainably manage and utilize native livestock genetic resources in Ghana as a way of ensuring food (animal protein) security. This would go a long way to curb hunting and overharvesting of wildlife which often employs techniques such as bushfires that are detrimental to biodiversity and the environment. Moreover, local livestock genetic resources of Ghana are under threat of genetic erosion, thus underscoring the need for characterization and conservation against future needs. This presentation will highlight a number of research efforts in

this regard, especially work done on the genetic and phenotypic characterization of local poultry in Ghana.

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