**Supplementary Figure 1.** Quantitative data showing weight **(a)** and blood glucose levels **(b)** at the end of the study. **(c)** Renal Pathology**:** Kidney cortex sections of lean control and diabetic rats stained with trichrome. ZDF rat kidney shows glomerular lobulation (→),Dilatation of Bowmann's space (\*) and mesanglial expansion. **(d)**. Graphical represenation of BUN/creatinine ratio in serum. ZDF animals show increased ratio compared to control or GLC groups. Data are expressed as means ± SE.