



# **Animal Identification and Traceability Systems (AITS)**

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# What is AITS?

- Tracing Animal Movements
  - Animal Identification
  - Property Identification

The ability to follow an animal or group of animals during all stages of its life

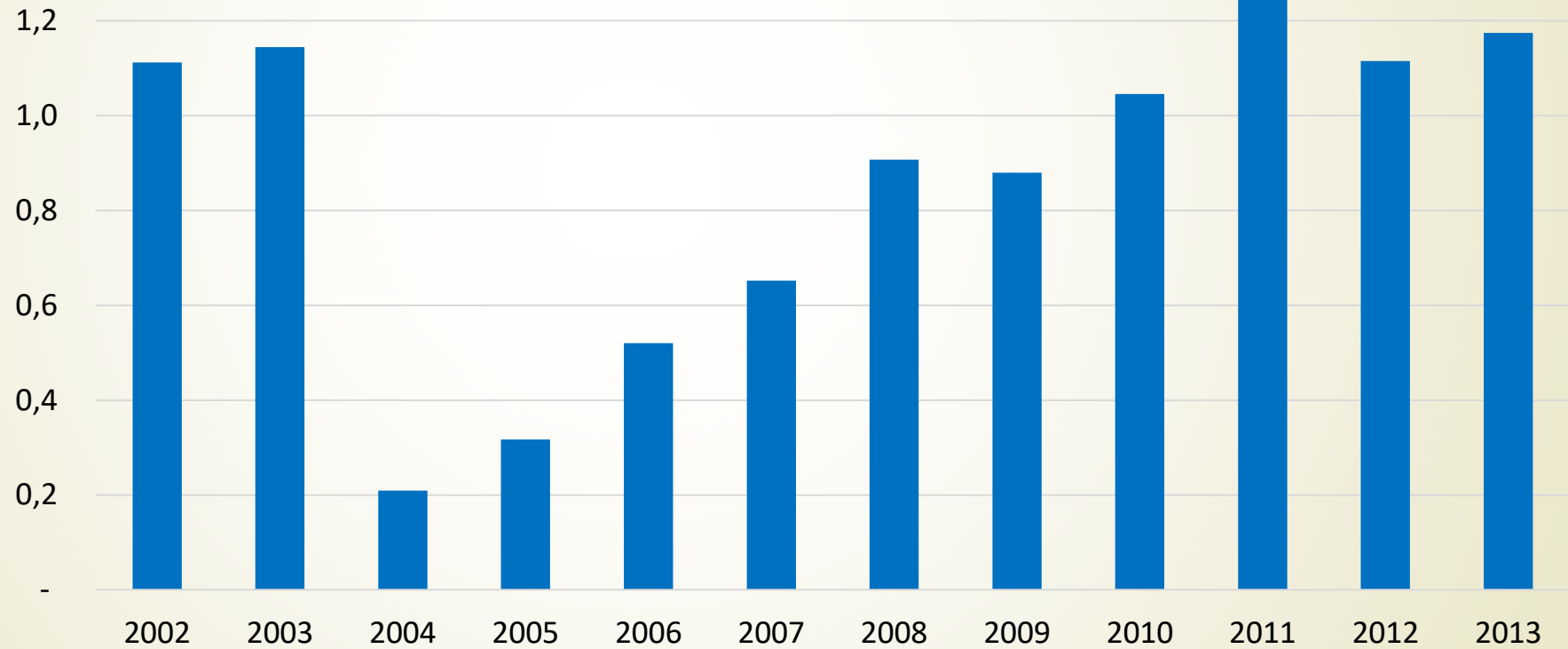


# Main AITS Driver: BSE (Mad Cow Disease)

- EU Regulation 820/97



US Beef Exports, million mt, USDA ERS Report





## Why AITS?

- ▶ Linked to **trade** and **market access** providing for the **management of diseases** **and** **assurance** to consumers of **food safety**
- ▶ Enabling countries to give assurances to **consumers** and the **market** that products are not affected by a **particular event** as opposed to the whole country treated as affected

# AITS – Multi-stakeholder

- Producer
- DAFF / Veterinary Services
- Police
- Commodity Associations
- Auctioneers / Abattoirs
- Butcher, Retailer, Consumer, Importer
- Hides & Leather
- Stockfeed and health companies
- Bankers
- Donors
- Healthy, compliant herd, market
- Services, Enabling environment, Herd health, Disease control, Research, Extension
- Ownership, Stock theft, stray
- Services
- Disease-free, Ownership, Markets
- Market, Food safety, Animal welfare
- Damage-free hides
- Sales and services
- Collateral
- Poverty alleviation

# AITS Building Blocks - I

- ▶ Competent Authority
- ▶ Steering Committee
- ▶ Implementing Authority (PPP)
- ▶ Legal Framework
  - ▶ Role, Function and Mandate of Each Actor in the Value Chains
- ▶ Awareness Campaign
- ▶ Cost Benefit Analysis
  - ▶ What is the cost of not having AITS in place?





# AITs Building Blocks – II

- ▶ Central Registration Authority – Database
  - ▶ Under Competent Authority
  - ▶ Registration and allocation of id codes
  - ▶ Keeping of registers of codes, farmers, holdings and animals to which they have been assigned
  - ▶ Standard-setting for animal identification
  - ▶ Scalable, Customizable, Compatible, GIS
  - ▶ Query and Reporting





# AITS Building Blocks – III

- ▶ AITS Operations
  - ▶ Central management unit
    - ▶ Coordination, Training
    - ▶ Database
    - ▶ Ear tag procurement and distribution
  - ▶ Satellite offices
    - ▶ Owner registration
    - ▶ Tag sales
    - ▶ Animal registrations and movements





# System Benefits

- ▶ Rapid tracing animal movements backwards and forwards to manage risks in the value chain
  - ▶ Improved disease control
  - ▶ Risk mitigation
  - ▶ Enhanced food safety assurance
  - ▶ Greater consumer confidence
  - ▶ Better animal husbandry
  - ▶ Assists access to markets



# Other AITS Benefits

- ▶ Value addition (support product claims)
- ▶ Stock theft
- ▶ Individual animal management
- ▶ Performance recording
- ▶ Subsidies
- ▶ Animal insurance



# However! AITS is NOT the Silver Bullet, and depends on:

- ▶ Animal Health / Disease Control
  - ▶ Disease surveillance (active and passive)
  - ▶ Disease reporting
  - ▶ Management of disease outbreaks
  - ▶ Early response and notification systems
  - ▶ Vaccination
- ▶ Food Safety
  - ▶ Residues (heavy metals, antibiotics, pesticides)
  - ▶ Observance of withdrawal periods
  - ▶ Management of food safety incidents

