Italy's Banca Dati Nazionale (BDN) * invertito con Bradley

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Provide an understanding of the operational aspects of Italy's BDN so that key functionalities and solutions can be reviewed for potential use in the attendees' relevant countries.

The Italian national livestock identification system was created in the early 2000s by the Ministry of Health in accordance with the new EU regulation on animal identification and registration. It is managed by the IZS of Teramo through the BDN (Banca Dati Nazionale), the National Animal Identification Database, available on the Veterinary Information System Portal (Vetinfo). The BDN registers cattle, buffalo, pigs, sheep and goats, horses, poultry, bees, and other minor species; the system also tracks movements, births, deaths, slaughters and health data for traceability, animal health, and food safety. The traceability system is essentially a certification system that tracks all animal movements from birth to slaughter. Different types of users access the National Database (BDN) via the Vetinfo Portal to update and consult data based on their role. The farmer, operator under EU regulations, is responsible for registering animals in the system and ensuring their traceability. The National Database provides a unique identification for each farm (farms, markets, slaughterhouses) and for large animals such as cattle, buffalo, pigs, sheep, goats, and horses. Collective identification is also permitted for lambs, slaughter pigs, and groups of small animals. Accepted identification methods include electronic identifiers, ear tags, and tattoos. All identification methods must comply with EU regulations. The system is essential for monitoring epidemics and ensuring the safety of Italian food products. An overview of the National Database will be presented to participants by Luigi Possenti, Head of the Information and Communication Technologies Laboratory at IZS of Teramo. Luigi Possenti is an expert in Information Systems for Animal Identification and Registration, Animal Health, and Food Safety, with over twenty years of experience developing complex information systems in the field of veterinary public health, as well as designing web applications and distributed web-based systems.