

Herd Recording Managers Workshop
Traceability – Electronic system applications

**Introduction of identification systems
in South Eastern Europe**

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Porec, Croatia, 13 May 2009



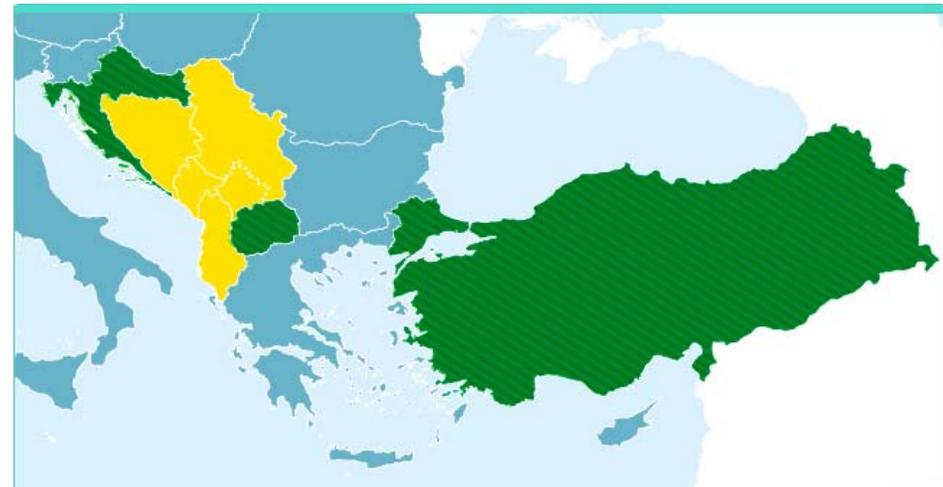
Identification and Traceability in the focus of international TA (EU, World Bank, FAO)

- animal health and food safety
 - management of disease outbreaks
 - surveillance and notification systems
 - vaccination programmes
 - zoning/compartmentalisation, animal movement control
 - utilisation of veterinary drugs
- Other functions
 - herd husbandry
 - animal recording and genetic improvement
 - payment and control of premiums
 - animal theft
- **Maintaining/Obtaining international market access**

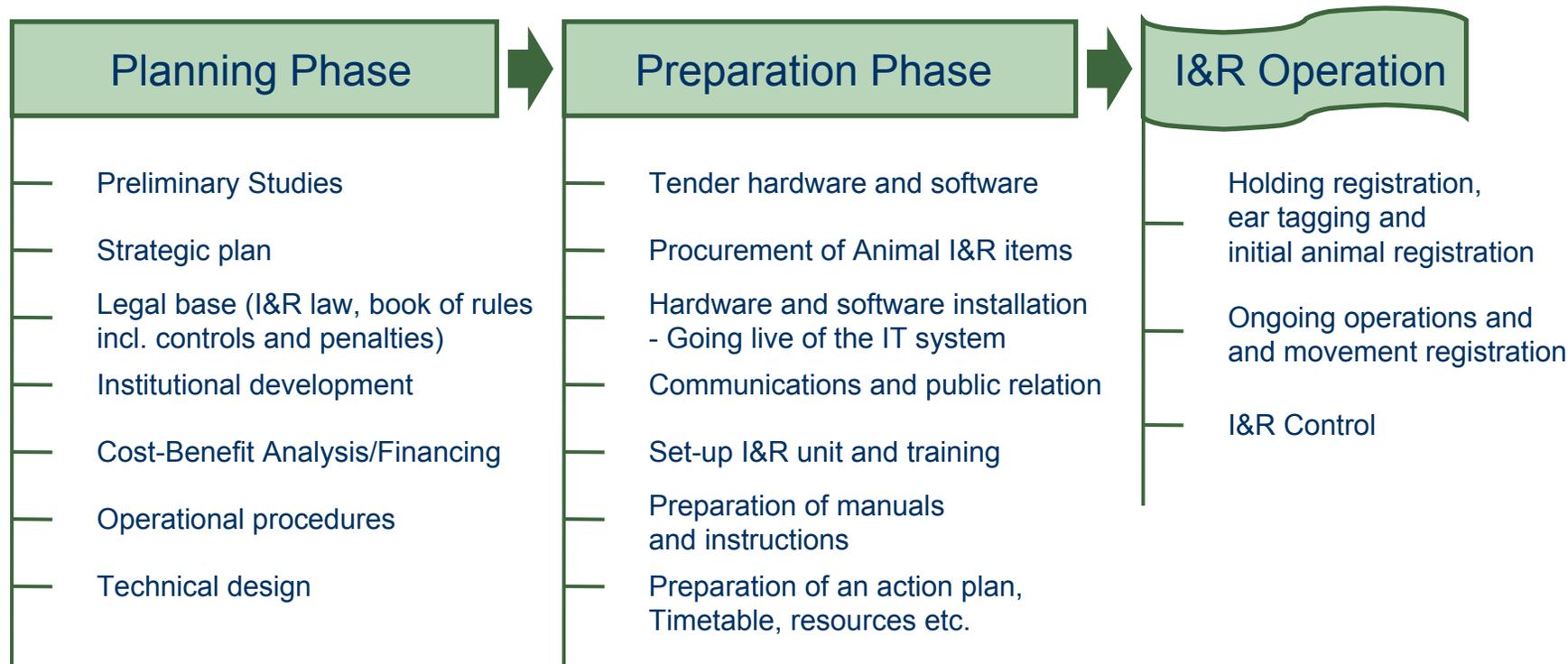


Donor funded projects on identification and traceability in South Eastern Europe

- from 2001 more than 15 TA projects
 - in new member states (Bulgaria, Romania, Slovenia)
 - in candidate countries (Croatia, fYR Macedonia, Turkey)
 - In potential candidate countries (Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, Kosovo under UN Security Council Resolution 1244/99)
- one country approach
- large budgets
(up to 2 Mio €/project)
- short project duration



Typical Design of a TA project: Planning, Preparation and Operation



Framework / Specific Conditions in the countries of SE Europe

- Small-scale farm structures
- Mountainous and remote areas
- Overaged and relatively low skills of small scale livestock farmers
- High share of home slaughtering (incl. home slaughtering of young calves)
- Prevalence of relevant diseases
- High intensity of transhumant or cross-border animal movements



Who does the tagging?

- The **farmers** themselves or **veterinarians / personnel** of other support services
- Considerations:
 - Responsibility of the keeper
 - Relevant aspects
 - farm structure
 - skills of the keepers
 - Coverage and access to keepers
 - Decision of the competent authority on commissioning I&R services
 - Execution of I&R services with other routine tasks (preventive animal health measures)
 - Costs and financing of the system and services
- **Preference for personnel of veterinary ambulances**



Approach for data capture?

- Paper-based data capture system or automated data capture with PDA devices
- Considerations:
 - error rate with handwritten forms
 - Automated scanning of barcodes allows for almost error free data capture
 - Delays between data capture and data entry by paper-based procedures
 - Costs of data capture devices
- **Good experience in fYR Macedonia and Montenegro with using PDAs**



Specific issues/challenges of Animal ID system implementation in SE Europe

- Weak reporting of slaughtering / movements (ghost animals)
- Weak control on livestock markets (untagged animals, no documents)
- Organisation of I&R control
- I&R unit personnel and IT system operation
- Co-operation and data exchange between stakeholders
- Costs and adequate budgetary provisions / sustainability

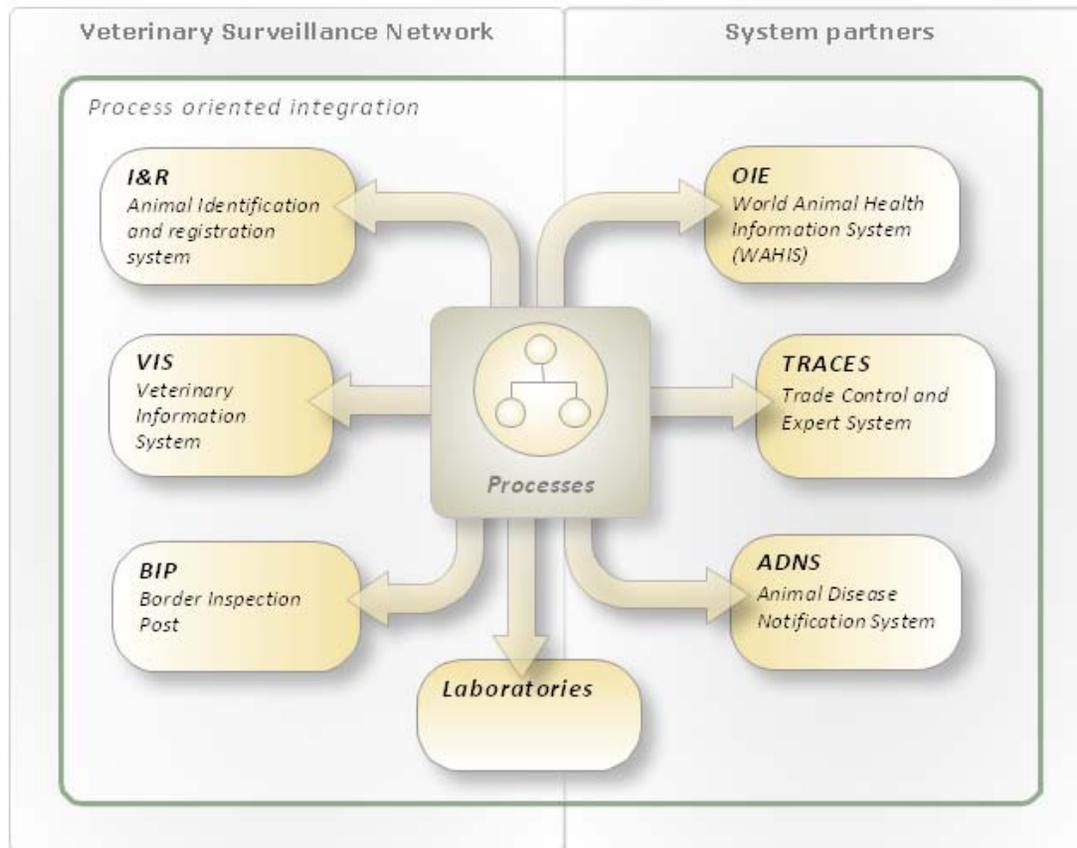
Cost structure (aggregated from several projects)

description	€, per new born calf
Ear tags and forms	0,55
I&R unit, regional offices for data entry	0,65
Depreciation/maintenance of hard- and software	0,30
Tagging and mov. recording service incl. transport fee	1,00-3,00
I&R control	0,90
Total costs	3,40-5,40

Introduction of electronic identification for small ruminants in SE Europe?

- Derogation of Regulation (EC) No 21/2004 for States with less than 600 000 sheep and goats: electronic identification optional for animals not involved in intra-Community trade
- Application of RFID tags and utilisation of RFID readers by commissioned veterinary ambulances
 - + Increased accuracy and timeliness of data
 - + Synergy with preventive measures (for ex. Brucellosis)
 - + Strengthening disease surveillance
 - No direct benefit for livestock farmer
- Costs
 - More expensive than eartag/paper based system
 - + Prices for RFID-tags are falling
 - + Reduced loss rate

Electronic Identification as part of an IT-supported veterinary surveillance network: Interoperability of data exchange and between databases



Summary/Conclusion for Animal Identification and Traceability in SE Europe

- Basic tool to achieve EU compliance in veterinary and food safety; important subject of EU Technical Assistance
- **Tailor made approach** for each country better than direct transfer of EU member state I&R system for optimum response to local conditions
 - Inclusion of all stakeholders from the outset
 - **Control measures** on stock markets and abattoirs are pivotal
 - Strengthening of **regional co-operation** in all aspects of animal identification and traceability system development
 - Electronic Identification as part of a IT-supported **veterinary surveillance network** becomes a useful and beneficial option