



Georgia's Experience in Strengthening Food Safety Systems in Support of Food Exports

Batumi 2023

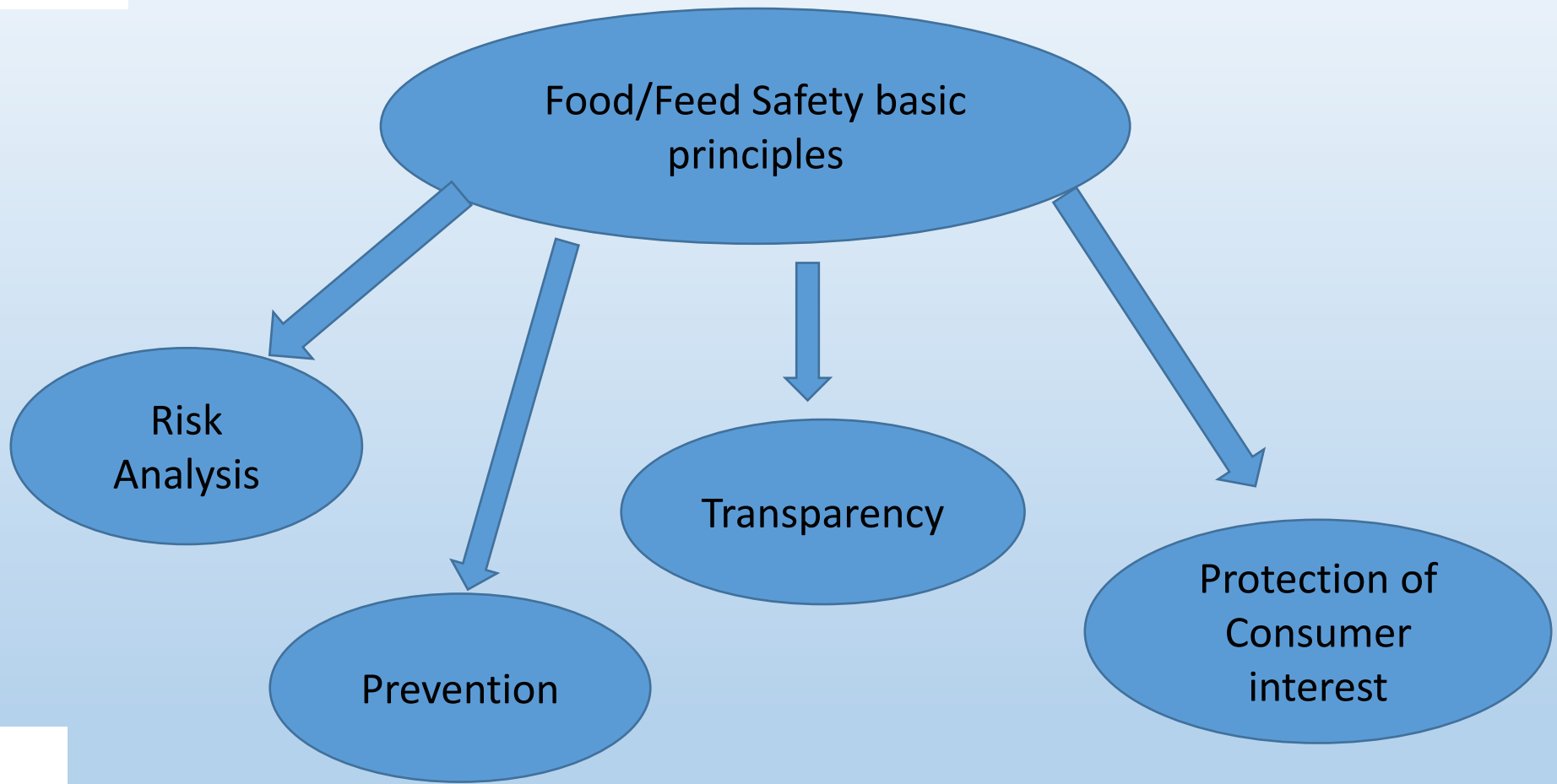
Summary of the Presentation

- Georgian Food Safety System and Structure
- Legal Frameworks
- Implementation SPS Activities
- Communciation
- Transparency
- Exported Products and Facilitation



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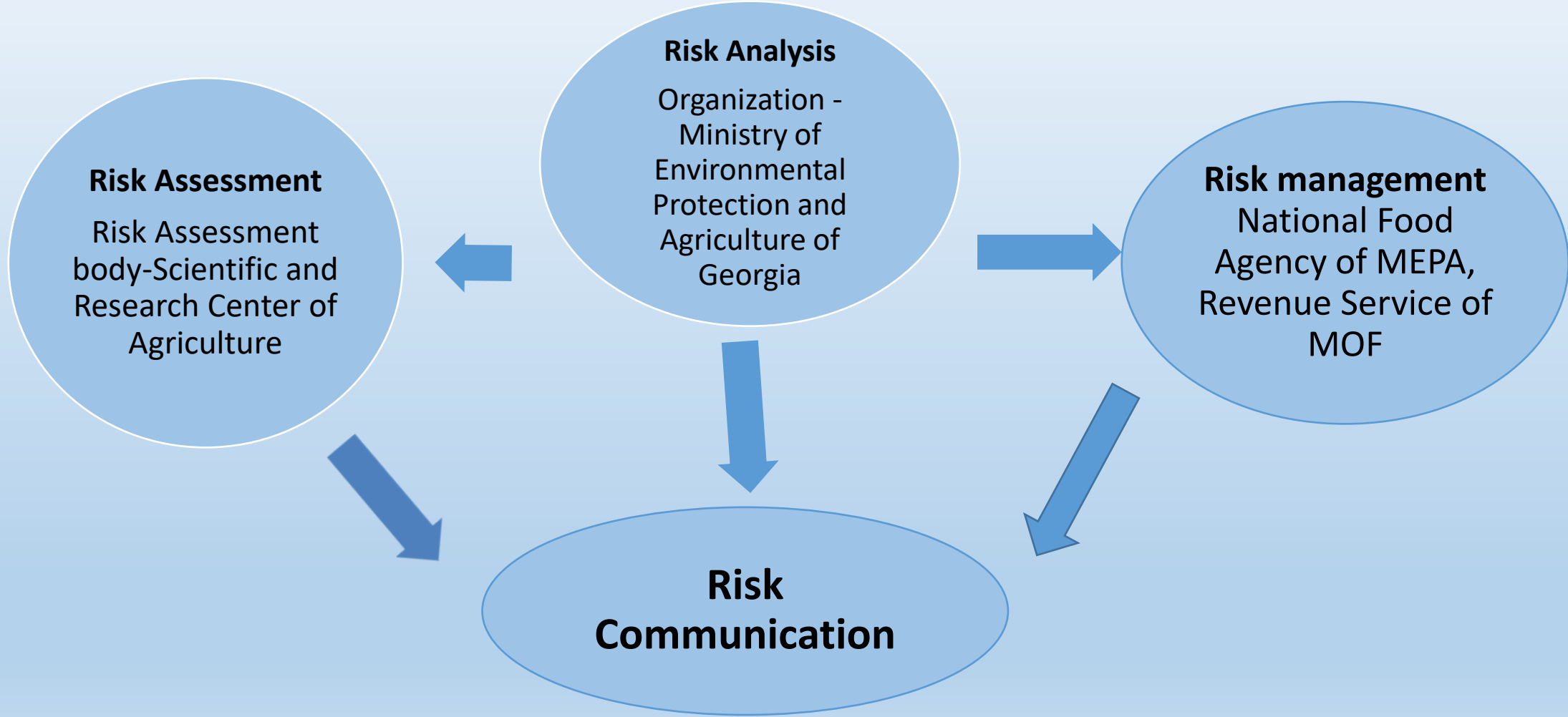
Food Safety Systems
General Principles and Approaches





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Risk Analysis





სოფლის მეურნეობის
სამეცნიერო-კვლევითი ცენტრი

Scientific and Research Center of Agriculture

- Legal Entity of Public Law (LEPL);
- Under the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia;
- The aim is to provide a scientific process for risk assessment in the fields of food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary.

Revenue Service

- **Legal Entity of Public Law Under the Ministry of Finance;**

- **Performs SPS control and supervision BIP's:**
 - Phytosanitary border-quarantine control
 - Veterinary border-quarantine control
 - Sanitary-quarantine control
 - Non-animal origin food/feed safety border control
 - GMO control during importation
 - Issuance of Phytosanitary, Veterinary and Sanitary certificates
 - Issuance of Phytosanitary and Veterinary import permits

Food/Feed Safety, Veterinary and Plant Protection Code

At the customs border state control in the fields of food/feed safety, veterinary and plant protection is carried out by the Revenue Service

Customs Code of Georgia

Customs authority within its competence carries out phytosanitary, veterinary and sanitary border-quarantine control

By-law normative acts

developed on the basis of international standards and principles (IPPC; FAO; WOA; WHO; Codex Alimentarius; EFSA).

(DCFTA)

In the border control field carries out:

- Documentary check
- Identity check
- Physical check
- Sampling and laboratory analyses according monitoring plans or under suspicion

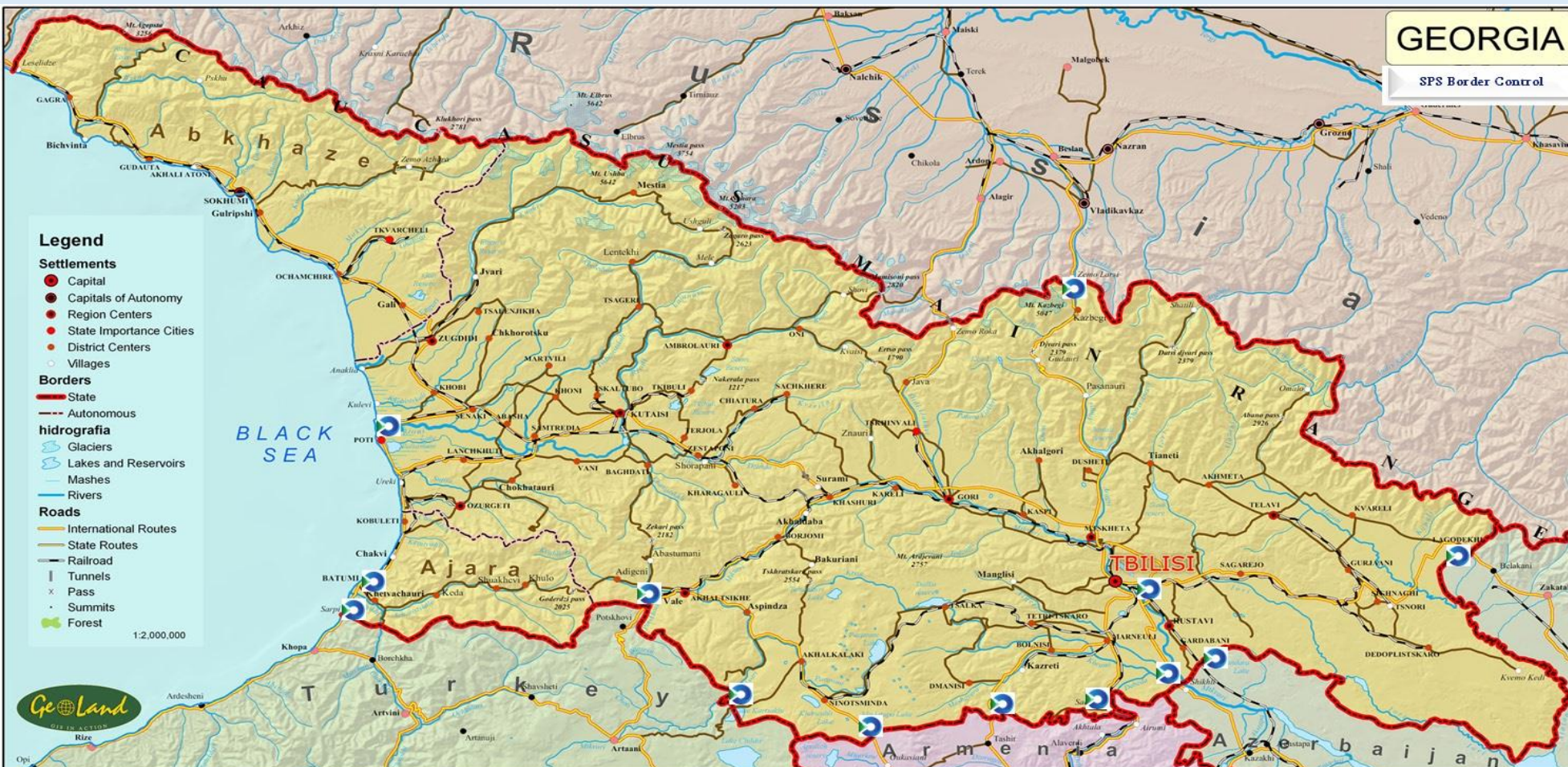
The risk-based veterinary and phytosanitary “Monitoring Plans” are created and agreed with relevant competent authorities every year.



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REVENUE
SERVICE**

Revenue Service – Customs Department

SPS control procedures are provided at 13 BIP's by 130 authorized personnel





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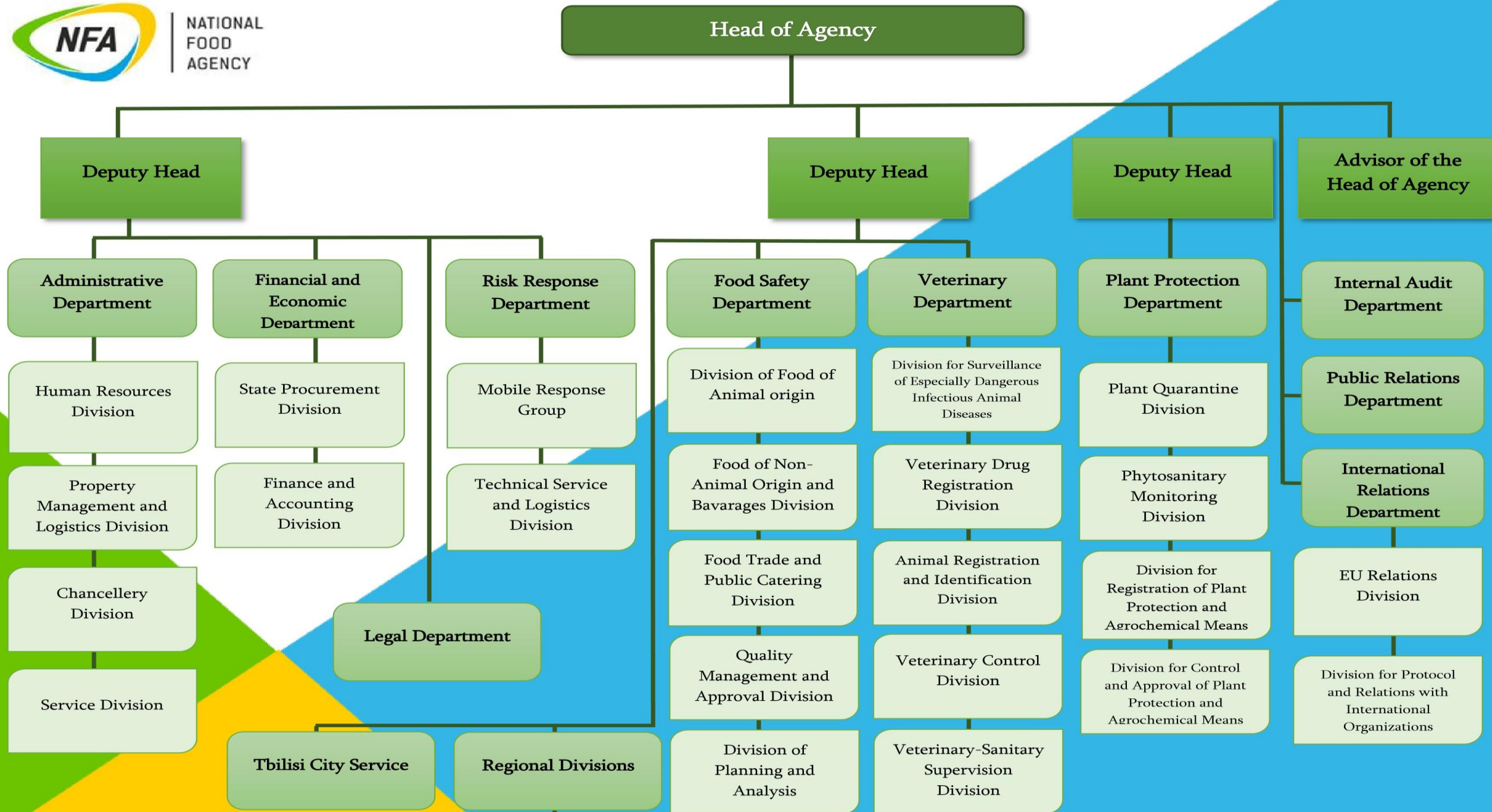
Competent Authority in the Country

- Legal Entity of Public Law (LEPL);
- Under the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia;
- Competent authority in food/feed safety, veterinary and plant protection fields.





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Development of Georgian SPS Legislation

DCFTA Approximation plan 2015-2026

272 legislative acts

Food safety- 101

Veterinary - 84

Plant protection - 87

Approximated legislative acts by fields:

Year	Food safety	Veterinary	Plant protection
2019	16	10	4
2020	13	9	3
2021	8	7	3
2022	7	9	10

Development of Georgian SPS Legislation

Approximation of Food Safety

- ✓ Pharmacologically active substances and their classification regarding maximum residue limits in foodstuffs of animal origin
- ✓ On the implementation of methods of analysis and interpretation of the results for the examination of some substances and their residues in live animals and in products of animal origin
- ✓ Arrangements for monitoring the maximum levels of pesticide residues in and on cereals and products of plant origin, including fruit and vegetables, respectively
- ✓ Methods of analysis and sampling for determining mycotoxins in food
- ✓ Food microbiological criteria
- ✓ Allowable Maximal Residue level of some contaminants in food products
- ✓ Prohibition of use of some substances and beta-agonists with hormonal and thyrotostic action in animal husbandry (stockbreeding)
- ✓ Rapid alert system (RASFF)
- ✓ General plan for crisis situation management
- ✓ Traceability requirements
- ✓ The rule of meat and meat products labeling
- ✓ The permissible limit of pharmacologically active substances

Development of Georgian SPS Legislation

Approximation of Veterinary Legislation

Measures against animal diseases

- ✓ Avian influenza control measures
- ✓ Prevention, Control and Elimination of Certain Infectious Spongiform Encephalopathies
- ✓ Detection and Confirmation of Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS) and Infectious Hematopoietic Necrosis (IHN)

Animal diagnostics manuals and rules for the identification and registration

- ✓ Manual for African swine fever diagnostics
- ✓ Manual for classical swine fever diagnostics
- ✓ Manual for Avian influenza diagnostics
- ✓ Rules on identification and identification of pigs and registration of stables thereof

Development of Georgian SPS Legislation

Approximation of Phytosanitary Legislation

- ✓ Rules on obligations of business operators, producing, processing or/and distributing plants, plant products and other regulated phytosanitary objects and recording thereof
- ✓ Identity and plant health checks of plant products or other phytosanitary regulated objects which may be carried out at a place other than the border control point specifying the conditions related to these checks
- ✓ Rules on Phytosanitary and Veterinary Border-Quarantine Controls
- ✓ Control procedures of *Ralstonia solanacearum* (Smith) Yabuuchi et al
- ✓ Potato cyst nematodes control rules
- ✓ Procedures of control of potato ring rot

Development of Georgian SPS Legislation

In line with Legislative process practical measures are also ongoing

- ✓ Improvement of existing laboratories in order to implement the adopted legislation
- ✓ Construction and equipment of laboratory for phytosanitary researches
- ✓ Implementation of classical methods of phytosanitary researches in regional laboratories
- ✓ Implementation of laboratory control methods of VMP-s and pesticides
- ✓ Organization of information meetings on consumers issues of food/feed safety and on the requirements for accessing to EU Market
- ✓ Cooperation with the private sector and assist it to fulfill the new legislative requirements.



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Types of Official Control:

- Inspection;
- Documentary check;
- Monitoring;
- Taking food Samples;
- Supervision;
- HACCP Audit.



HOW TO TEST YOUR WELL WATER



Call a
testing
facility



Collect a
water
sample



Send the
sample off
for analysis



Receive test
results





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Types of Official Control:

HACCP

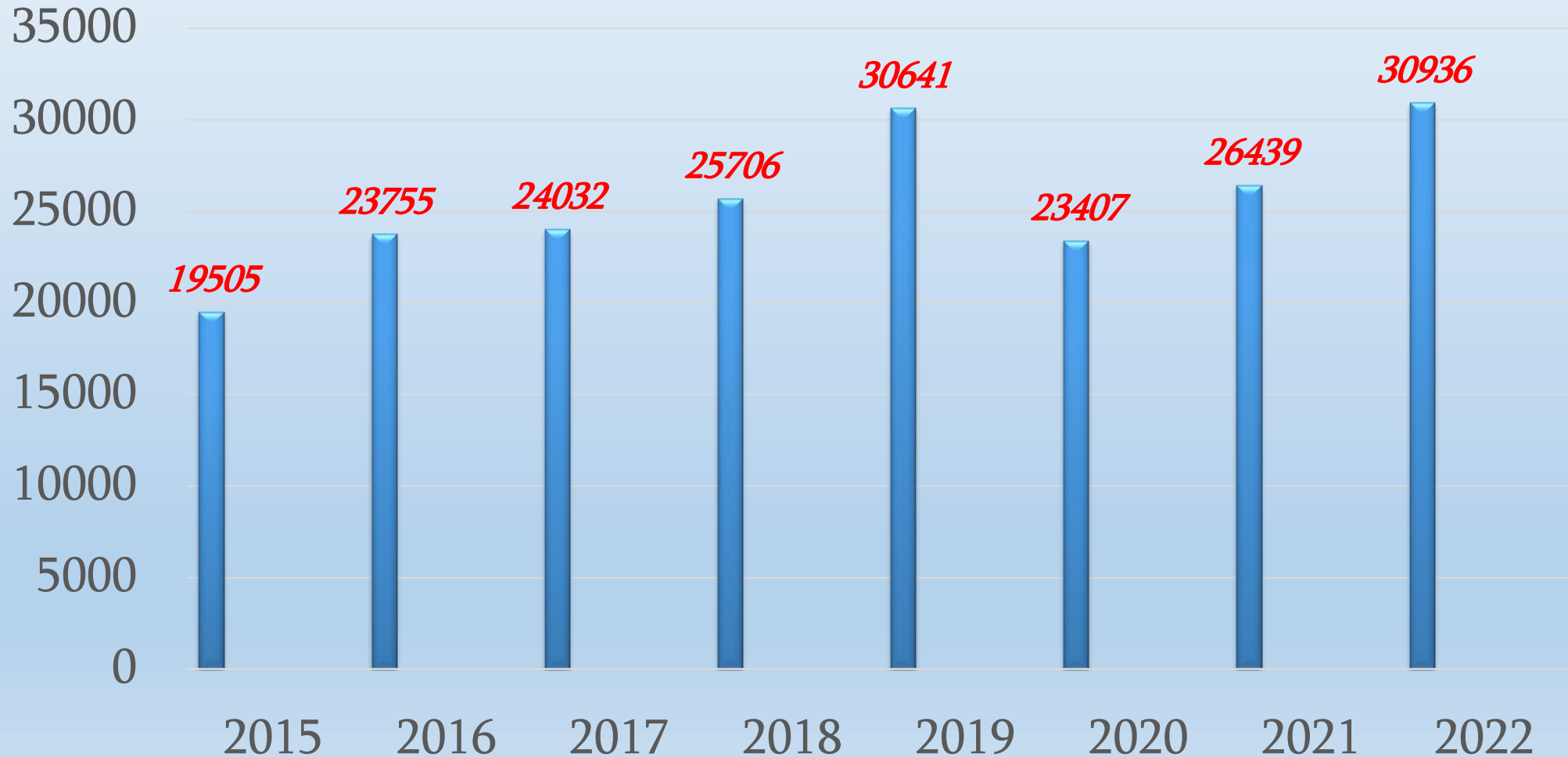
- 2023 – All Food Business Operators carrying out processing and distribution of food are obliged to implement HACCP;
- 2021 June 1st – Retailers (FBOs) production and processing have to implement HACCP;
- 2021 January 1st – FBOs Production or Distribution of the Animal Origin Products;
- 2018 – FBOs producing hazelnut for export;
- 2015 – FBOs operating Slaughter houses and production of dairy products





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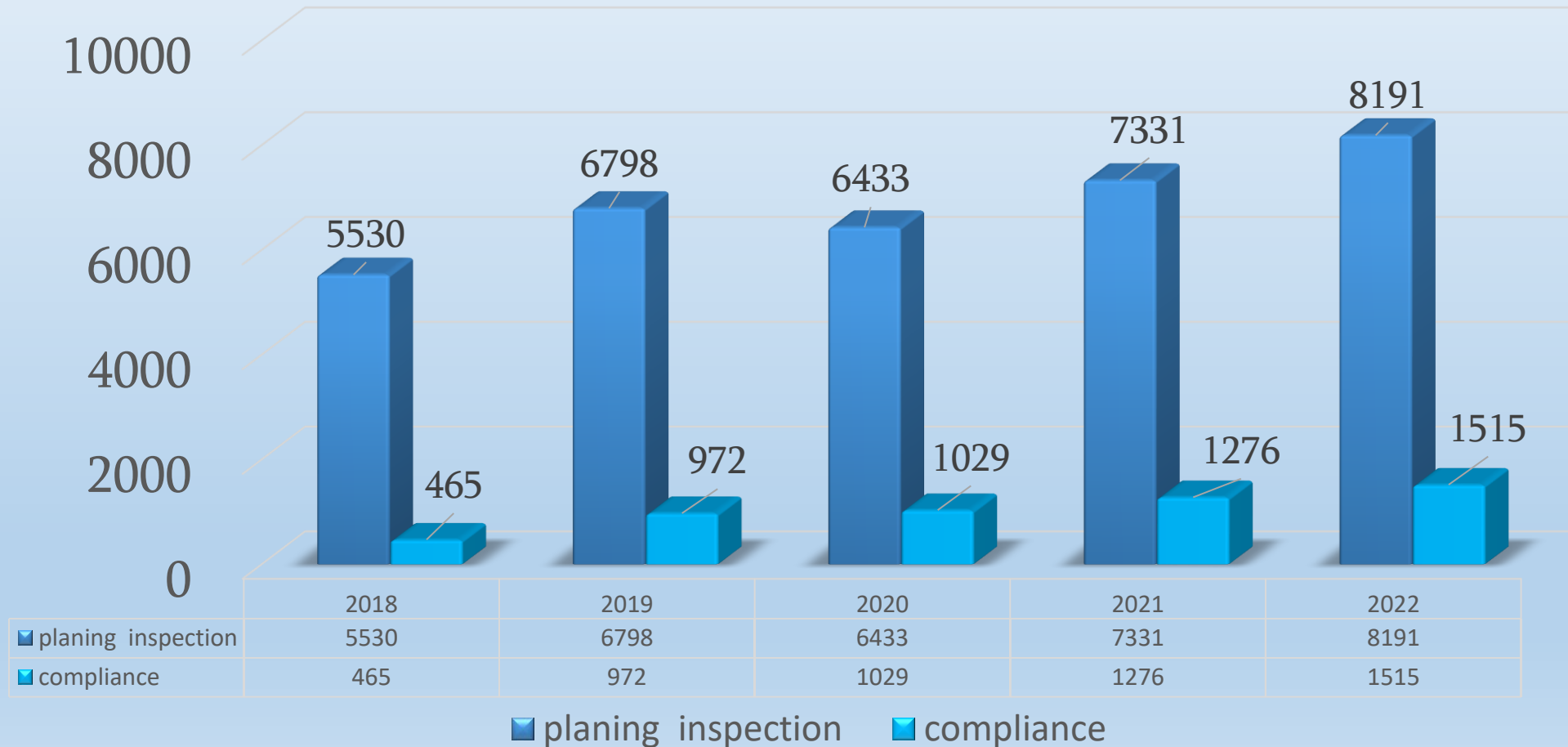
Food Safety Control Statistical Data 2015 - 2022





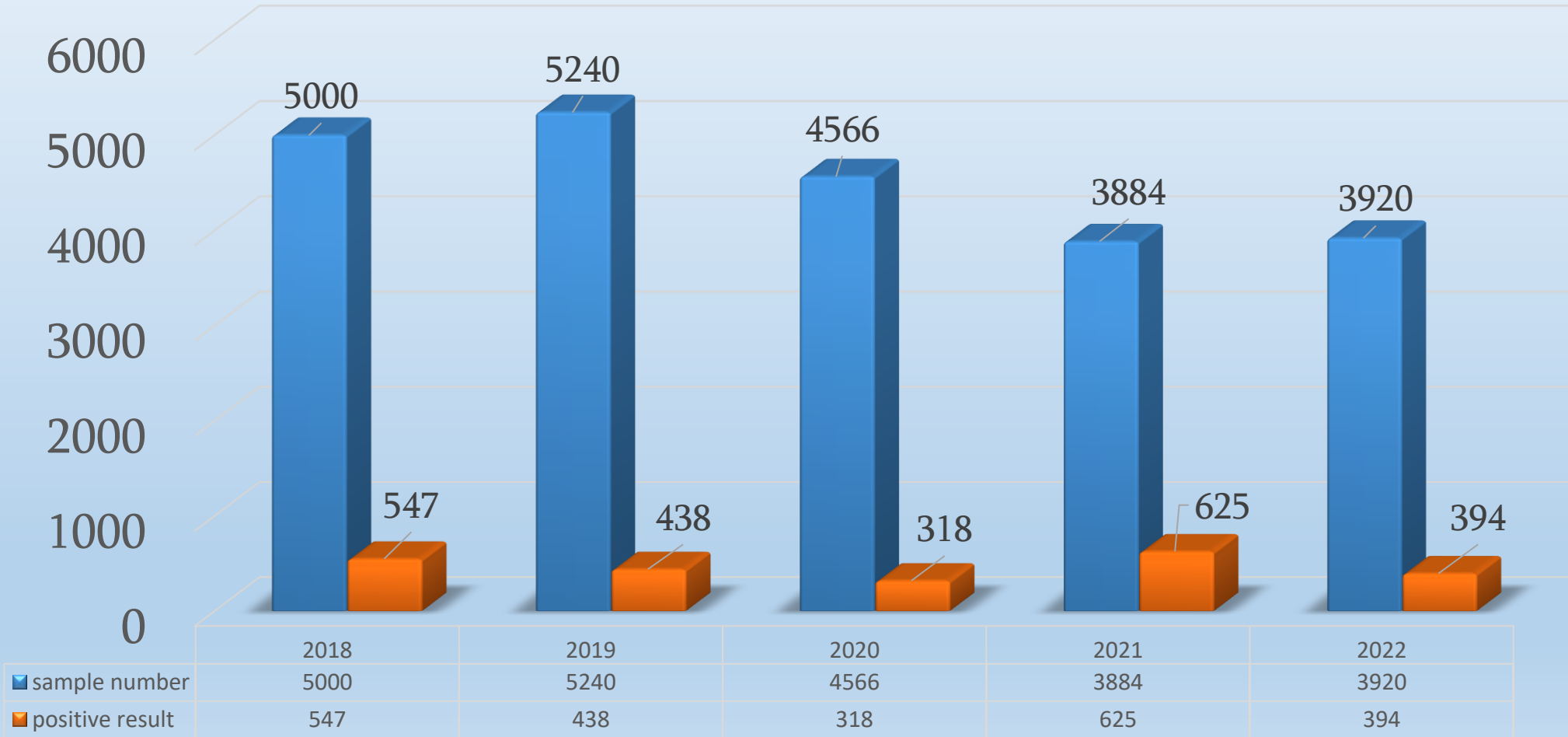
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Inspection FBO - Compliance with Georgian Legislation





Monitoring of Food market



■ sample number ■ positive result

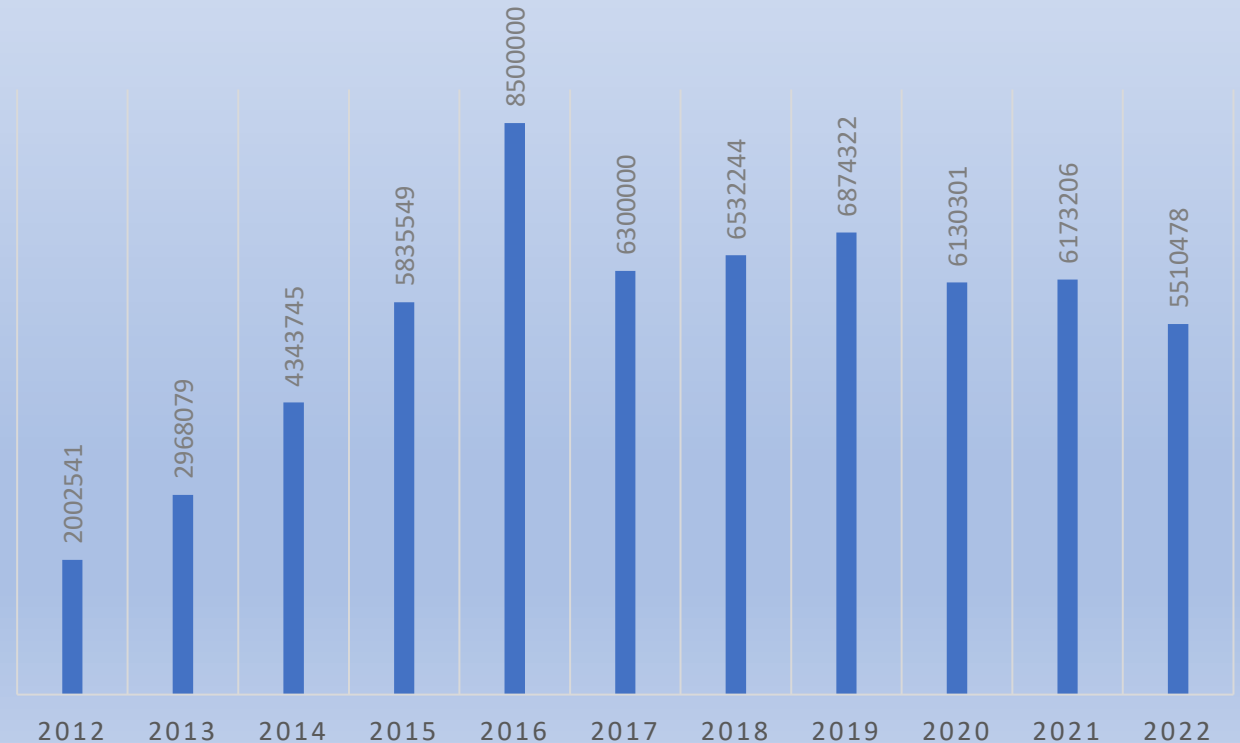


Basic Veterinary Manipulations

Veterinary manipulations (i.e. vaccinations, research, control) have been taking place in Georgia since 2012

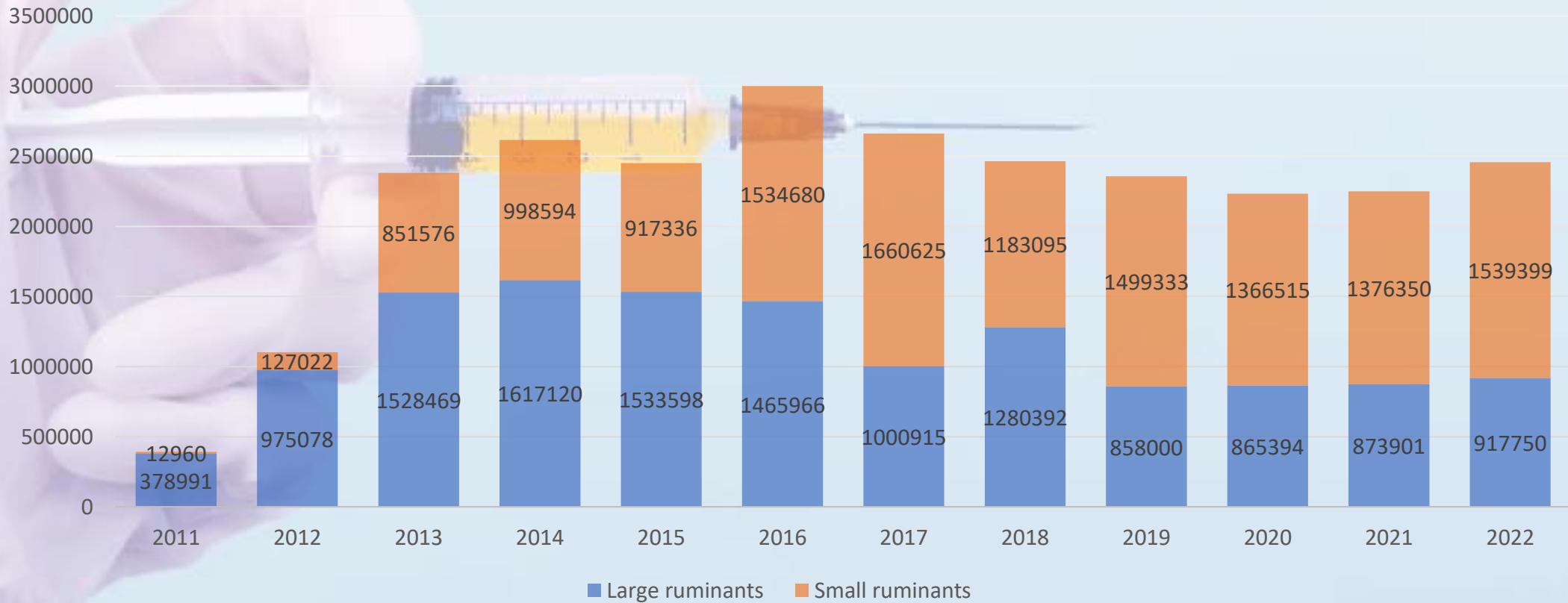
- FMD;
- Anthrax;
- Rabies;
- Brucellosis;
- Nodular dermatitis;
- Sheep and Goat Pox;
- Crimean-Congo Haemorrhagic Fever;
- Animal identification and registration;
- Registration and control of veterinary drugs;
- Control of animal movement.

PERFORMED MANIPULATIONS SORTED BY YEARS



Vaccination against FMD

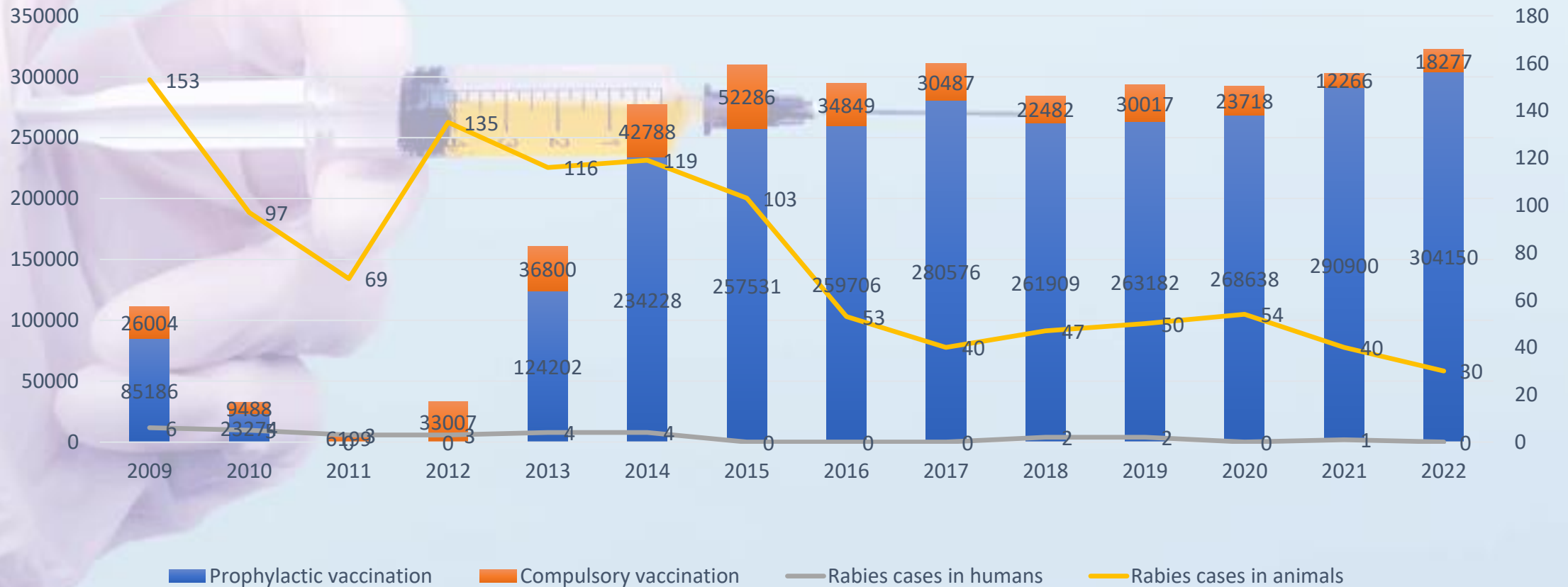
PROPHYLACTIC VACCINATION AGAINST FMD 2011-2022





Vaccination against Rabies

Vaccination against Rabies Years 2009 - 2022



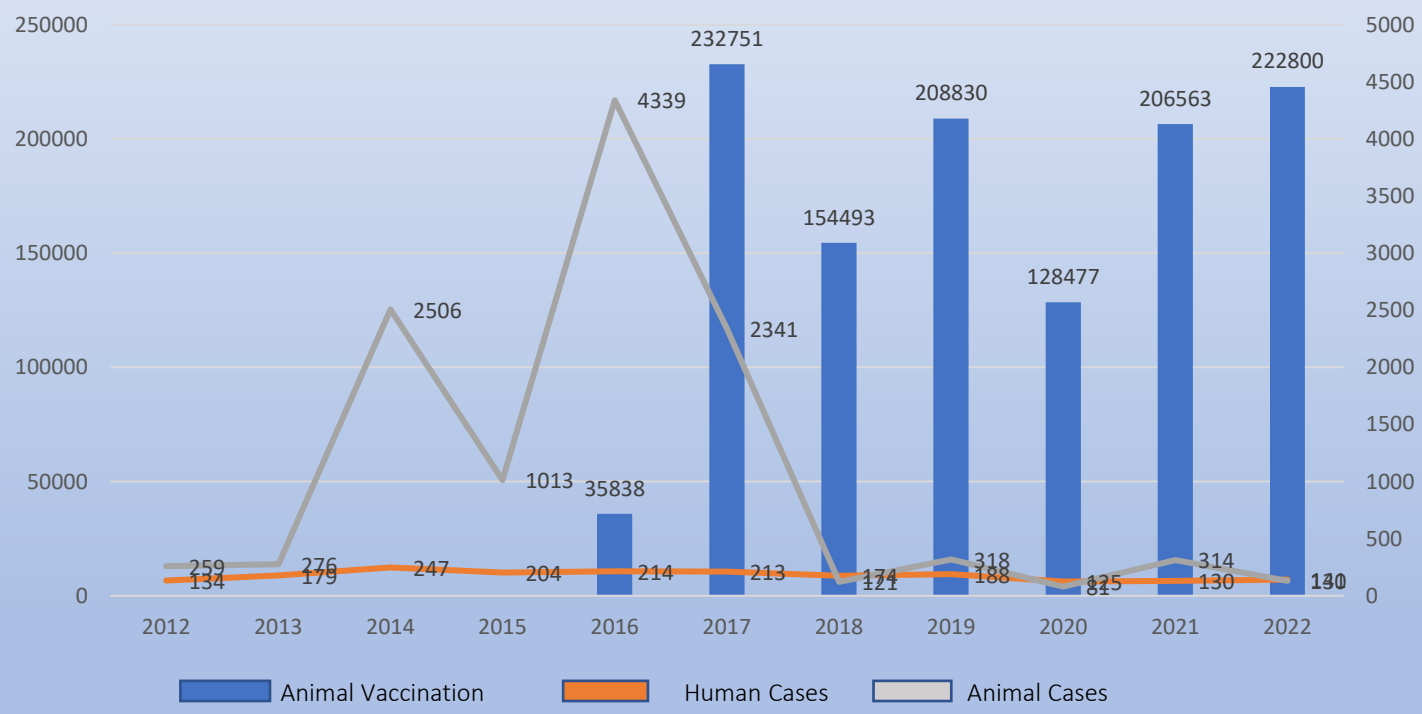


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Animal Vaccination

Measures against Brucellosis

Human Cases Animal Cases

Brucellosis cases in humans and animals

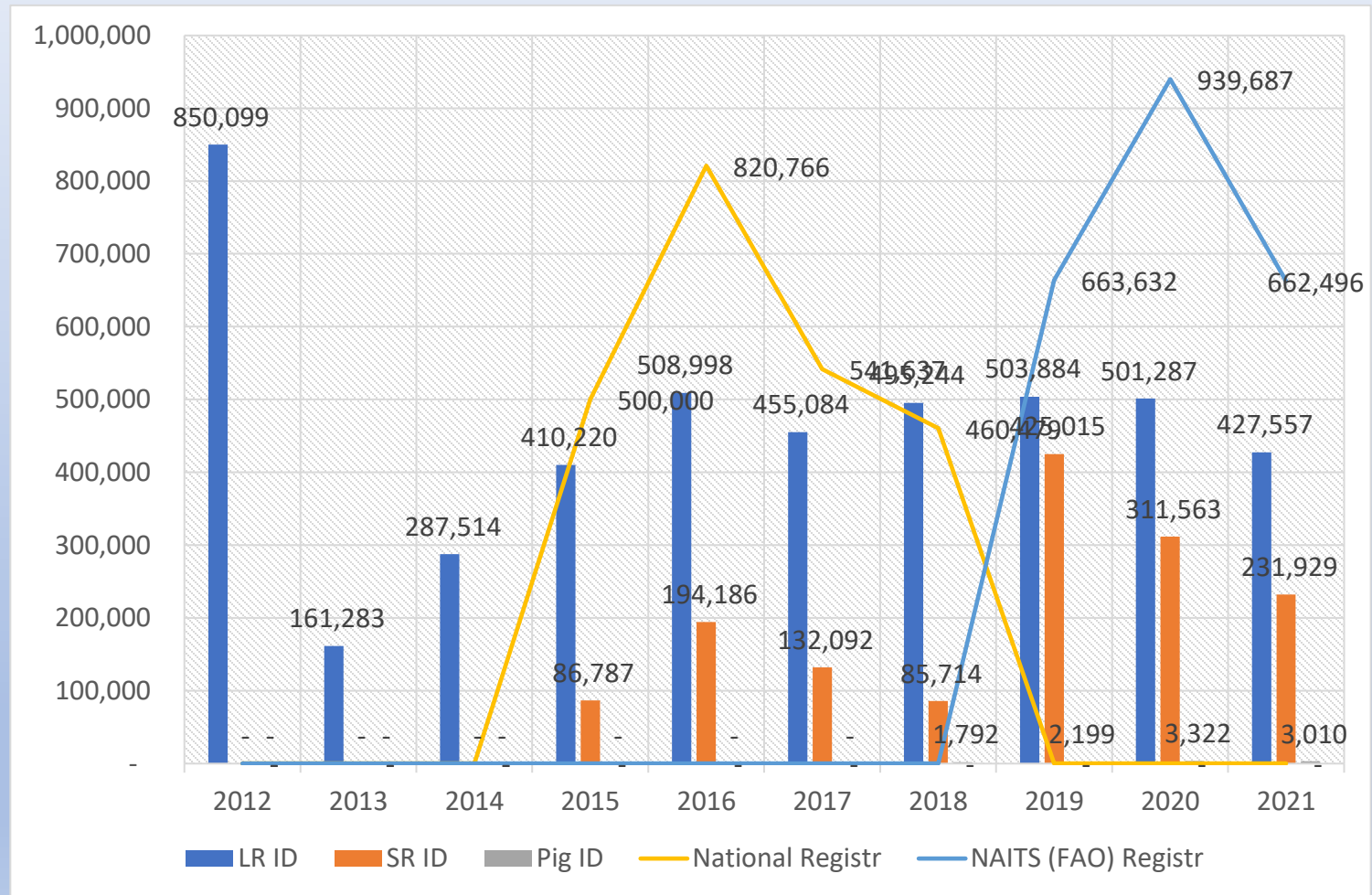




Identification and Registration of Animals

- Identification of large ruminants since 2012
- Resolution since 2015
- Identification of small ruminants since 2015
- Identification of swine (Pilot) since 2018
- National database 2015/II-2018
- NAITS (FAO) support since 2018
- NAITS database since 2019/II
- Identification of bees since 2023

Identification of species by years



Control of animal movement

7 veterinary surveillance points have been built on animal movement roads

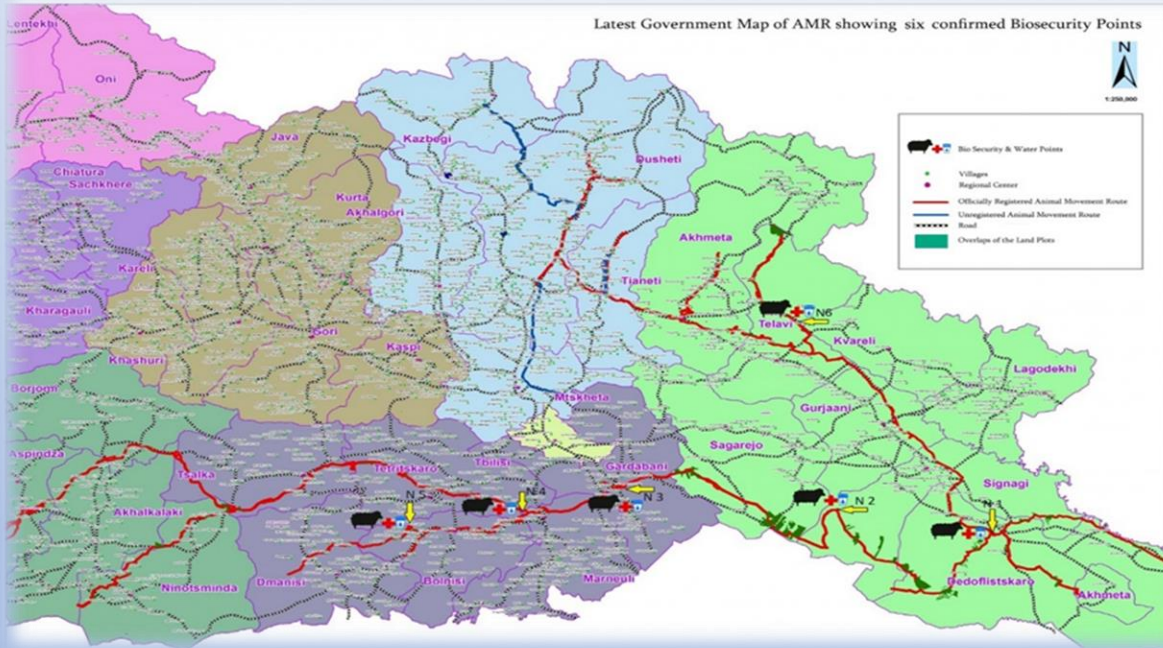
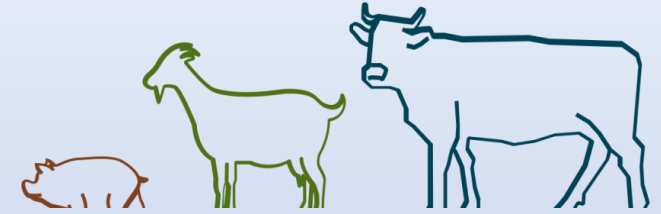


Treatment/washing of animals, control on movement, raising awareness of the population

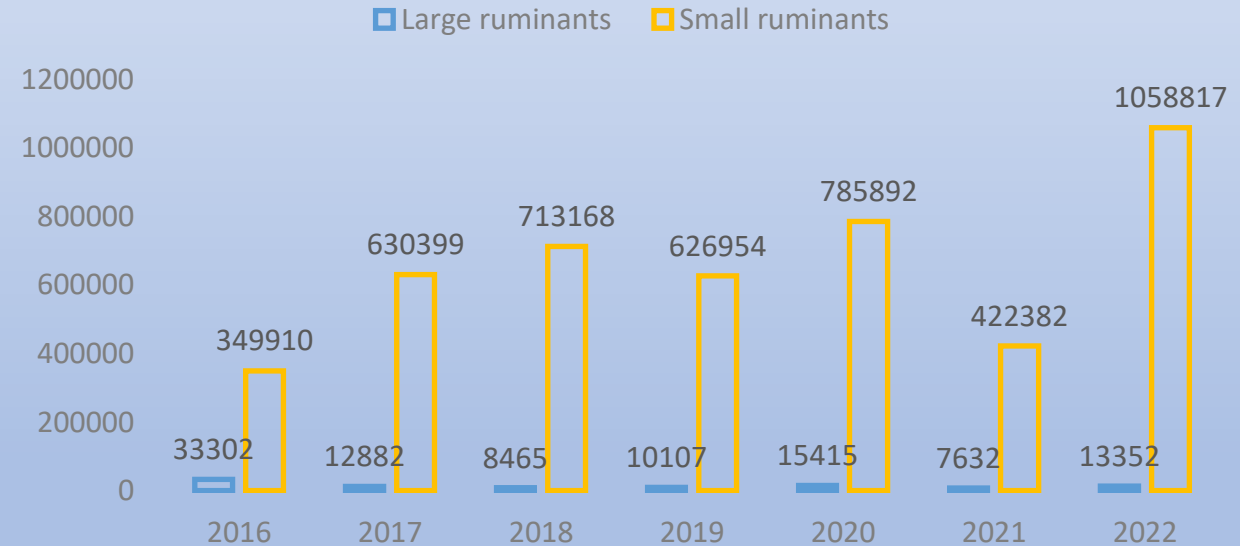


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Animal migration



Quantity of treated animals 2016 - 2021



Export of Agricultural Products

2022

- ❖ Export of Agricultural Products has been carried out in 96 Countries
- ❖ Total Exported agricultural products amounted 1 262 mln USD that is increase in 11% compared to 2021 data;
- ❖ The main agricultural products exported are wines, alcoholic bavarages, mineral and drinking waters, hazelnuts, and non-alcoholic bavarages
- ❖ Both Import and Export of the agricultural products have been increased in 2022, to compare 2021, with 37% and 11% respectively.



Export of Agricultural Products

2022

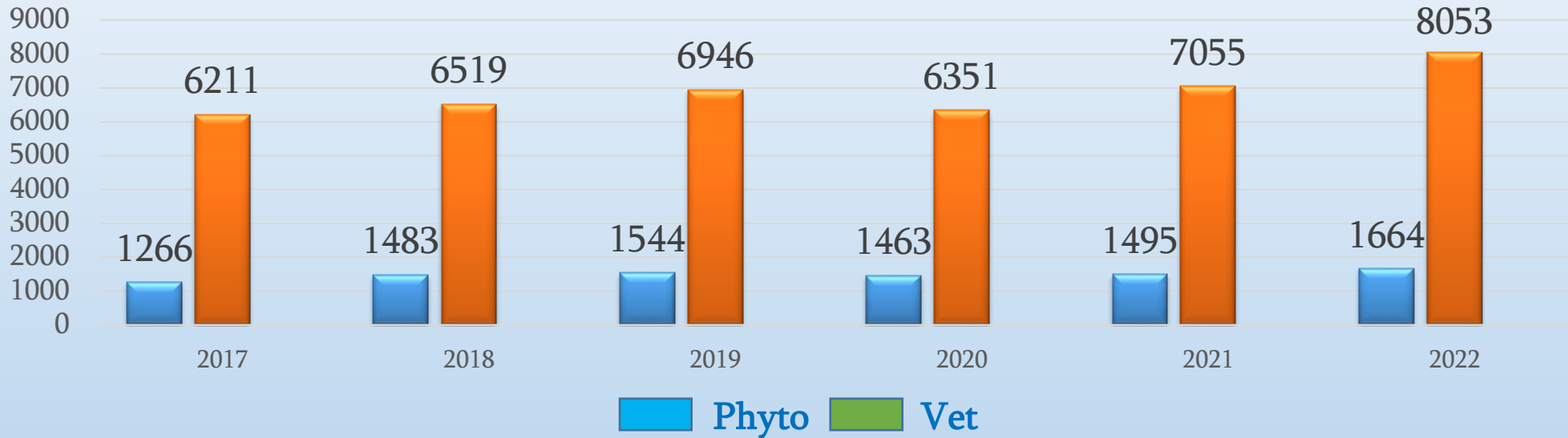
- ❖ Significant increase in export value of agricultural products has been accounted in 2022, to compare with the 2021 data, including with Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.
- ❖ Increase with Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan were 193% and 191%, and value of export were 60mln USD and 12.9 mln USD respectively.
- ❖ Increase with Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan was mostly based on the export of tobacco and mineral and drinking wates. In case of tobacco, mostly was reexport.





Import-Export - 2017-2022

Veterinary and Phyto Certificates

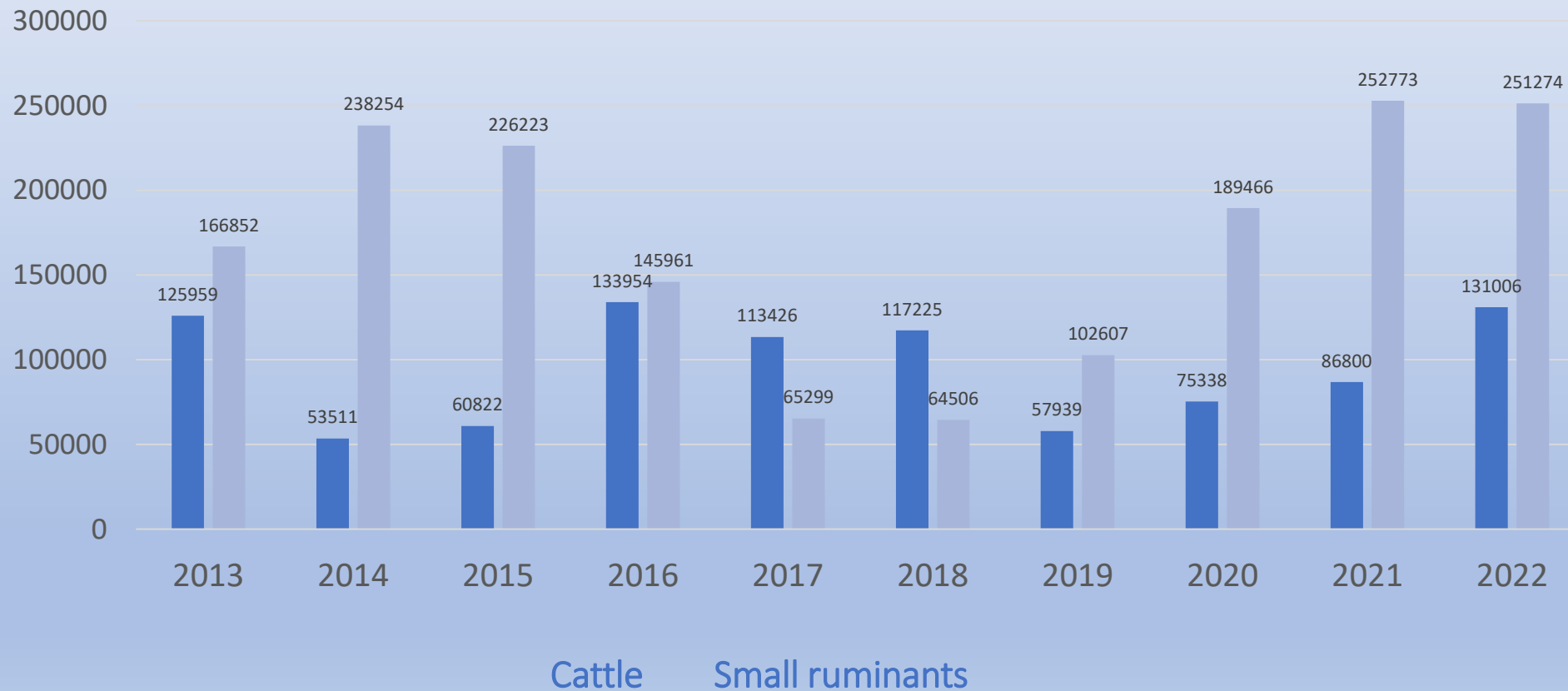


- Meat and meat products (including beef and poultry)
- Live Animals
- Milk products
- Fish and fishery products
- Honey
- Snail
- Fruits, vegetables, citrus, nuts

Export of live animals



Exported live animals



Rural Development Agency – SME Assistance



New

Preferential Agrocredit Project

[SEE MORE →](#)



New

Co-financing program for harvesting agricultural machinery

[SEE MORE →](#)



New

State Program for Support of Beekeeping Agricultural Cooperatives

[SEE MORE →](#)



Active

Agroinsurance



Active

State program co-financing agricultural machinery

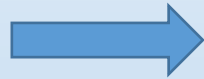


Active

Program of co-financing of energy-efficient stoves

Communication and Awareness Rising

Types of
Communication:

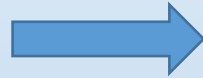


- ✓ Direct communication/informative meetings, workshops
- ✓ Printing and distribution of information among target groups
- ✓ Working out placing of video information in electronic media (social networks, TV, electronic journals)
- ✓ Making news and briefs about ongoing issues in electronic and printing media
- ✓ Media tours
- ✓ Consultations with local governments

Development of Georgian SPS Legislation

Communication and Awareness Rising

**Target
Groups**



- ✓ **Consumers**
- ✓ **Farmers**
- ✓ **Business sector**
- ✓ **Media**
- ✓ **Local governments**
- ✓ **NGOs**
- ✓ **Academy**

**Hot Line
1501**

Development of Georgian SPS Legislation

Communication and Awareness Rising

Social Platform → Civil Hall

**Members of the
Civil Hall →**

- ✓ **NGOs**
- ✓ **Representatives of
Business associations**
- ✓ **Private and public
experts**
- ✓ **Academy**

Usually, the meetings of the Civil Hall are held once per month or upon the request, when necessary.

Thank you for your attention!
Any questions?



15-19
May 2023

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National Food Agency of Georgia

nfa.gov.ge