What is Interoperability?

- Bridges across islands of data
  - Accessibility
  - Syntax
  - Semantics

- Interoperability means
  - Ability to speak the same ‘language’
  - Understand the same words
  - Answer the same questions

- Interoperability does NOT mean
  - Universal access to data
  - Loss of confidentiality, control or capability
What is Interoperability?

Islands of Data

Supplier

Ingredient A

Processor

Product B

Customer

Food C

The Challenge

- Business Requirements
- Supplier Requirements
- NGO Requirements
- Certification Requirements
- Regulatory Requirements
- Customer Requirements
- Consumer Requirements
- Market Requirements

The Opportunity

- Suppliers
- NGO
- Customers
- Business
- Certification
- Consumers
- Regulatory
The Opportunity: A Look at Other Sectors

- Healthcare, pharmaceutical, telecommunication industries
  - “A Case for Interoperability In Healthcare: Reduce Information Management Labor”
  - “Interoperability: The Glass is More than Half Full”
  - “Is Healthcare IT Interoperability (Almost) Here?”
  - “What’s Holding Back Innovation in Health Care?”

The Path Forward

- Current Initiatives
  - GFTC Interoperability Project
  - World Wildlife Fund Global Dialogue
  - Future of Fish Interoperability POD
  - Consumer Goods Forum Interoperability Initiative
  - Several others…

- What can you do?
  - Be aware
  - Get involved
  - Provide input
  - Participate