## STSM at the University of Novi Sad (8th – 27th December, 2019)

The main aim of the conducted STSM was to perform a systematic review of available literature on the scientific research in intervention measures for beef, to obtain quantitative information on the reduction of bacterial load in minced beef production chain. This was accomplished through joined expertise of Dr Dragan Antic and the host's team at the University of Novi Sad. The systematic review was based on a pre-developed protocol using mixed-method synthesis approach to deliver quantitative data on interventions' effectiveness against main beef-borne hazards.

The systematic review covered a range of GHP-based and hazard-based interventions at the abattoir stage (from receive and unload of animals to chilled carcasses), which was in line with the objectives of the WG3 in the RIBMINS project. The review looked at the outcome of interventions on a range of bacterial indicators (general and faecal microbiota) and foodborne pathogens (*Salmonella* and VTEC). It provides a robust estimate of interventions' effectiveness that can deliver more evidence-based data for risk management decisions. The resulting most efficacious interventions will be recommended for applying in the beef processing. Beside the systematic literature review on interventions in beef, the STSM encompassed also an integration and harmonisation of ongoing research efforts and research outputs from both University of Liverpool (intervention for cattle hides) and University of Novi Sad (decontamination of beef trimmings) to provide more comprehensive studies. In addition, an effort was also made towards planning for a further research applications in beef interventions stemming from data obtained in this systematic review. Finally, a paper from this research was drafted for submission in peer-reviewed journal.

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