



Abattoir risk categorization and harvest strategies

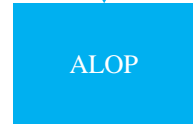
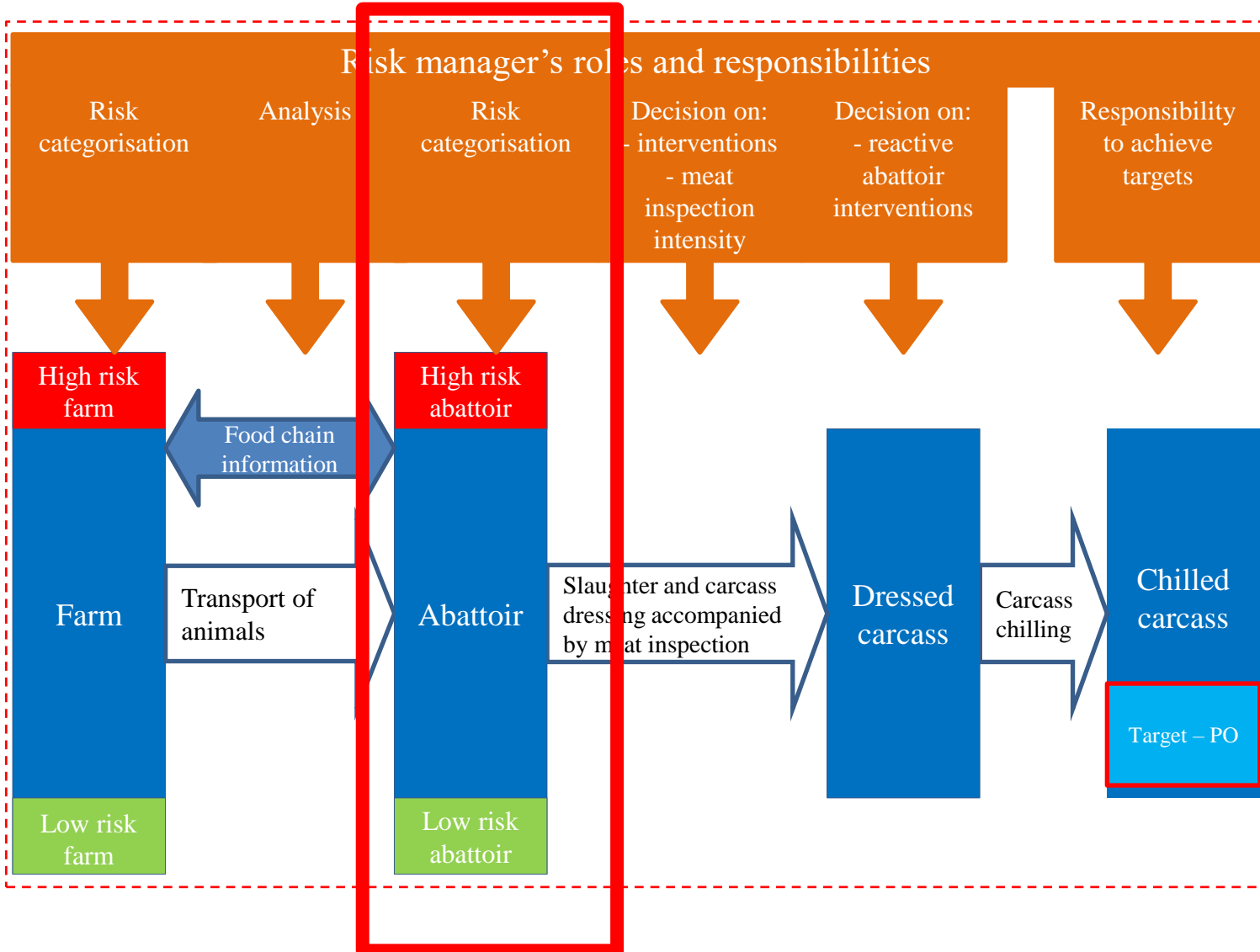
Bojan Blagojevic

Background

- **Risk-based meat safety assurance system (RB-MSAS):** combination of a range of preventive and control measures, applied at farms **and abattoirs** and integrated longitudinally
- One of essential components is **risk categorization of abattoirs** based on:
 - ✓ **performance of their FSMS** and
 - ✓ **harmonized epidemiological indicators (HEIs*)**

*prevalence/incidence of the hazard at a certain stage of the food chain; or

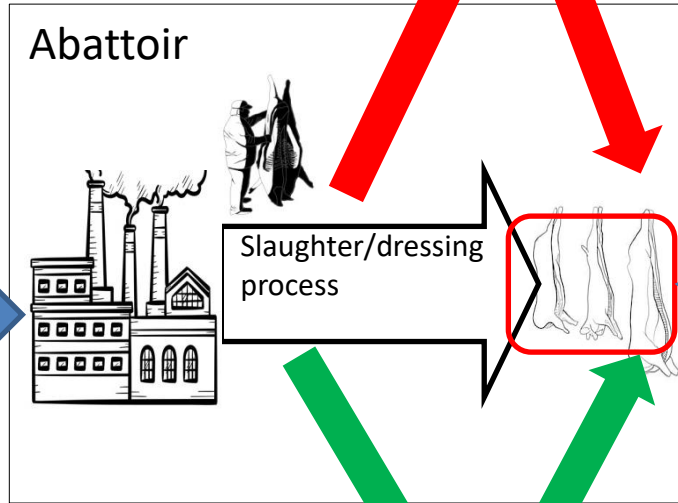
*indirect measure of the hazards (such as audits) that correlates to a human health risk



Risk manager

Higher risk abattoirs (poor process hygiene)

FSMS
(GMP/GHP,
HACCP...)
HEIs



Target

Lower risk
abattoirs (good
process hygiene)

EU legislation

HACCP revision needed!



- EU Process Hygiene Criteria (Reg. 2073/2005) groups pig abattoirs in three risk categories based on microbiological status of dressed carcass

	Satisfactory	Marginal	Unsatisfactory
Aerobic colony count*	≤4.0 logs	4.0 – 5.0 logs	>5.0 logs
Enterobacteriaceae count*	≤2.0 logs	2.0 – 3.0 logs	>3.0 logs
<i>Salmonella</i> occurrence**	≤6%	-	>6%

*destructive method **swab

- Main flow: only thing that counts is the final outcome - the process and any other factors are irrelevant
- Why is this important?

Combining abattoir risk categorization with farm risk categorization

Scenario 1

Animals

High levels of contamin.

Abattoir A

Good hygiene practices

Carcases (outcome)

Medium levels of contamin.

Scenario 2

Abattoir B

Animals

Low levels of contamin.

Poor hygiene practices

Carcases (outcome)

Medium levels of contamin.

Combining abattoir risk categorization with farm risk categorization

Scenario 3

Animals

Low levels
of
contamin.

Abattoir A

Good
hygiene
practices

Carcases
(outcome)

Low levels
of
contamin.

Scenario 4

Animals

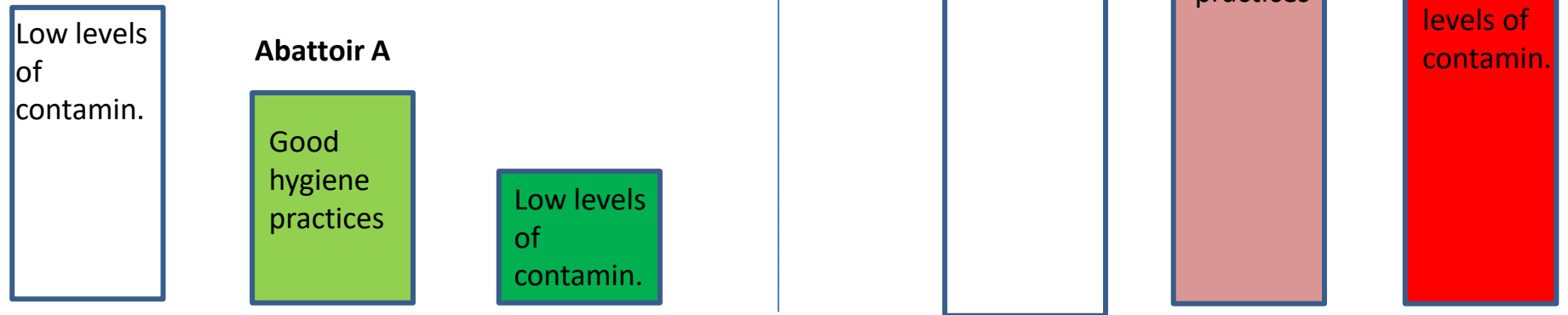
High
levels of
contamin.

Abattoir B

Poor
hygiene
practices

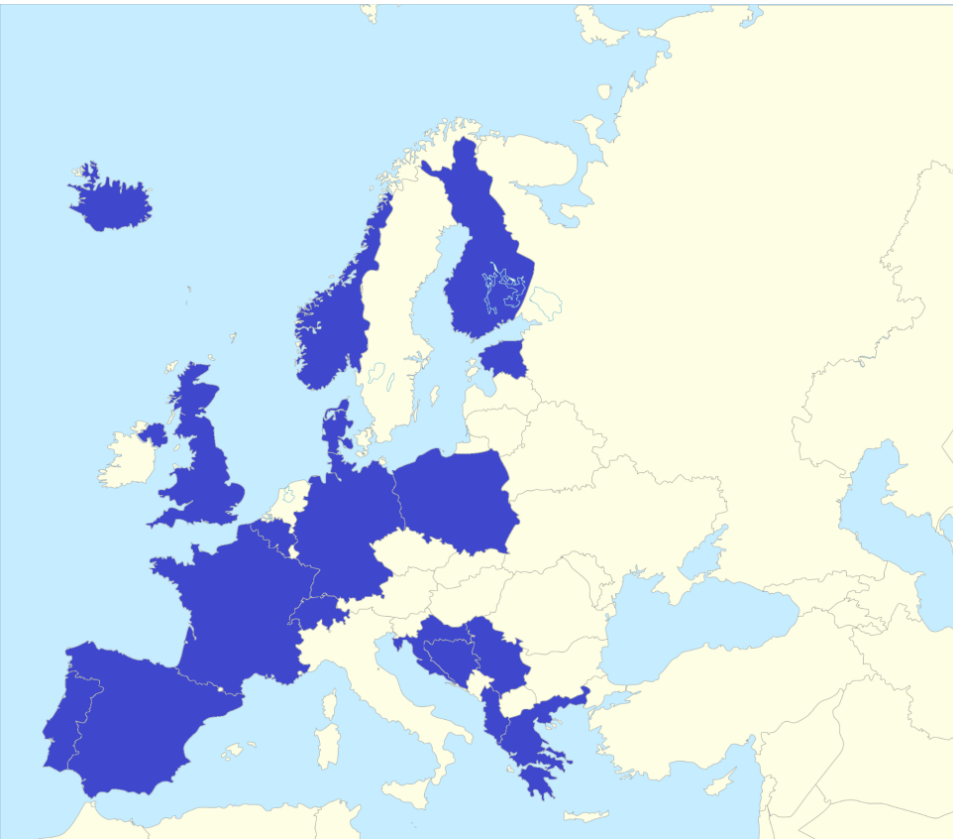
Carcases
(outcome)

High
levels of
contamin.

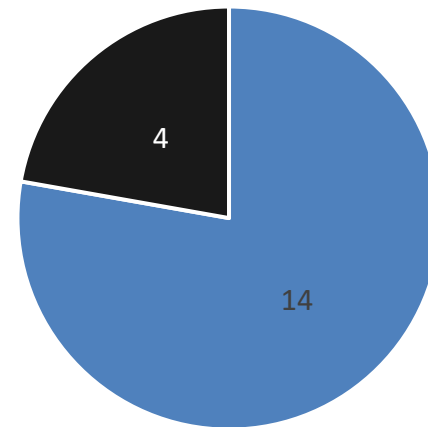


Survey on abattoir risk categorization

- Unclear picture of the implementation of abattoir risk categorization in Europe
- To identify and fill gaps, a survey was conducted to:
 - ✓ investigate the extent of the use of abattoir risk categorization
 - ✓ explore its relevance and the applicability by competent authorities

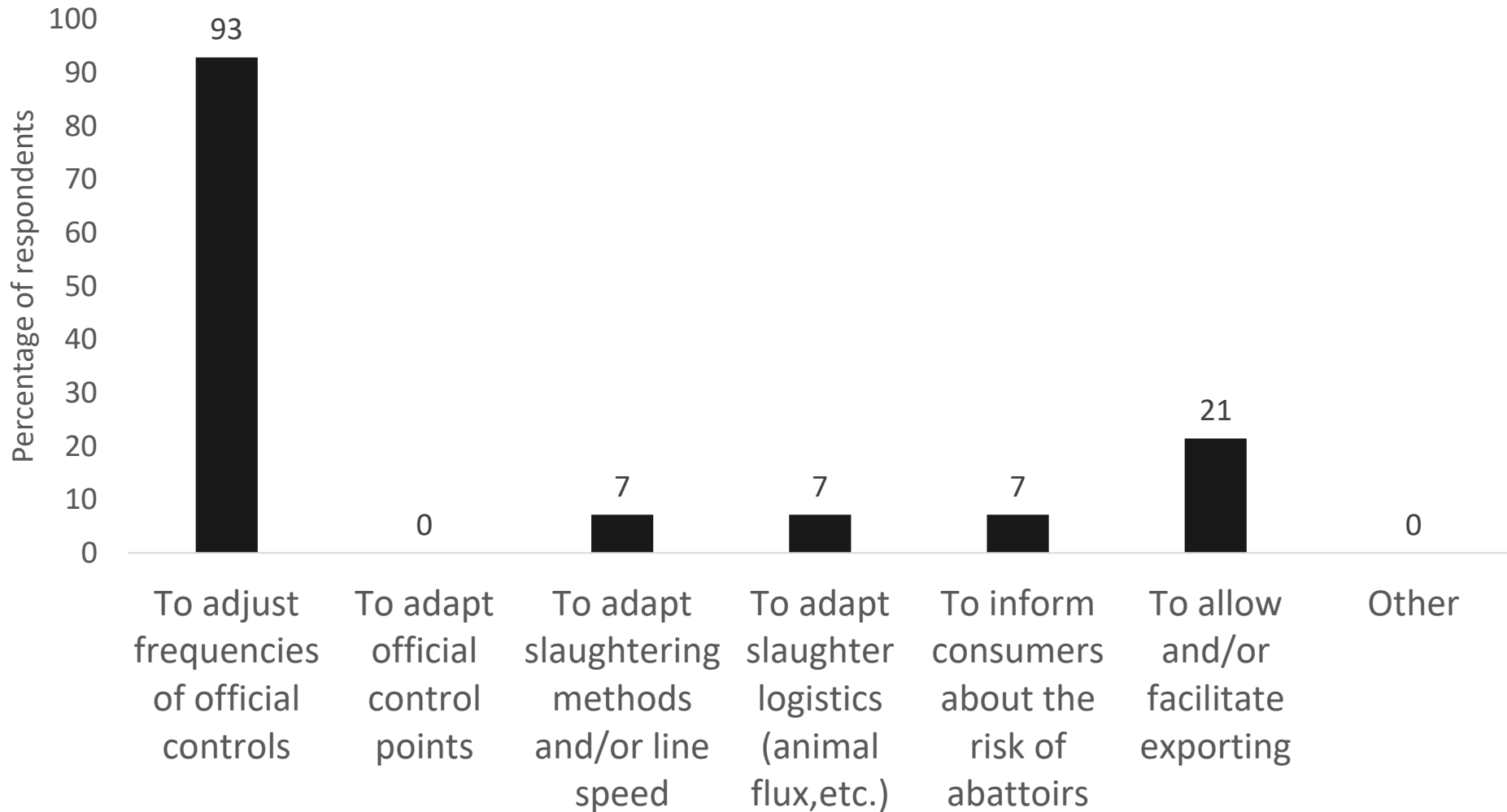


Risk categorisation implementation

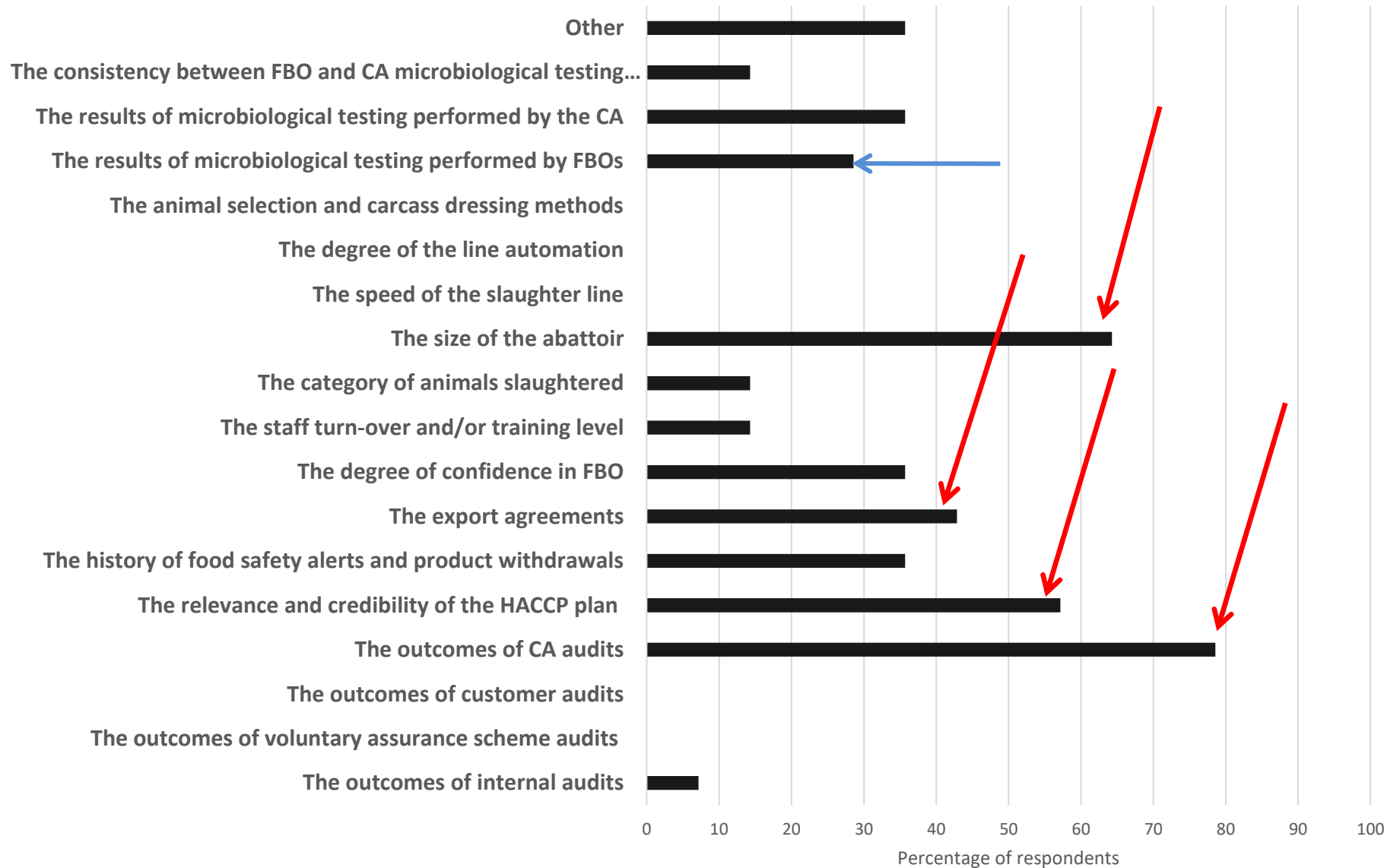


■ Yes ■ No

Purpose of risk categorisation



Parameters for risk categorization



Conclusion

- Different ways of abattoir risk categorizations
- Less than 1/3 of surveyed countries indicated to use results of microbiological testing for this purpose
- The main driver for risk categorisation of abattoirs appears to be the organisation of future official controls
- No country has formally included HEIs in risk categorization
- All reported the absence of combining farm and abattoir risk categorisation systems
- **A lot of work has to be done before implementation of this RB-MSAS's component**

Thanks for your attention!

Thanks to RIBMINS WG3!

Questions?