

## ITC CONFERENCE GRANT SCIENTIFIC REPORT

This report is submitted for approval by the grantee to the MC Chair.

**Action number: CA15116**

**Conference title: 4th Global African Swine Fever Research Alliance GARA 2018  
Scientific Workshop**

**Conference start and end date: 11/04/2018 to 14/04/2018**

**Conference attendance start and end date: 11/04/2018 to 14/04/2018**

**Grantee name: Jasna Prodanov Radulovic**

### ACTIVITIES DURING YOUR ATTENDANCE AT THIS CONFERENCE:

(max.500 words)

During my attendance at the conference, I presented the control and preventive measures applied against the African swine virus introduction in my country. At the poster I presented the information and pictures of the leaflets about public awareness campaign intended for hunters, pig producers, vets. Also, the presentation of informative posters displayed at the country borders was included. Generally, the main activities within preparedness in the Republic of Serbia were presented in the poster.

At the workshop I attended all the scientific sessions during three days. I was especially interested in the scientific sessions in the fields of diagnosis, epidemiology and African swine fever virus evolution. Very interesting lectures and experiences were given by the researchers about disease epidemiology from Estonia and from Africa. The presence at the discussions with many other experienced researchers was very useful for me, as my country is still disease free and there is no practical experience in the fight against disease. In addition, it was very useful for me to remain after the symposium and attended the technical tour and Workshop in central Sardinia where disease still occurs. The vets from Sardinia arranged to visit areas where the free ranging pigs are and they presented the results on disease eradication from Sardinia.

## AFRICAN SWINE FEVER - CONTROL AND PREVENTIVE MEASURES APPLIED IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA



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African swine fever (ASF) is continuing to spread across Europe and in the 2017 for the first time the disease has been confirmed in domestic pig population in the neighborhood country of the Republic of Serbia. Since then, the Veterinary Directorate of Serbia ordered the implementation a set of control, preventive measures in the country but also at border crossings for passengers, vehicles, ships in the river ports and at the international airports.

The aim of the paper was to present the control and preventive measures against african swine fever virus implemented in the Republic of Serbia.

At the country borders, in order to inform all passengers, the special informative posters written in several languages were written and set. The risk analysis was conducted to assess the possible risk of disease introduction from neighborhood, infected country. In the risk profile, different routes or events which could lead to ASF entering country were identified. The most important are: habits of people living in border areas, infected meat or meat product, catering waste from international transport.

Picture 1. The identified risk area (districts) close to the border of neighborhood country



Picture 2. Display of ASF posters on the borders  
Rising awareness campaign at the border-  
cooperation with customs



In the country, the passive and active surveillance of dead and hunted wild boars was intensified during the last hunting season. The special form of Veterinarian Manual about ASF was written in Serbian in order to provide the latest information about disease. In order to increase awareness, the series of lectures for all involved subjects (veterinarians, breeders, hunters) was organized in all country districts.

In the event of a worst-case scenario (ASF outbreak), the existing types of swine holdings (backyards and free-range) and low level of biosecurity in certain number of commercial pig holdings were recognized as a significant risk factor. In the case of outbreak, the backyard pig operations might be a potential risk for further spread of diseases from wild boar to commercial pig holdings. The identified key measures to protect swine population from ASF are improving existing biosecurity of farms and effective and aimed information on the disease risk.

Keywords: African swine fever, preventive measures, biosecurity control

Picture 3. Leaflets with biosecurity measures for the all types of swine farms in the country



Instruction for vets



Public awareness campaign include:

- exchange of information with competent authorities and co-operation with the experts of the neighboring countries
- All update ASF information available on the web site of the Veterinary Directorate

Main activities within preparedness in the country:

- Strengthen the checks at the border districts
- Meetings with official vets to align common understanding and procedures described in the ASF instruction
- Sharing the information to the animal keepers by the official veterinarians and other vets
- Meetings with hunters – practical realization of the measures ordered specially focused on collection of samples from wild boars and hunting management
- Application of ASF monitoring programed in both wild boar and domestic pigs population

Picture 4. Distribution of ASF posters for all pig farmers and hunting societies around the country



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### IMPACT ON YOUR RESEARCH AND FUTURE COLLABORATIONS (if applicable)

(max.500 words)

I already have a positive impact on my future research since I met and will stay in contact with researchers from nearby (Hungary, The Czech Republic), countries on the other side of Europe (Estonia) and also remote countries from other continent (Uganda, Tanzania) who want to share their insights about disease. It is my great pleasure to share my knowledge and new information about African swine fever with the colleagues in my country. Certainly, knowledge and information acquired during this conference will help me and my team in further procedures in terms of control and preventing measures against the disease in our country.

It is very important for me that in the future, in the event of an disease outbreak in my country, I met at the conference people, researches from different states around world who can I contact in future for help and advice.