Euromed Homepage
EuroMed Regional Projects
Choose project by country
Choose project by theme
EuroMed Partnership
EU Delegations
Multimedia
Press Packs
ENPI > Home Page
EU & Neighbours
The ENPI
Resources
EU Links
EuroEast > Home Page
Search
Advanced search
Audiovisual & Media
Civil society and local authorities
Culture
Economy
Education & Training
Energy
Environment

# Regional Project News

Tweet Share

## Mediterranean health security project enters new phase

**01-02-2011**

The new phase of an EU-funded project aimed at enhancing preparedness against common health threats across the Mediterranean is holding its first meeting on 3 February 2011 in Luxembourg to examine the network's organization and to agree the work plan for the first year.

A press release said a new phase of activities under the **EpiSouth Network** was approved and started in October 2010. Building on the knowledge of regional needs identified during implementation of the first phase of EpiSouth, the new **EpiSouth Plus Project** aims at increasing health security in the Mediterranean Area and South-East Europe by enhancing and strengthening preparedness to common health threats and biosecurity risks.

The activities of the EpiSouth Networkstarted in October 2006 with the involvement of 9 EU Member States. It worked for the past four years in enhancing communicable disease surveillance in the Mediterranean region and now includes 27 countries (9 EU and 17 non-EU, plus one candidate country). It is therefore the biggest inter-country collaborative effort of this kind in the region.

**EpiSouth Plus** is co-ordinated by the Italian National Institute of Health (ISS) and co-funded by the EU Public Health Programme (DG SANCO) and EuropeAid with an amount of €3.9 million together with the involved Public Health Institutes and Ministeries of Health.(ENPI Info Centre)

Press release

EpiSouth website

Read also

NEWS

- EIB provides €130 million support package to improve healthcare access and services in Syria
- Major survey assesses successes and failures of Euro-Med Partnership
- Pilot clinic in Damascus: Awareness Campaign on Gender Based Violence and Reproductive Health
- Syrian Health officials trained on designing Health Benefit Packages
- Euromed News Magazine: EU and Egypt work together to fight Hepatitis C
- EpiSouth brings together experts for Mediterranean health conference

EpiSouth

Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

# PRESS RELEASE

Rome, 2 February 2011

For immediate release

## EPISOUTH PLUS

**The first Steering Committee Meeting of the EpiSouth Plus Project will be held in Luxembourg on February 3, 2011 to revise the Network organization and to agree the work plan for the first year.**

The activities of the EpiSouth Network started in October 2006 with the involvement of 9 EU Member States. It worked for the past four years in enhancing communicable disease surveillance in the Mediterranean region and includes now 27 countries (9 EU and 17 non-EU, plus one candidate country). It is therefore the biggest inter-country collaborative effort of this kind in the region.

A new phase of the Network activities was approved and started on October 2010. Building on the knowledge of regional gaps and needs identified during the first EpiSouth implementation, the new **EpiSouth Plus Project** aims at increasing the health security in the Mediterranean Area and South-East Europe by enhancing and strengthening the preparedness to common health threats and bio-security risks at national and regional levels in the countries of the EpiSouth Network.

Seven Work Packages, jointly co-lead by EU and non-EU countries, ensure the following specific objectives:
1. To facilitate common threat detection by establishing a Mediterranean Regional Laboratories Network.
2. To promote common procedures in interoperable Generic Preparedness and Risk Management among the countries involved in the Network.
3. To enhance Mediterranean Early Warning functions allowing alerts and epidemic intelligence information sharing among EpiSouth countries through the development of interoperability with other Early Warning Platforms and especially the European Early Warning and Response System (EWRS) as forecasted by the current EU legislation.
4. To facilitate IHR implementation through a strategic document based on assessments and surveys on how national plans and legislations can interact/interfere with IHR requirements.

EpiSouth Plus is co-financed by the EU DG-EAHC/SANCO and EuropeAid for an amount of 3.9 million Euro together with the involved Public Health Institutes and Ministries of Health. The financial support of the Italian Ministry of Health and ECDC is also acknowledged.

For more information, please contact:
Dr Massimo Fabiani, leader of the dissemination team
Tel: +39 06 49904266; Fax: +39 06 49904267; E-mail: episouth@iss.it

A project implemented by the Italian National Institute of Health (ISS)

Address: Viale Regina Elena, 299
Rome 00161
Italy
Tel: +39 06 49904266
Fax: +39 06 49904267
E-mail: episouth@iss.it

This project is co-funded by the European Union DG-EAHC/SANCO and EuropeAid together with the involved national partner Institutions

The financial support of the Italian Ministry of Health and ECDC is also acknowledged

The European Commission is the EU's executive body.

"The European Union is made up of 27 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders".

This press release has been produced with the assistance of the European Union. The content of this press release are the sole responsibility of the Italian National Institute of Health and can in no way taken to reflect the views of the European Union.