



Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

EpiSouth Project: Its status after 18 months

Second Training Module
Madrid, 2-6 June 2008

Maria Grazia Dente
EpiSouth Project Coordinator
Istituto Superiore di Sanità
National Centre for Epidemiology, Surveillance and
Health Promotion
Rome, Italy





Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

Background

- ① The project “Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries (EpiSouth)” is under the DGSANCO Grant Agreement 2005206 which states that the project shall run for 36 months from 01/10/2006 to 30/09/2009
- ② We acknowledge also the TAIEX and the Italian Ministry of Health contribution (the latter through the EpiMed Project)





Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

Project Objective

Ⓒ The general objective of the project is to create a framework of collaboration on epidemiological issues in order to improve communicable diseases surveillance, communication and training across the countries in the area of Mediterranean and Balkans.



Areas of activities

- ① The project is composed by 8 Work Packages (WPs) which should be considered autonomous in their scope, tasks, topic and membership
- ② Each WP is lead by a Public Health Institution and developed by a WP Steering Team



Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

Project Work Packages (WP) Framework WPs



WP1-Coordination: ISS, Rome (Italy)

WP2-Dissemination: ISS, Rome (Italy)



WP3-Evaluation: Azienda Ospedaliera, Padua (Italy)

Project Work Packages (WP) Horizontal WPs



WP4-Network of public health institutions: Azienda
Ospedaliera, Padua (Italy)



WP5-Training in field/applied epidemiology: Instituto de Salud
Carlos III, Madrid (Spain)

Project Work Packages (WP) Vertical WPs



WP6-Cross-border epidemic intelligence: Institut de Veille Sanitaire (France)



WP7-Vaccine preventable diseases and migrant populations: National Center of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases, Sofia (Bulgaria)



WP 8-Epidemiology and preparedness to cross-border emerging zoonotic infections:Hellenic Centre for Disease Control & Prevention, Athens (Greece)





Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

Participant Countries and Organisations

As per April 2008:

24 countries with 58 Focal Points (plus Tunisia and Palestine that are in progress with their official commitments), and

5 International Organizations (EC-DGSANCO, ECDC, WHO-EURO, WHO-EMRO and WHO-LYO/HQ)

are part of the EpiSouth Network





Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

South Europe (9)

- Bulgaria
- Cyprus
- France
- Greece
- Italy
- Malta
- Romania
- Slovenia
- Spain

Balkans (7)

- Albania
- Bosnia & Herzegovina
- Croatia
- FYROM
- Kosovo
- Serbia
- Montenegro

North Africa (3)

- Algeria
- Morocco
- Egypt

Middle East (5)

- Israel
- Jordan
- Lebanon
- Turkey
- Syria

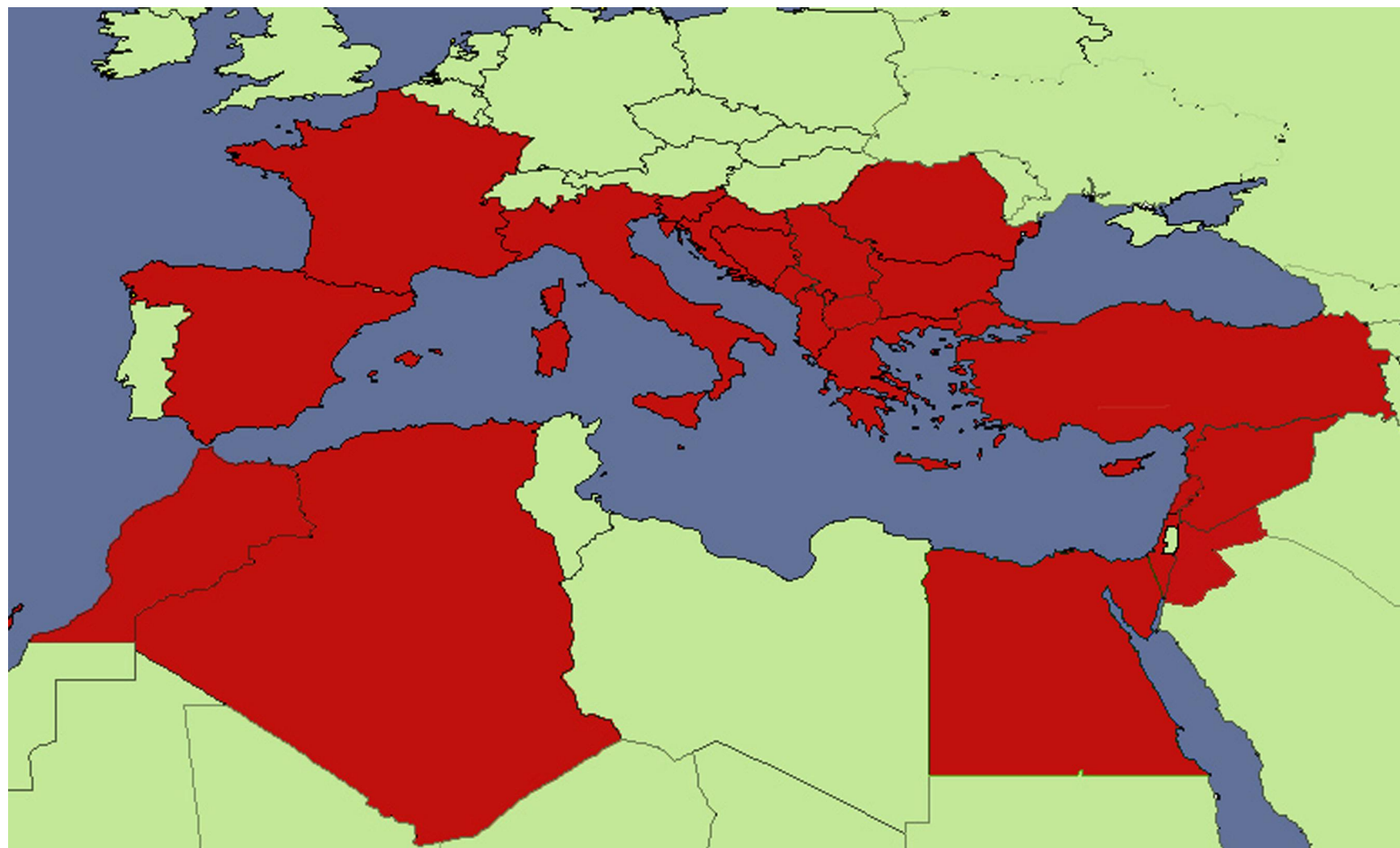
International Organizations

- EC DG Sanco
- ECDC
- WHO-EURO
- WHO-EMRO
- WHO-HQ



EpiSouth

Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries



Project organisation

④ Steering Committee (SC)

composed by the 6 WP leaders plus ECDC, EC-SANCO C3, WHO EURO, WHO EMRO and WHO HQ representatives as observers.

④ Working Packages Steering Teams (WPST)

Steering Team has been formed for each WP. Each Steering Team is constituted by the WP's Leader, by an Associated Partners and by those Participating Countries which have expressed their interest for the related WP

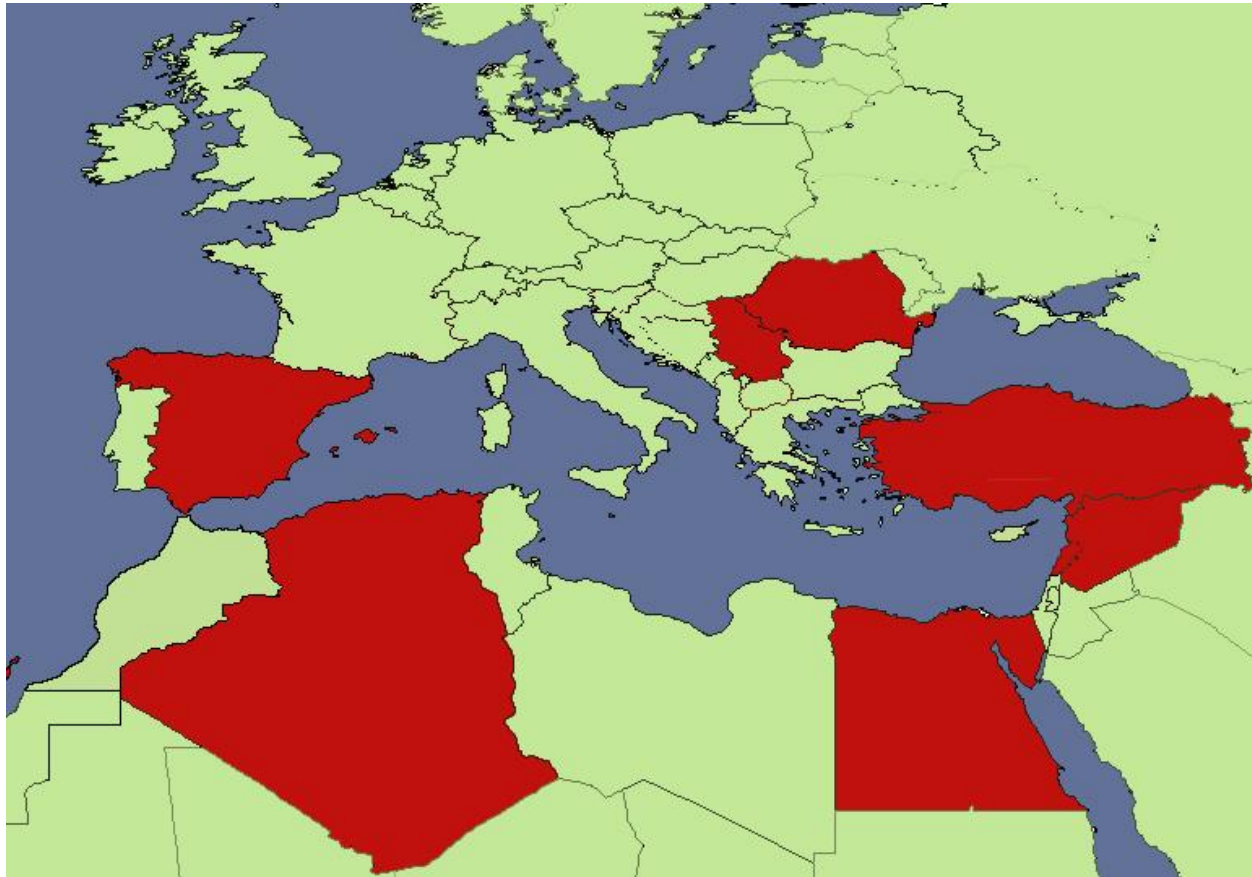
④ Country Focal Points (CFP)

Each country has identified and appointed one or two relevant persons, who act as CFP of the Episouth Network and convey all the communication/information to the relevant officers in their respective countries.



EpiSouth

Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries



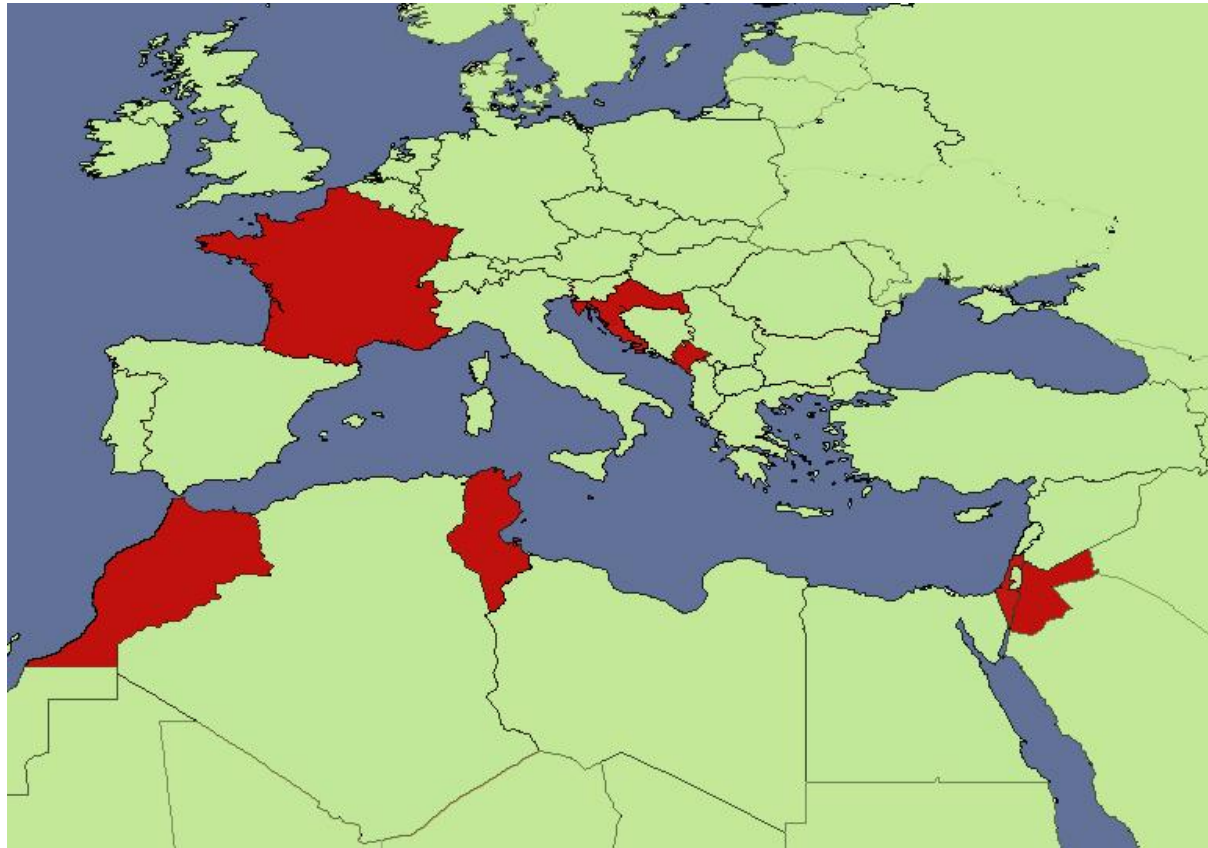
Steering Team WP5
(8 Countries)

- ✓ Spain
- ✓ Romania
- ✓ Serbia
- ✓ Algeria
- ✓ Lebanon
- ✓ Turkey
- ✓ Egypt
- ✓ Syria



EpiSouth

Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries



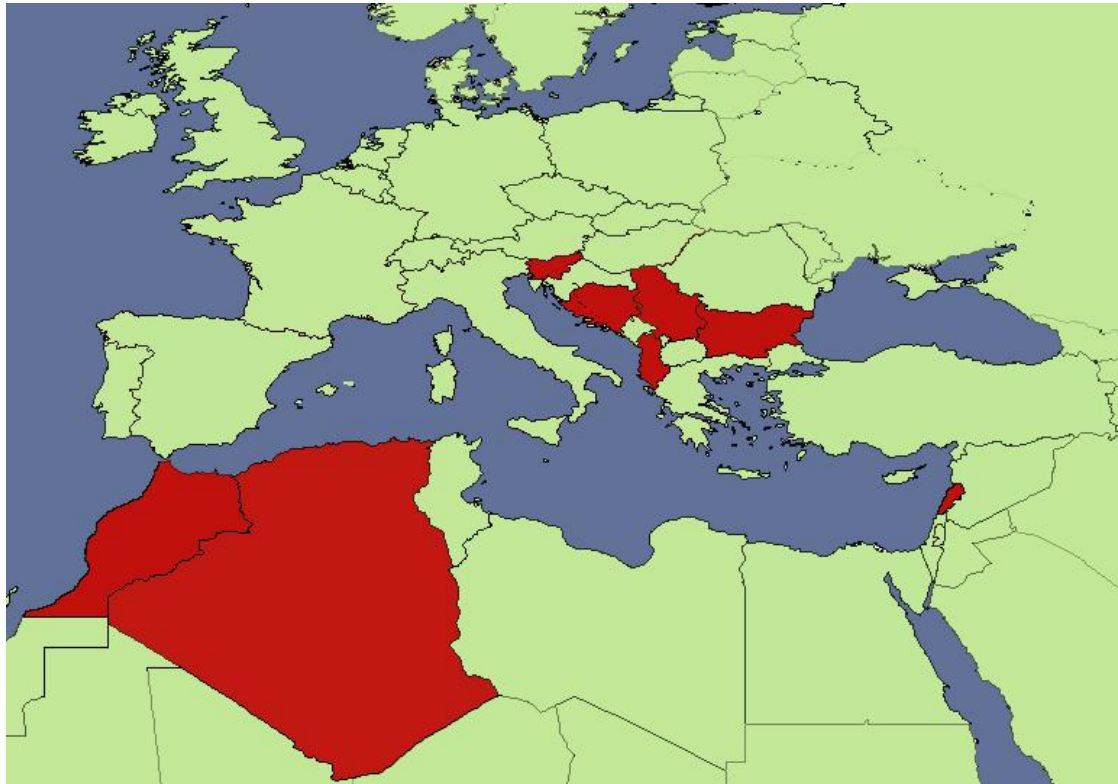
Steering Team WP 6
(8 Countries)

- ✓ France
- ✓ Malta
- ✓ Croatia
- ✓ Morocco
- ✓ Tunisia
- ✓ Israel
- ✓ Jordan
- ✓ Montenegro



EpiSouth

Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries



Steering Team WP7

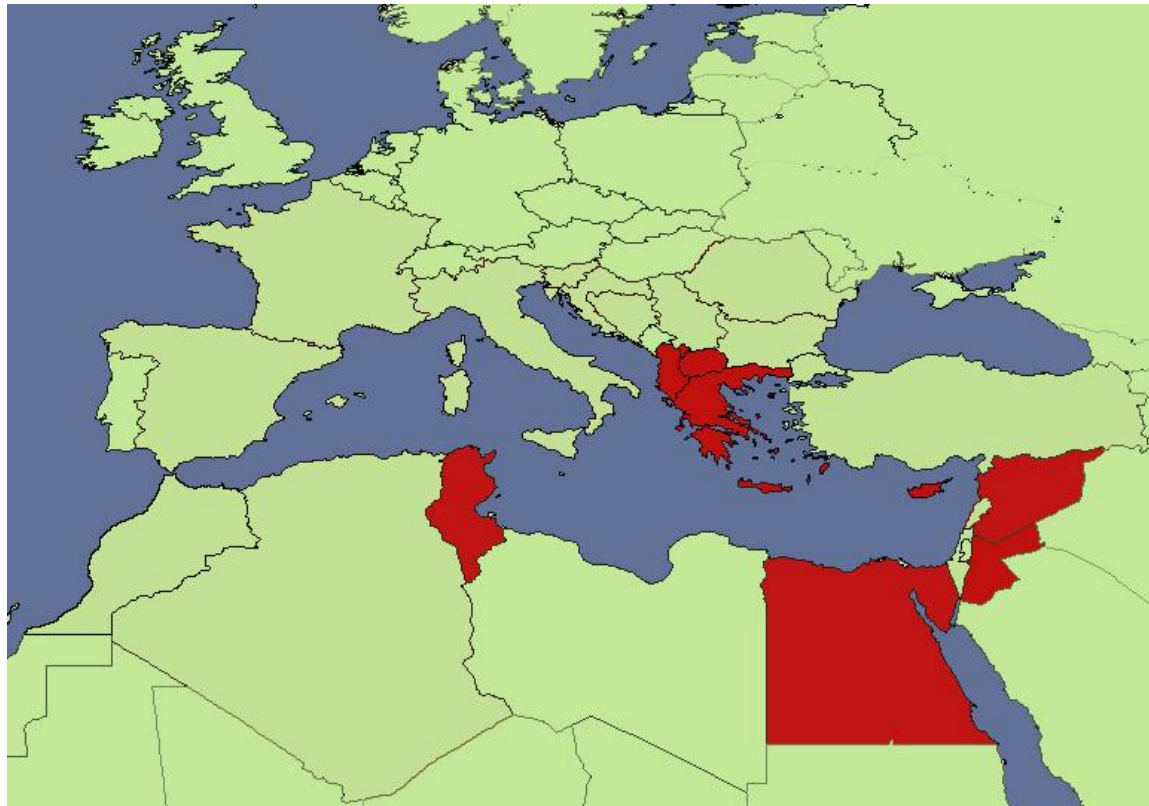
(8 Countries)

- ✓ Bulgaria
- ✓ Slovenia
- ✓ Albania
- ✓ B&H
- ✓ Serbia
- ✓ Morocco
- ✓ Lebanon
- ✓ Algeria



EpiSouth

Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries



Steering Team WP8
(9 Countries)

- ✓ Greece
- ✓ Cyprus
- ✓ Albania
- ✓ FYROM
- ✓ Kosovo
- ✓ Tunisia
- ✓ Jordan
- ✓ Egypt
- ✓ Syria



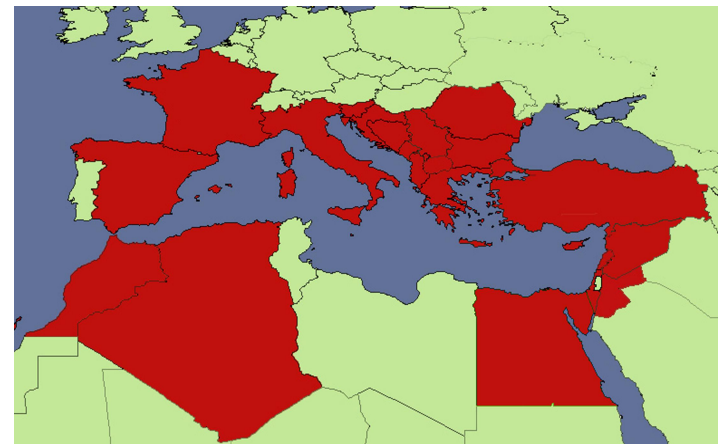
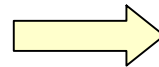
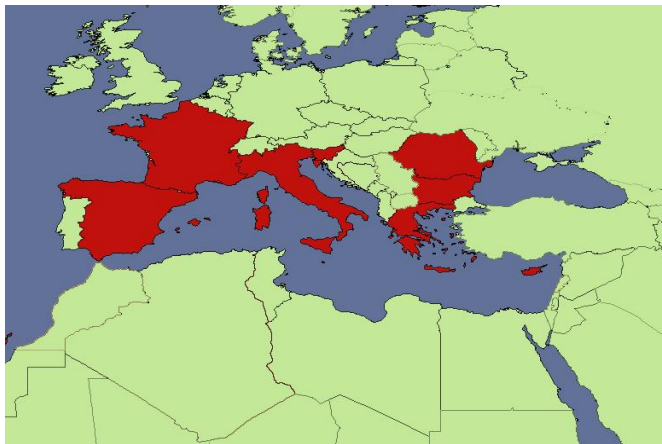
EpiSouth

Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

Main project achievements (1)

- Enlargement : from 9 EU Countries to 24 (EU and non EU Countries) plus 5 representatives from International Organisations

https://www.episouth.org/list_participating_countries.html



Main project achievements (2)

@1° EpiSouth Project Meeting (28-30 March 2007)

https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp1/Report_1st_Episouth_Project_Meeting_28-30_March_07.pdf

@2° EpiSouth Project Meeting (10-12 December 2007)



Main project achievements (3)

@EpiSouth Web Site &

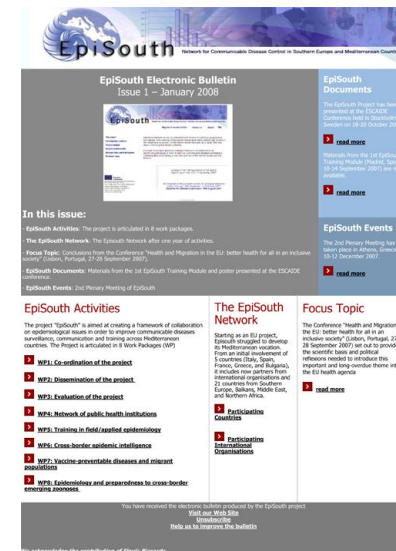
Network Working Area (communication tool)

www.episouth.org

@EpiSouth Quarterly Bulletins (Sept 07,

Jan 08 and May 08)

https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp2/EpiSouth_Electronic_Bulletin



MEMBERS' AREA UTILISATION

- **December 07**

- 51 different visitors out of the 67 authorised users (76%) for a total of 634 accesses
- 71 documents uploaded and 902 downloads (average: 13 downloads per document)
- 7 new topics have been posted in the forum areas with 301 visits and 12 replies

- **May 08**

- 66 different visitors out of the 77 authorised users (86%) for a total of 1865 accesses
- 220 documents uploaded and 3340 downloads (average: 15 downloads per document)
- 14 new topics have been posted in the forum areas with 690 visits and 27 replies



Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

MEMBERS' AREA UTILISATION

•December 07

Croatia: 2/2 users

Lebanon: 1/2 user

Bosnia & Herzegovina: 1/3 user

Algeria: 1/2 user

Slovenia: 1/2 user

Malta: 2/3 user

Serbia: 1/2 user

Spain: 1/3 user

Turkey: 1/2 user

Italy: 1/12 user

Albania: 1/2 user

WHO: 2/3 user

Cyprus: 1/3 user

• May 08

Croatia: 2/2 users

Lebanon: 1/2 user

Bosnia & Herzegovina: 1/3 users

Slovenia: 1/3 user

Malta: 1/3 user

Montenegro 1/2 user

Italy: 1/12 user

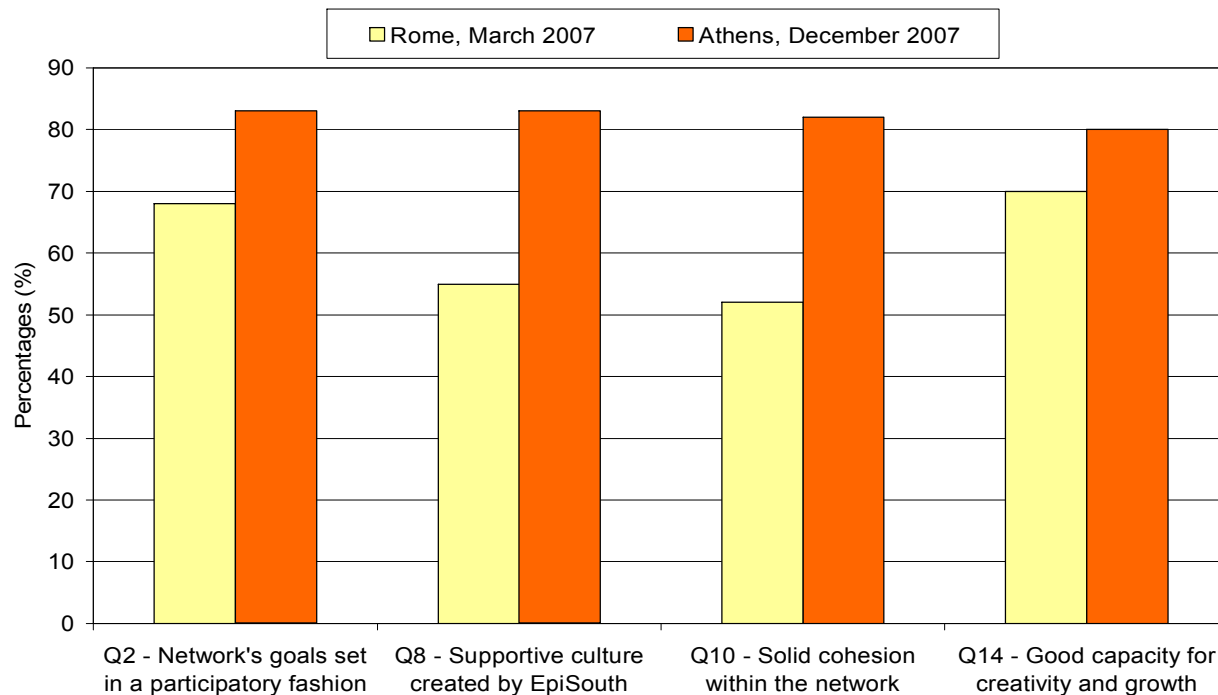
WHO: 2/4 user

Egypt : 1/2 users



Main project achievements (4)

Monitoring Tool of Network Development:
results from the questionnaire distributed during
the Second Project Meeting (Athens, 10-12 December 2007)



Main project achievements (5)

- © First training module (36 participants plus guests)

Madrid, 10-14 September 2007

https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp5/f_t_module/



Main project achievements (6)

EpiSouth Weekly Epi Bulletin – N°1
March 19th, 2008 – March 25th, 2008

INDEX e-WEB n°1

- A(H5N1) Avian influenza: update of the situation as of 25th March 2008
 - Cumulative number of Confirmed Human Cases of Avian Influenza A(H5N1) reported to WHO
 - Notification of new avian influenza outbreak (bird flu)
- Yellow fever in Latine America
- Meningitis in Sub-Saharan Africa

Week	2003		2005		2007		2008		Total
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	
Australia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burma	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Cambodia	4	4	2	2	1	1	0	7	7
China	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hong Kong	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
India	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Indonesia	20	13	85	45	43	36	11	128	105
Japan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Korea	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	2
Nigeria	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1
Philippines	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1
Thailand	22	14	3	3	0	0	0	25	17
Turkey	0	0	12	4	0	0	0	12	4
Vietnam	83	42	6	2	0	0	0	105	54
Total	128	77	115	79	48	38	11	372	218

Vietnam

- On March 18th, 2008 the Vietnamese authorities have notified two new avian influenza outbreaks:
 - In the province of Ca Mau. The last notified avian influenza outbreak in this province was reported in July 2007.
 - In the province of Quang Nam. The last notified avian influenza outbreak in this province was reported in June 2007.
- To date, at least 5 provinces have observed avian influenza outbreak during the last 3 weeks: Quang Tri, Soc Trang, Quang Binh, Quang Nam, Ca Mau.

Comments:
The identification of new outbreaks in a country already affected does not change the global epidemiological situation.

⊙ Assessment of existing epidemic intelligence activities in participating countries (with the preparation of a specific questionnaire)

⊙ Epidemic Intelligence Weekly bulletins (the n.1 on 25 March 08)

Main project achievements (7)

- Selection of zoonoses of priority in the Episouth countries: final report on the assessment conducted in July 2007
- Situation report by each country regarding: Brucellosis, Campylobacteriosis, Leishmaniasis, Rabies and West Nile Virus
- Questionnaire for HPH and VPH officials contacts ready to be compiled on-line

On line questionnaires (enter data)

- WP4-Directory of EpiSouth Institutions (17 out of 24)

Only 1 FP per Institution should compile it;

- WP3-Monitoring tool WP1-WP5 (6 out of 18)

All Countries FPs can compile it;

- WP8- HPH and VPH questionnaire available in mid-June.



Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

In progress . . .

- Ⓢ 1st yearly Evaluation Report
- Ⓢ Directory of Institutions involved in EpiSouth Network
- Ⓢ Directory of training courses and fellowships
- Ⓢ Pilot secured section on cross-border epidemic intelligence on website with alerts originating from partners
- Ⓢ On-line questionnaire for the survey on vaccine-preventable disease and migrant
- Ⓢ On-line questionnaire compilation for the Directory of Human and Veterinary Public Health officials





Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

Next appointments

- Ⓜ On 19-21st November, the 2nd European Scientific Conference on Applied Infectious Disease Epidemiology (ESCAIDE) will take place in Berlin (Germany)
- Ⓜ In March 2009 (to be confirmed) the 3° EpiSouth Project Meeting in Sofia (Bulgaria) will be organised



Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

Thank you

