



IHR implementation in Romania



Designation of the IHR National Focal Point

- Public Health Institute Bucharest was designated as IHR NFP since 2006
- IHR NFP function also as backup for the EWRS along with the Centre for Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases (CPCCD)



Designation of the IHR National Focal Point within PHI

- Advantages – existence of:
 - Centre for Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases
 - Environmental health dept. & national reference laboratory for quality of potable water
 - National laboratory for radiations
 - A trained team which worked non-stop as a coordination center for information during the 2005 severe flooding



Designation of the IHR National Focal Point

- Issues still to be solved
 - Logistics for communication
 - Emergency operation centre
 - Financial mechanism for 24 hour duty (instead of compensatory free days)



Capacities for surveillance and response

- PH Structure for surveillance and response:
 - Being evaluated since 2001 by WHO and monitored by EC
 - Strengthened in the last years, the process is ongoing
 - Activities are monitored and evaluated through a plan of action, which is currently updated and upgraded
- One of the problems is personnel (less and less people are coming in the Public health domain)



Laboratory capacity

- National reference laboratories in place, well equipped, with trained personnel
- Problems exists still at the regional and especially at the district level related both to personnel and equipment



Required capacities at designated points of entry

- Most of them (ports and airports) have already such capacities
- Challenges:
 - Establishing the list of ground crossings to be designated (EU/non-EU)
 - Increasing number of international airports
 - Complicated mechanism of ownership and management of tasks (at the airports)
- Required capacities are still to be evaluated



Other activities

- Ongoing process of evaluation of the health facilities designated for international vaccinations and chemoprophylaxis
- Introduction of the new medical documents
 - For travelers
 - For ships
- Two available websites for information on IHR: MoPH (www.ms.ro) and PHI - CPCCD (www.cpcbt.ispb.ro)



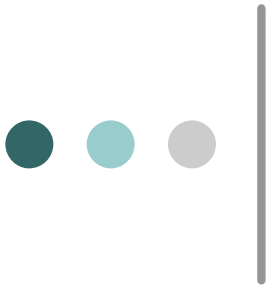
Training

- 5 Regional training workshops for all epidemiologists (134) were held during October – December 2006:
 - H5N1 avian influenza
 - Sentinel surveillance for influenza
 - IHR: the decision instrument and capacity requirements
 - Obligations to EWRS
 - March 2008– 2 days workshop with epidemiologists from the districts with points of entry



Training

- Planned for 2008:
 - Multisectorial training activities, including exercises through the Schengen Center
 - ECDC – planned short IHR trainings
 - Laboratory training for regional / district level at Cantacuzino Institute



Thank you!