



Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

EpiSouth Project: Its status after 2,5 years

Third Training Module
Madrid, 15-19 June 2009

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Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

Background

- ④ The project “Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries (EpiSouth)” started at the beginning of 2007 for three years
- ④ It is co-funded by DGSANCO and by the Italian Ministry of Health (the latter through the EpiMed Project)



Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

Project Objective

- ④ 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.



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Areas of activities

- ④ The project is composed by 8 Work Packages (WPs)
- ④ Each WP is lead by a Public Health Institution and developed by a WP Steering Team



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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)



Participant Countries and Organisations

26 countries with 72 Focal Points, and

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

are part of the EpiSouth Network



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South Europe (9)

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

Balkans (7)

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

North Africa (4)

- Algeria
- Morocco
- Egypt
- Tunisia

Middle East (6)

- Israel
- Jordan
- Lebanon
- Turkey
- Syria
- Palestine

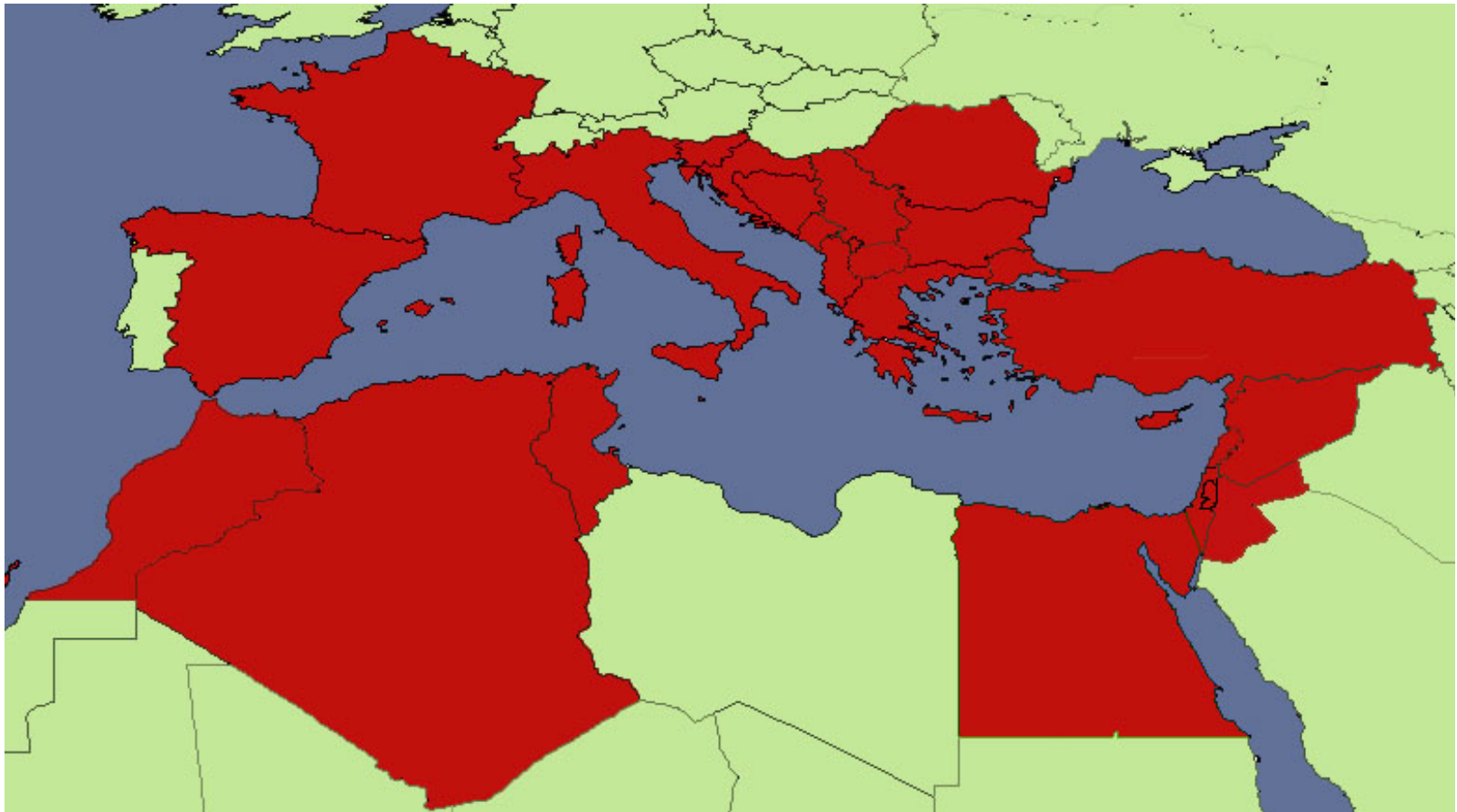
Collaborating Institutions

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



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Project organization

- **Steering Committee**

composed by the 8 WP leaders plus ECDC, EC-SANCO C3, WHO EURO, WHO EMRO and WHO HQ as observers.

- **Working Packages Steering Teams**

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

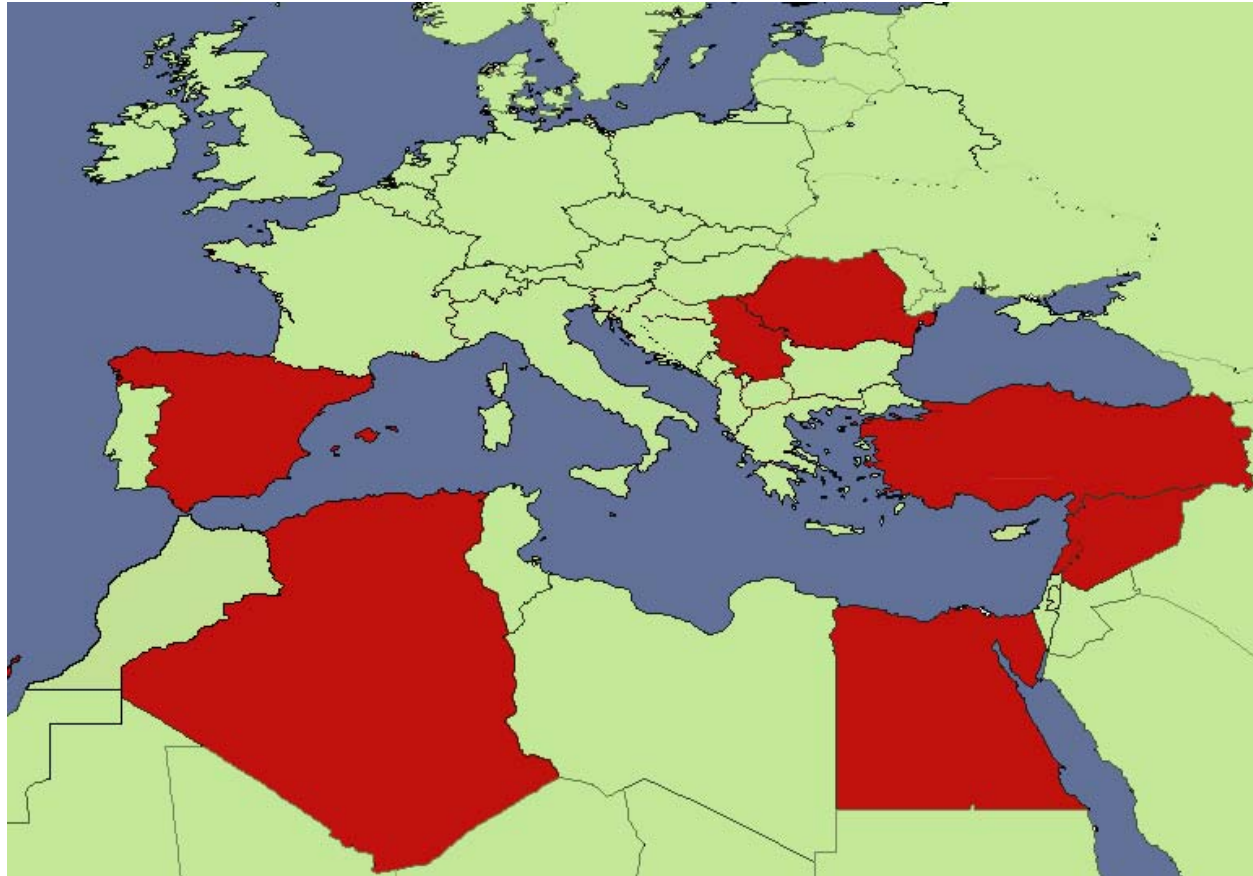
- **Country Focal Points (CFP)**

Each country has identified and appointed one or two relevant persons, who act as CFP of the Episouth Network



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Steering Team WP5
(8 Countries)

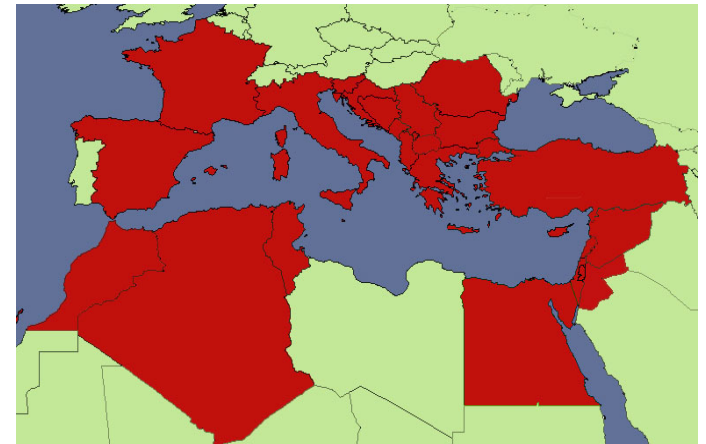
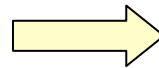
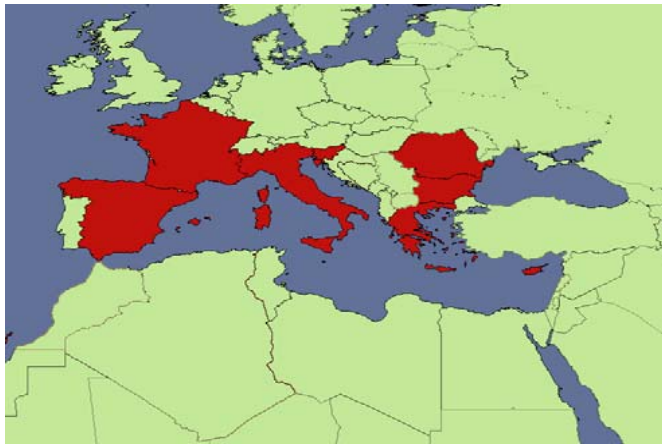
- ✓ Romania
- ✓ Serbia
- ✓ Algeria
- ✓ Lebanon
- ✓ Turkey
- ✓ Egypt
- ✓ Syria
- ✓ Spain



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Main project achievements (1)

- Enlargement : from 9 EU Countries to 26 (EU and non EU Countries) plus 5 representatives from International Organisations



Main project achievements (2)

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

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

3° EpiSouth Project Meeting (30 March- 1 April 2009)



Main project achievements (3)

🌐 EpiSouth Web Site &

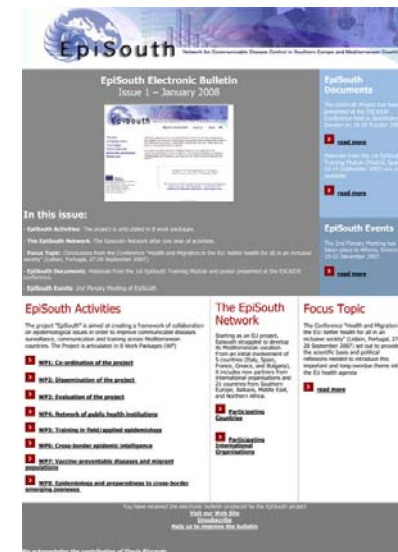
Network Working Area (communication tool)

www.episouth.org

🌐 EpiSouth Quarterly Bulletins (Sept 07,

Jan 08 and May 08)

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





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Main project achievements (5)

- **Survey on common training needs in diseases surveillance among EpiSouth countries in the Mediterranean and Balkan regions**
 - among 22 countries between June-July 2007.
 - priority topics: quantitative risk assessment, modelling of environmental risks and infectious diseases, epidemic intelligence and advanced data analysis

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/

- **Second training module (48 participants plus guests)**

Madrid, 2-6 June 2008

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





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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 (first flu)
- Yellow fever in Latin America
- Meningitis in Sub-Saharan Africa

Week	2003-2005		2006		2007		2008		Total	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Australia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burma	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Cambodia	4	4	2	2	1	1	0	0	7	7
China	1	0	11	0	0	3	0	3	15	3
Hongkong	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Japan	0	0	10	10	25	9	4	1	47	20
Korea	20	13	35	45	43	36	11	11	129	105
Laos	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lebanon	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	2	2
Nigeria	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
Philippines	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
Thailand	22	14	3	3	0	0	0	0	25	17
Turkey	0	0	12	4	0	0	0	0	12	4
Vietnam	10	42	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	42
Total	108	72	115	79	88	38	24	20	370	238

VIETNAM Avian A(H5N1) Epidemic

- 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.

① Assessment of existing epidemic intelligence activities in participating countries

② 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 Human and Veterinary Public Health officials contacts ready to be compiled on-line

Main project achievements (8)

- Survey among the 7 WP steering team countries to collect information about:
 - Migrant populations
 - Immunization programmes
 - Surveillance of vaccine-preventable diseases in migrants.....



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In progress . . .

- ④ Strategic documents
- ④ Directory of training courses and fellowships
- ④ Pilot secured section on cross-border epidemic intelligence on website with alerts originating from partners
- ④ Report on the survey on vaccine-preventable disease and migrant
- ④ Report on the Directory of Human and Veterinary Public Health officials



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The future...

9 months no-cost extension of EpiSouth



EpiSouth is expected to finish on 30 June 2010

- Instrument for Stability-IFS (EC DG Relex/AIDCO)
- European Commission PH programme - 2009
- National MoH



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Next appointments

5° Steering Committee meeting

Where: Venice? Paris?

When: October 2009?

4° Project Meeting (Final Meeting) and Conference on CD and health threats in the Mediterranean Region

Where: Rome (Italy)

When: February 2010 ?



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Thank you



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Third EPISOUTH training module and workshop

Madrid, 15 - 19 June 2009

Pilar Soler on behalf of the WP5 Steering team

Contributions

- Instituto de Salud Carlos III
 - National Centre of Epidemiology
 - National School of Public Health
- European Commission
- Ministero de la Salute (Italy)
 - EPIMED
- European Centre for Disease Control
- World Health Organization



Objectives

- To improve the knowledge in outbreak management and communication through the discussion on real outbreaks investigations
- To know when and how to apply the multivariate analysis and regression in the outbreak investigation

Programme and Methods

- Workshops
 - Round tables (Room 1):
 - Session 1: Lessons learnt in outbreak management
 - Session 2: Risk communication
 - Group work discussion (same as case studies)
- Formal training
 - Lectures (Room 1)
 - Computer exercises (Computer room 1)



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Module programme