



# EPISOUTH PROJECT

*NETWORK FOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL IN  
SOUTHERN EUROPE AND MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES*

*FINAL TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT*

*01/10/2006 – 30/06/2010*

## EPISOUTH PROJECT

### MAIN BENEFICIARY



Istituto Superiore di Sanità (Italy)

### ASSOCIATED BENEFICIARIES



Azienda Ospedaliera di Padova (Italy)



Instituto de Salud Carlos III (Spain)



Institut de Veille Sanitaire (France)



National Center of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases (Bulgaria)



Hellenic Centre for Disease Control & Prevention (Greece)



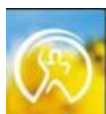
Ministry of Health (Cyprus)



Ministry of Health (Malta)



Institute of Public Health (Romania)



Institute of Public Health (Slovenia)

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## PROJECT FACT SHEET

<b>Contract number:</b>	2005206
<b>Project title:</b>	Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries
<b>Acronym:</b>	EpiSouth

<b>Starting date:</b>	01/10/2006
<b>Duration of the project:</b>	3 years plus 9 months of no-cost extension
<b>Reporting period:</b>	01/10/2006 – 30/06/2010

<b>Main partner:</b>	ISS – Istituto Superiore di Sanità (Italy)
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**Number of associated partners:**

- 1-Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS), Italy
- 2-Azienda Ospedaliera di Padova (Padua GH), Veneto Region, Italy
- 3-Instituto de Salud Carlos III (ISCIII), Spain
- 4-Institut de Veille Sanitaire (InVS), France
- 5-National Center of Infectious & Parasitic Diseases (NICPD), Bulgaria
- 6-Hellenic Center for Infectious Diseases Control (HCIDC/KEEL), Greece
- 7-Ministry of Health (MOH CY), Cyprus
- 8-Ministry of Health (MOH MT), Malta
- 9-Institute of Public Health (IPH/ISPB), Romania
- 10-Institute of Public Health (IVZ-RS), Slovenia



<b>Total amount planned for the project:</b>	2,308,772.26 Euro
<b>EC planned Co-funding :</b>	1,719,032.68 Euro

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



We wish to take this opportunity to thank all WP Leaders and Focal Points involved in the EpiSouth Network for their precious contribution and support to project activities and implementation.

Special thanks are addressed to the EC DGSANCO and the Italian Ministry of Health that, with their co-funding together with the contributions from the national Ministries of Health and Institutes of Public Health, have made possible the establishment and development of the EpiSouth Network. The financial support of EC EuropeAid and DG Enlargement through the TAIEX facility is also acknowledged.

A special mention to Germain Thinus (EC DGSANCO) for having pushed forward since 2004 the Commission vision of the countries in the Mediterranean region participating in a common network and for having believed in this possibility, providing his ideas and support for all the duration of the Project as project officer.

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## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### 1.1 BACKGROUND

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.

However, the signed Grant Agreement was received by Istituto Superiore di Sanità (the main beneficiary) on October 20, 2006.

Soon after the project’s activities were started but, especially considering staff recruitment aspects and coordination with the other partners involved, the 1<sup>st</sup> Steering Committee Meeting foreseen by the original Grant Agreement Schedule for October 2006, was actually held in December 2006.

It should be also noted that some delays in the project's implementation occurred especially in the light of the complexity of the organisation due to the considerable number of participants involved in the Network after the successful enlargement to the non-EU countries of the Mediterranean Basin and Balkans.

In fact, the project started its activities with 9 European Union (EU) Countries and succeeded to involve also other 18 non-EU Countries reaching therefore a total of 27 Countries participating in the Network.

Considering the above-reported issues, in order to ensure the successful accomplishment of all the project’s results, a no-cost extension of 9 months have been requested and approved by the EU-SANCO. Therefore, the project ended on 30 June 2010.

### 1.2 OBJECTIVES

The general objective of the EpiSouth project was 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.

Several areas of activity were identified and were developed through specific Work Packages (WP) as follows:

1 - Co-ordination of the project, with the main specific objective (SO) of guaranteeing a high quality performance of the project.

2 - Dissemination of the project, with the main SO of disseminating the information produced by EpiSouth within the participating countries and to those who need to know through an ad hoc created website and an electronic bulletin.

3 - Evaluation of the project, with the main SO of evaluating the project and its achievements in terms of milestones, deliverables, and indicators.

4 - Network of public health institutions, with the main SO of facilitating the networking process and activities among participants in order to strengthen solidarity and cohesion.

5 - Training in field/applied epidemiology, with the main SO of strengthening the early response capacity of participating countries to health threats and infectious disease spread.

6 - Cross-border epidemic intelligence, with the main SO of establishing a common platform on epidemic intelligence where participating countries may find broad internationally as well as regionally focused information.

7 - Vaccine-preventable diseases and migrant populations, with the main SO of assessing the access to immunisation and exchanging information on cases/outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases of migrant populations.

8 - Epidemiology and preparedness to cross-border emerging zoonoses, with the main SO of providing a platform for the communication of human (HPH) and veterinary public health (VPH) officials, describing risk assessment methods and providing a mechanism for exchanging information between HPH and VPH.

### 1.3 ORGANISATION OF THE PROJECT

The original project organisation was partially revised in the light of the outcomes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Project Meeting held in Rome on 28-30 March 2007 and the following project's developments.

In fact, beside the EU-Countries partners of EpiSouth Project, 16 non-EU Countries from the Mediterranean Basin were invited to Meeting in Rome, 13 participated and expressed their general interest in the project confirmed by their official request and selection of countries Focal Points.

After the 2<sup>nd</sup> Project Meeting, held in Athens on 10-12 December 2007, other countries progressively officially jointed the project.

As per June 2010, EpiSouth Network includes 27 Countries (9 European Union-EU and 18 non-EU), 64 Focal Points and 6 Collaborating Institutions (ECDC, EC-DGSanco, WHO-Euro, WHO-Emro, WHO-LYO/HQ and Italian MOH).

The project has had an articulated organisation that has ensured on one side the effective management and backstopping of the activities and on the other side the constant enhancing of active participation of all the involved countries.

The project has been leaded by the Steering Committee (SC), composed by the 6 WP leaders plus representatives of ECDC, EC-DGSANCO, WHO EURO, WHO EMRO, WHO LYO and the Italian Ministry of Health as observers.

The participation of the countries to the project has been ensured mainly through the following strategic approaches:

a) Country Focal Points (CFPs) of the EpiSouth Network (WP4)

Each country has identified and appointed one or two relevant persons, who act as Country Focal Points (CFPs) of the EpiSouth Network and who convey all the communication/information to the relevant officers in their respective countries.

Each CFP directly interacts with the project coordinator (Italy-ISS) as well as with all the other CFPs of the EpiSouth Network.

b) Work Packages Steering Teams (WPSTs)

Each country has selected one or more WPs in which to be especially active.

In order to facilitate and enhance the work, a Steering Team has been formed for each WP. Each Steering Team is constituted by the WP's Leader, by an Associated Partner and by those Participating Countries which have expressed their interest for the related WP.

The Steering Teams have been in charge for identifying the countries' needs, developing the tools and the conducive project environment in accordance with the specific objective and requirements of the related WP.

c) Participation to Work Packages' activities

Each participating country could have participated to the activities of one up to all the WPs in accordance with their needs and interests.

#### 1.4 ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

The EpiSouth activities have been documented with 45 [Documents](#) made available in the Project web site (see Table 5.) and these activities have been disseminated and presented by participating in at least 25 International Conferences and Workshops (see Table 6.)

Three [Directories](#) (WP4 - Public Health Institutions Directory; WP8 - Directory of Human Public Health and Veterinary Public Health Officials for Zoonoses; WP5- Training Courses Directory) have been made available in the Public Area of EpiSouth website to facilitate a fruitful coordination and collaboration among Partners and Stakeholders involved in the Project.

Work Package	Activities
<b><u>WP1- Coordination of the project</u></b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 1st Steering Committee Meeting (Venice, 11 - 13 December 2006)</li> <li>2. 1st Project Meeting (Rome, 28-30 March, 2007)</li> <li>3. Preparatory Meeting for the 2nd Project Meeting (Athens, 12 and 13 October 2007)</li> <li>4. First Interim Report (01/10/2006 – 30/09/2007)</li> <li>5. 2nd Steering Committee Meeting (Athens, 10 and 12 December 2007)</li> <li>6. 2nd Project Meeting (Athens, 10-12 December, 2007)</li> <li>7. 3rd Steering Committee Meeting (Brussels, 30 and 31 October 2008)</li> <li>8. Second Interim Report (01/10/2007 – 30/09/2008)</li> <li>9. 4<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting (Sofia, 30 March 2009 )</li> <li>10. 3<sup>rd</sup> Project Meeting (Sofia, 30 March-1 April 2009)</li> <li>11. 5<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting (Venice, 12 and 13 November 2009)</li> <li>12. 4<sup>th</sup> Project Meeting (Rome, 20 and 21 April 2010)</li> <li>13. EpiSouth Conference on Communicable Diseases and Public Health in the Mediterranean and Balkans (Rome, 21-23 April 2010)</li> <li>14. Obtainment of formal commitment letter to the project from 18 non-EU countries</li> <li>15. Coordination missions to Madrid (WP5), Athens, Sofia and Coordination meetings with WPs teams in Rome</li> <li>16. Project Work-plan for the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> years</li> <li>17. Contacts with WHO, ECDC, EC and Italian Ministry of Health representatives</li> <li>18. Preparation and periodic updating of project's outline, leaflets and organisation document</li> <li>19. Support to the activities of WP5, WP6, WP7 and WP8</li> <li>20. Support to the preparation of Monitoring and Evaluation Tools, and related reports (with WP3)</li> <li>21. Monitoring of activities through constant contacts with WPs leaders and Monitoring sheets</li> <li>22. Final Technical and Financial Report</li> </ol>
<b><u>WP2- Dissemination of the results</u></b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subcontracting to CINECA for the construction and maintenance of the created EpiSouth web site</li> <li>2. Opening and management of the restricted working area of the web site (Network Working Area NWA) accessed by all the EpiSouth participants by a personal user ID and password</li> <li>3. Opening and management (with CINECA) of the public area of the project's web site</li> <li>4. Preparation and release of 11 issues of the Electronic Bulletin</li> <li>5. Preparation of abstracts, posters and presentations for scientific conferences</li> <li>6. Preparation of scientific articles</li> <li>7. Support to WP3, WP4, WP5, WP7 and WP8 for the on-line data collection questionnaires/directories</li> <li>8. Support to WP6 for the on-line secured platform for information and alerts exchanging</li> <li>9. Press releases on EpiSouth activities in October 2007, March 2009, April 2010 and October 2010</li> <li>10. Editing and dissemination of the Project's Survey Reports (Istituto Superiore di Sanità, EpiSouth: Network for communicable diseases control in Mediterranean countries and Balkans. Collection of survey reports. Edited by the EpiSouth Coordination Team. 2010, v, 91 p. Rapporti ISTISAN 10/6)</li> <li>11. Support to the preparation of the EpiSouth Strategic Documents</li> </ol>

### WP3- Evaluation

12. Support to Wp3, WP7 and WP8 for the preparation of reports and statistical analysis of survey results

1. Criteria for evaluating the quality of the process (activities indicators) and of the outcomes (output indicators) defined during the first EpiSouth Steering Committee and evaluation tools prepared accordingly
2. Final Evaluation Work-plan available in the Network Working Area- NWA
3. Evaluation Report on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Project Meetings
4. Four Evaluation Rounds on Networking Development (questionnaires submitted at 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Project Meetings). Related Reports available in EpiSouth Report 3/2008; EpiSouth Report 8/2009; EpiSouth Report 12 /2010
5. On-line evaluation questionnaire to monitor progresses of WP1, WP2, WP3, WP4 and WP5 (two rounds accomplished) and related reports prepared (available in EpiSouth Report 8/2009 and EpiSouth Report 12/2010)
6. On-line evaluation questionnaire to monitor progresses of WP6, WP7 and WP8 (two rounds accomplished) and related reports prepared (available in EpiSouth Report 8/2009 and EpiSouth Report 12/2010)
7. A questionnaire was prepared and distributed and interviews by phone were carried out with a convenient sample of EpiSouth Focal Points (in cooperation with WP4 and WP1) on future expectations and perspectives, priorities and network building (report available in available in EpiSouth Report 8/2009 and EpiSouth Report 12/2010)
8. On the basis of the questionnaires and interviews results, a template for the small discussion groups was prepared for Sofia Meeting. 5 groups were involved in the discussion
9. The Project Monitoring Report covering the period from October 2006 to March 2009 was prepared (EpiSouth Report 8/2009)
10. The final Evaluation report was prepared (EpiSouth Report 12/2010)

### WP4 – Network of Public Health Institutions

1. Permanent communication tool: restricted area of work on web site – Network Working Area NWA- (with WP2)
2. Directory on Institutions partner in EpiSouth available in the web site
3. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Project Meetings co-organisation (with WP1)
4. 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Project Meeting Proceedings (with WP1) - EpiSouth Report 1/2007; EpiSouth Report 2/2008; EpiSouth Report 7/2009; EpiSouth Report 11/2010
5. Organisational support to WP1 for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> EpiSouth Steering Committee meeting in Venice
6. Networking Framework document uploaded in the WP4 NWA of the EpiSouth website
7. Coordination and support to the preparation of the WP5, WP6, WP7 and WP8 strategic documents

### WP5 – Training in field/applied epidemiology

1. Training need assessment carried out and Report prepared (EpiSouth Report 6/2008)
2. Collaboration and link with EPIET & FETPs
3. First, Second and Third training modules organised, carried out and evaluated in Madrid
4. Teaching materials of the first, second and third training modules prepared and available on the web site
5. Directory of training courses
6. Preparation of the WP5 Strategic Document

<p><b><u>WP6 – Cross border epidemic intelligence</u></b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Consensus on criteria for epidemic intelligence (international events) during the 1st Steering Committee</li> <li>2. Collaboration with MedISys and ECDC on epidemic intelligence</li> <li>3. Assessment of existing epidemic intelligence activities in participating countries (with the preparation of a specific questionnaire) and related report prepared (EpiSouth Report 5/2008)</li> <li>4. EpiSouth EI procedures shared at 2<sup>nd</sup> Project Meeting (Athens)</li> <li>5. Monitoring international events: 118 EpiSouth weekly e-web bulletins issued from April 08 to June 2010</li> <li>6. Six thematic notes prepared and delivered from April 08 to June 2010</li> <li>7. On-line secured platform for information and alerts exchanging established in the web site</li> <li>8. WP6 Steering Team organised and held in Marrakech (Morocco) in collaboration with WP1</li> <li>9. Preparation of the WP6 Strategic Document</li> <li>10. Information sharing and informative notes for the A(H1N1) influenza pandemic</li> <li>11. Participation to scientific seminars on cross-border epidemic intelligence</li> </ol>
<p><b><u>WP7- Vaccine Preventable Diseases and Migrants</u></b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Draft questionnaire “Vaccine preventable Diseases and migrant population” was developed and distributed for pre-testing</li> <li>2. Pilot survey using the Draft questionnaire for assessment of the access of migrant population to immunizations was organized and performed among WP7 ST countries. A total of 7 questionnaires (ST WP7 members) were collected and a preliminary analysis of this provisional assessment performed</li> <li>3. The final on-line questionnaire on “Assessment of Countries Migration Status Profile &amp; Vaccination Access of Migrant Population” was made available in the website for compilation</li> <li>4. Organisation of the 3<sup>rd</sup> EpiSouth Project Meeting in Sofia with WP1</li> <li>5. Final report with the data collected through the on-line questionnaire was prepared (EpiSouth Report 9/2009)</li> <li>6. Preparation of the WP7 Strategic Document</li> <li>7. Participation to scientific seminars on Vaccine preventable Diseases and mobile population</li> </ol>
<p><b><u>WP8- Epidemiology and preparedness to cross-border emerging zoonotic infections</u></b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Development of the questionnaire for setting priorities regarding zoonoses of interest for all participating in the project countries, under the context of WP8</li> <li>2. List of zoonotic diseases of interest and related report produced (EpiSouth Report 4/2008)</li> <li>3. Organisation of the 2nd EpiSouth Project Meeting in Athens with WP1</li> <li>4. Collection of basic information from the EpiSouth Countries regarding the 5 zoonoses of priority</li> <li>5. Finalisation of the on-line questionnaire for collecting data on Human and Veterinary Public Health Officials for the 5 zoonoses of priority</li> <li>6. Directory of Human and Veterinary Public Health Officials available on web site</li> <li>7. WP8 Steering Team organised and held in Malta in collaboration with WP1</li> <li>8. Preparation of the WP7 Strategic Document</li> <li>9. Participation to scientific seminars</li> </ol>

## 1.5 DELIVERABLES ACHIEVED

Table 1 – List of deliverables

WP	D	Deliverable title	Delivery date	Nature	Dissemination
WP1	D 1	Work-plans adopted at the 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Steering Committee meetings for year 1, 2 and 3	Aug 2007 Feb 2008 March 2009	Work-plan	EpiSouth web-site restricted area
WP1	D 2	Reports of the steering committee meetings (SCM): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1<sup>st</sup> SCM (Venice, December 2006)</li> <li>- 2<sup>nd</sup> SCM (Athens, December 2007)</li> <li>- 3<sup>rd</sup> SCM (Brussels, October 2008)</li> <li>- 4<sup>th</sup> SCM (Sofia, March 2009)</li> <li>- 5<sup>th</sup> SCM (Venice, November 2009)</li> </ul>	Oct 2007 Dec 2007 April 2009 July 2009 Jan 2010	Report	EpiSouth web-site restricted area
WP1	D 3	1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> interim technical implementation report, including interim financial report	Nov 2007 Nov 2008	Report	European Commission Technical Reports available in the EpiSouth web site at: <a href="https://www.EpiSouth.org/wp1_reports.html">https://www.EpiSouth.org/wp1_reports.html</a>

WP	D	Deliverable title	Delivery date	Nature	Dissemination
WP1	D 4	Final technical report of the project, including financial report	Oct 2010	Report	European Commission Available in the EpiSouth web site at: <a href="https://www.EpiSouth.org/wp1_reports.html">https://www.EpiSouth.org/wp1_reports.html</a>
WP2	D 5	EpiSouth web-site	March 2007	Website	Links from other web-sites, dissemination by partner organizations, EpiSouth Bulletins, etc. <a href="https://www.EpiSouth.org/">https://www.EpiSouth.org/</a>
WP2	D 6	EpiSouth Quarterly Electronic Bulletins	Sept 2007 (issue n.0)	Newsletter	EpiSouth web-site, e-mail, publication on national and international bulletin <a href="https://www.EpiSouth.org/epi_bulletin.html">https://www.EpiSouth.org/epi_bulletin.html</a>
WP2	D7	Participations to scientific seminars on EpiSouth issues	Oct 2007 (Escaide: 1st abstract on EpiSouth presented)	Conference	Conference abstracts and EpiSouth web-site (*)  <i>* For the complete list of the attended Conferences see Table 6.</i>
WP3	D 8	Final evaluation report	Sept 2010	Report	Available in the EpiSouth website at: <a href="http://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp3/WP3-FinalEvaluationReport.pdf">http://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp3/WP3-FinalEvaluationReport.pdf</a>
WP4	D 9	Networking plan (produced as Networking Framework Document)	Dec 2008	Other	EpiSouth web-site restricted area

WP	D	Deliverable title	Delivery date	Nature	Dissemination
WP4	D 10	Directory of institutions involved in surveillance in South Europe and Mediterranean area	June 2008	Database	Available in the EpiSouth website at: <a href="http://www.episouth.org/directories.html">http://www.episouth.org/directories.html</a>
WP4	D 11	Proceeding of the 4 Network Meetings (PM), including the final Conference: - 1 <sup>st</sup> PM (Rome, March 2007)- not originally planned - 2 <sup>nd</sup> PM (Athens, December 2007) - 3 <sup>rd</sup> PM (Sofia, March 2009) - 4 <sup>th</sup> PM & Conference (Rome, April 2010)	May 2007 March 2008 Sept 2009 Sept 2010	Report	EpiSouth web-site and EpiSouth Bulletin <a href="https://www.EpiSouth.org/wp4_reports.html">https://www.EpiSouth.org/wp4_reports.html</a>
WP5	D 12	Teaching material on the 1st training module, validated by peers	Sept 2007	Demonstrator/Prototype	EpiSouth web-site, EpiSouth Bulletin Available in the EpiSouth website at: <a href="https://www.EpiSouth.org/wp5_trainmodules.html">https://www.EpiSouth.org/wp5_trainmodules.html</a>
WP5	D 13	Directory of training courses and fellowships of interest for the project	Oct 2010	Database	Available in the EpiSouth website at: <a href="http://www.episouth.org/directories.html">http://www.episouth.org/directories.html</a>
WP5	D 14	Teaching material on the 2nd training module	June 2008	Demonstrator/Prototype	EpiSouth web-site, EpiSouth Bulletin <a href="https://www.EpiSouth.org/wp5_trainmodules.html">https://www.EpiSouth.org/wp5_trainmodules.html</a>

WP	D	Deliverable title	Delivery date	Nature	Dissemination
WP5	D 15	Teaching material on the 3rd training module	June 2009	Demonstrator/Prototype	EpiSouth web-site, EpiSouth Bulletin <a href="https://www.EpiSouth.org/wp5_trainmodules.html">https://www.EpiSouth.org/wp5_trainmodules.html</a>
WP6	D 16	Cross border epidemic procedures	Month 6	Report	EpiSouth web-site, EpiSouth Bulletin, e-mail and mail <a href="http://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp6/WP6_Report-Assessment_survey-FINAL.pdf">http://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp6/WP6_Report-Assessment_survey-FINAL.pdf</a>
WP6	D 17	Section on cross-border epidemic on EpiSouth web-site with alarm posted	Nov 2009	Website	EpiSouth web-site restricted area
WP6	D 18	Final strategic document on cross-border epidemic intelligence	April 2010	Guidelines	EpiSouth web-site, EpiSouth Bulletin, and publication of relevant article <a href="http://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp6/3_EpiSouth%20Strategic%20document%20on%20Cross-Border%20Ep%20Int%20Rev%20luglio%202010.pdf">http://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp6/3_EpiSouth%20Strategic%20document%20on%20Cross-Border%20Ep%20Int%20Rev%20luglio%202010.pdf</a>

WP	D	Deliverable title	Delivery date	Nature	Dissemination
WP6	D19	Participations to scientific seminars on cross-border epidemic intelligence	Dec 2007 (1 <sup>st</sup> Presentation to the 3rd Meeting on Epidemic Intelligence in the EU, Stockholm)	Conference	Conference abstracts and EpiSouth web-site (*) * For the complete list of attended Conferences see Table 6.
WP7	D 20	Report on assessment survey for vaccine preventable diseases and migrant populations	Dec 2009	Report	EpiSouth web-site <a href="https://www.EpiSouth.org/outputs/wp7/WP7_9_Report_Assessment_Countries_Migration.pdf">https://www.EpiSouth.org/outputs/wp7/WP7_9_Report_Assessment_Countries_Migration.pdf</a>
WP7	D 21	Recommendations for improving access to immunizations and exchanging data on vaccine preventable diseases (included in the Strategic Document)	April 2010	Guidelines	EpiSouth web-site, EpiSouth Bulletin, e-mail, mail, and publication of relevant article <a href="https://www.EpiSouth.org/outputs/wp7/4_EpiSouth%20Strategic%20document%20on%20Vaccine%20Rev%20luglio%202010.pdf">https://www.EpiSouth.org/outputs/wp7/4_EpiSouth%20Strategic%20document%20on%20Vaccine%20Rev%20luglio%202010.pdf</a>

WP	D	Deliverable title	Delivery date	Nature	Dissemination
WP7	D 22	Strategic document on vaccine preventable diseases and migrant populations	April 2010	Guidelines	EpiSouth web-site, EpiSouth Bulletin, e-mail, mail, and publication of relevant article <a href="https://www.EpiSouth.org/outputs/wp7/4_EpiSouth%20Strategic%20document%20on%20Vaccine%20Rev%20luglio%202010.pdf">https://www.EpiSouth.org/outputs/wp7/4_EpiSouth%20Strategic%20document%20on%20Vaccine%20Rev%20luglio%202010.pdf</a>
WP8	D 23	Data-base with Human Public Health (HPH) and Veterinary Public Health (VPH) contact points	June 2009	Database	EpiSouth web-site, EpiSouth Bulletin, e-mail and mail <a href="https://www.EpiSouth.org/search_zoonosis.php">https://www.EpiSouth.org/search_zoonosis.php</a>
WP8	D 24	Strategic document on risk assessment methods for cross border zoonoses	April 2010	Guidelines	EpiSouth web-site, EpiSouth Bulletin, e-mail, mail, and publication of relevant article <a href="http://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp8/5_EpiSouth%20Strategic%20document%20on%20Zoonoses%20Rev%20luglio%202010.pdf">http://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp8/5_EpiSouth%20Strategic%20document%20on%20Zoonoses%20Rev%20luglio%202010.pdf</a>

## 1.6 PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND HOW THEY WERE RESOLVED

Minor problems were encountered during the whole period of project implementation and the majority of them was related to the complexity of the organisation due to the considerable number of participants involved in the Network after the successful enlargement to the non-EU countries of the Mediterranean Basin.

The coordination had to be very closed with all the partners involved to ensure the needed collaboration of all the participants.

The first successful step towards the enlargement has been the organisation of the 1st Project Meeting in Rome (March 2007). Starting from April 2007 the non-EU Countries started to send official request of participation to EpiSouth and progressively 13, 4 and 1 countries during the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year respectively were involved in the Network.

In order to make the enlargement sustainable, additional sources of funding had to be secured by the project coordination.

In fact the participation of non-EU Countries to the 1st and 2nd Project Meetings was ensured by EC DG RELEX and DG AIDCO-EuropeAid, through TAIEX.

In addition, the Italian Ministry of Health has jointly developed, with the Italian National Institute of Health (ISS), the Epimed initiative which has enhanced the impact of the EpiSouth project mainly by supporting the participation of non EU Countries in EpiSouth training modules as well as coordination missions of ISS to the non EU Countries.

Even if the additional funding were highly useful and appreciated, they made the administrative and technical management quite complex and time consuming.

Finally, it has to be reported that the staff belonging to the non-EU Countries involved were providing their support without any remuneration, as valorisation of their Institutions' contributions.

The enlargement process has caused some delay especially in those activities which have requested the collection of data and information from all the Countries involved and, even if the return rate is satisfactory, it is not deniable that big and time demanding efforts have been done to ensure proper replies from the majority of the partners involved.

It should be considered that the design of tools, like questionnaires for data collection, is often a complex task that has to consider high variability among the Countries in terms of data availability, sources, internal existing problems, different country-specific conditions, languages barriers, etc.

Efforts to improve the above-reported problems were directed mostly to the strengthening of the members area platform in EpiSouth web site as efficient tool to share working documents and to allow on line compilation of questionnaires.

## 2. Project Specifications

### 2.1 BACKGROUND

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.

However, the signed Grant Agreement was received by Istituto Superiore di Sanità (the main beneficiary) on October 20, 2006.

Soon after the project’s activities were started but, especially considering staff recruitment aspects and coordination with the other partners involved, the 1<sup>st</sup> Steering Committee Meeting foreseen by the original Grant Agreement Schedule for October 2006, was actually held in December 2006.

It should be also noted that some delays in the project's implementation occurred especially in the light of the complexity of the organisation due to the considerable number of participants involved in the Network after the successful enlargement to the non-EU countries of the Mediterranean Basin and Balkans.

In fact, the project started its activities with 9 European Union (EU) Countries and succeeded to involve also other 18 non-EU Countries reaching therefore a total of 27 Countries participating in the Network.

Considering the above-reported issues, in order to ensure the successful accomplishment of all the project’s results, a no-cost extension of 9 months have been requested and approved by the EU-SANCO. Therefore, the project ended on 30 June 2010.

### 2.2 GENERAL OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT

The general objective of the EpiSouth project was 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.

### 2.3 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

The following Specific Objectives were achieved with the development of Work packages:

1. **Co-ordination:** 1.1) To guarantee a high quality performance of the project ensuring that timetables for the completion of works are set and adhered to; 1.2) To ensure the enlargement of the number of non-EU countries and international partners in the EpiSouth project and establish links with appropriate European and International resources.

2. **Dissemination:** To disseminate the information produced by EpiSouth within the participating countries and to those who need to know through an ad hoc created web-site, an electronic bulletin, participation to scientific seminars and organization of press coverage of the final conference;
3. **Evaluation:** To evaluate the project in terms of respect of the scheduled milestones and deliverables; achievements of the stated project indicators, both for quantitative and qualitative aspects; active participation of both associated and collaborating countries;
4. **Network of public health institutions:** To facilitate the networking process and activities among participants of EpiSouth in order to strengthen solidarity and cohesion within the Community by bringing together also the non-EU countries in South of Europe, including Mediterranean bordering ones.
5. **Training in field/applied epidemiology:** 5.1) To strength the early response capacity of participating countries to health threats and infectious disease spread by organising ad-hoc short-term training courses; 5.2) to promote the participation to already existing European training courses.
6. **Cross-border epidemic intelligence:** To establish a common platform on “epidemic intelligence” where participating countries may find broad internationally as well as regionally information.
7. **Vaccine preventable diseases and migrant populations:** 7.1) To assess the access to immunisation of migrant population and immigrants; 7.2) To collect data and exchange information on cases/outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases in this target group; 7.3) To provide an overview of existing programmes for monitoring and improving migrant populations immunisation coverage and to formulate recommendations.
8. **Epidemiology and preparedness to cross-border emerging zoonotic infections:** 8.1) To provide a platform for the communication of human (HPH) and veterinary public health (VPH) officials, with accurate contacts; 8.2) To provide indices for the description of epidemiology and monitoring for a selected list of zoonoses, in order to predict risk of cross border transmission and provide alerts.

## 2.4 ORGANISATION OF THE PROJECT

The original project organisation was partially revised in the light of the outcomes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Project Meeting held in Rome on 28-30 March 2007 and the following project’s developments.

In fact, beside the EU-Countries partners of EpiSouth Project, 16 non-EU Countries from the Mediterranean Basin were invited to Meeting in Rome, 13 participated and expressed their general interest in the project confirmed by their official request and selection of countries Focal Points.

After the 2<sup>nd</sup> Project Meeting, held in Athens on 10-12 December 2007, other countries progressively officially joined the project.

As per June 2010, EpiSouth Network includes 27 Countries (9 European Union-EU and 18 non-EU), 64 Focal Points and 6 Collaborating Institutions (ECDC, EC-DGSanco, WHO-Euro, WHO-Emro, WHO-Lyo/HQ and Italian MOH).

The project has had an articulated organisation that has ensured on one side the effective management and backstopping of the activities and on the other side the constant enhancing of active participation of all the involved countries.

The project has been leaded by the Steering Committee (SC), composed by the 6 WP leaders plus representatives of ECDC, EC-DGSANCO, WHO EURO, WHO EMRO, WHO LYO and the Italian Ministry of Health as observers.

The participation of the countries to the project has been ensured mainly through the following strategic approaches:

a) Country Focal Points (CFPs) of the EpiSouth Network (WP4)

Each country has identified and appointed one or two relevant persons, who act as Country Focal Points (CFPs) of the EpiSouth Network and who convey all the communication/information to the relevant officers in their respective countries.

Each CFP directly interacts with the project coordinator (Italy-ISS) as well as with all the other CFPs of the EpiSouth Network.

b) Work Packages Steering Teams (WPSTs)

Each country has selected one or more WPs in which to be especially active.

In order to facilitate and enhance the work, a Steering Team has been formed for each WP. Each Steering Team is constituted by the WP's Leader, by an Associated Partner and by those Participating Countries which have expressed their interest for the related WP.

The Steering Teams have been in charge for identifying the countries' needs, developing the tools and the conducive project environment in accordance with the specific objective and requirements of the related WP.

c) Participation to Work Packages' activities

Each participating country could have participated to the activities of one up to all the WPs in accordance with their needs and interests.

## 2.5 WORK PACKAGES AND DELIVERABLES

EPISOUTH has been organised in 8 work packages linked to the specific objectives of the project as reported in the previous chapter. In the following **Table 2** the most important deliverables that each work package has produced are listed.

Table 2 - Summary of project deliverables by work packages

Work Package	Deliverables
<b>WP 1 Coordination of the project</b>	D1- Work-plans adopted at the 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Steering Committee meetings for year 1, 2 and 3  D2- Reports of the steering committee meetings  D3- 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> interim technical implementation report, including interim financial report
<b>WP 2 Dissemination of the results</b>	D4- Final technical report of the project, including financial report D5- EpiSouth web-site  D6- EpiSouth electronic Bulletin
<b>WP 3 Evaluation of the project</b>	D7- Participations to scientific seminars on EpiSouth issues D8- Final evaluation report
<b>WP 4 Network of public health institutions</b>	D9- Networking plan (actually a Networking Framework document was produced as described in the WP4 related report here after)  D10- Directory of institutions involved in surveillance in South Europe and Mediterranean area
<b>WP 5 Training in the field/applied epidemiology</b>	D11- Proceeding of the 4 Network Meetings, including the final Conference D12- Teaching material on the 1st training module, validated by peers  D13- Directory of training courses and fellowships of interest for the project  D14- Teaching material on the 2nd training module
<b>WP 6 Cross-border epidemic intelligence</b>	D15- Teaching material on the 3rd training module D16- Cross border epidemic procedures  D17- Section on cross-border epidemic on EpiSouth web-site with alarm

	posted
	D18- Final strategic document on cross-border epidemic intelligence (WP 4 and 6)
	D19- Participations to scientific seminars on cross-border epidemic intelligence
<b>WP 7 Vaccine preventable diseases and migrant population</b>	D20- Report on assessment survey for vaccine preventable diseases and migrant populations
	D21- Recommendations for improving access to immunizations and exchanging data on vaccine preventable diseases (actually the recommendations were included in the Strategic Document as described in the WP4 related report here after)
	D22- Strategic document on vaccine preventable diseases and migrant populations (WP 4 and 7)
<b>WP 8 Epidemiology and preparedness to cross-border emerging zoonotic infections</b>	D23- Data-base with Human Public Health (HPH) and Veterinary Public Health (VPH) contact points
	D24- Strategic document on risk assessment methods for cross border zoonoses (WP 4 and 8)

## 2.6 TIME TABLE AND OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIVITIES

The EPISOUTH project started formally in October 2006. The actual activities started in December with the 1<sup>st</sup> EpiSouth Steering Committee held in Venice. The following **Table 3** summarises the time table of the 8 work packages as foreseen in the Original Grant Agreement.

### Table 3 - Original time table with Milestones and Deliverables by Work Packages

## Time Schedule 2005206 EPISOUTH

[illegible]

M = milestones  
D = Deliverables

In the following **Table 4** an overview of the activities done by each WP have been reported as per yearly approved Project Work Plans

Table 4 - Overview of the whole project period by year

WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
WP1	WP1 - 1 <sup>st</sup> year									
	1st Steering Committee Meeting	M	Agenda, list of Participants	Oct 06	Dec 06	Dec 06	100%	The project concretely started at the beginning of December 2006		YES
	1st Project Meeting (Rome)	Not foreseen in the original Project's Plan	Agenda, list of Participants, Report etc.	NA	NA	March 07	100%	The meeting was organised to facilitate non-EU Countries participation to EpiSouth		YES & CD-ROM
	Contacts with European and International resources of interest	A	No. of European and International resources of interest	All over the project period			100%			YES
	Enlargement of EpiSouth Partners	A	List of Participants/ Official Commitment letters/FPs Nomination Organization Doc	March 08	May 07: 1 <sup>st</sup> phase of enlargement	May 07	100%			YES

<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the Approved Work-plans and Timetables by WPs of the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> years

<sup>2</sup> Deliverables/ Milestones/ Activities

<sup>3</sup> Grant Agreement

<sup>4</sup> Level of achievement measured by each WP leader at the end of the project period

<sup>5</sup> See also § 4. List of documents available on Episouth website

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Missions for Coordination in EpiSouth Countries	A	Missions, Agenda, Related Doc. etc.		October 07	Sept. 07	100%			YES
	Work plan for each year	D1	Work-plan	October 06	May 07	May 07	100%	The project workplan was drafted with the contribution of each WP soon after the 1 <sup>st</sup> Steering Meeting of Dec 06. It was eventually shared and formally approved during the 1 <sup>st</sup> Project Meeting in Rome (March 07)		YES
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Steering Committee Meeting (SCM)	M	Agenda, list of Participants, Report etc.	Sept 07	Dec 07			As the 1 <sup>st</sup> SCM was held in Dec 2006, the 2 <sup>nd</sup> SCM will be held in Dec 2007.		
WP1 - 2 <sup>ND</sup> YEAR										
WP1	1° interim technical & financial report	D3	Report	Nov 07	Nov 07	Nov 07	100%			YES
	Organisation of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Steering Committee Meeting (Athens)	A	Agenda, list of Participants	Oct 07	Dec 07	Dec 07	100%			YES
	Organisation and participation to the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Project Meeting (Athens)	A	Agenda, list of Participants, Report etc.	Oct 07	Dec 07	Dec 07	100%			YES & CD-ROM
	Minutes of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Steering Committee Meeting	D2	Report	Dec 07	Feb 08	Feb 08	100%			YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Contacts with European and International resources of interest	A	No. of European and International resources of interest	All over the project period			100%			YES
	Enlargement of EpiSouth Partners 2 <sup>nd</sup> phase	M	List of Participants/ Official Commitment letters/FPs Nomination Organization Doc	March 08	May 08	May 08	90%	Portugal & Libya were contacted but presently are not part of EpiSouth Network		YES
	Missions for Coordination in EpiSouth Countries	A	Missions Agenda, Related Doc. etc.		April & June 08	October 07 and June 08	100%	- Preparatory Meeting for 2 <sup>nd</sup> Project Meeting (Athens, 12-13 Oct 2007) - Coordination meetings during the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Training Module (Madrid, 2-6 June 2008)		YES
	Work plan for each year	D1	Workplan	October 07	February 08	February 08	100%	The 2 <sup>nd</sup> project workplan was drafted with the contribution of each WP and formally approved during the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Project Meeting in Athens (December 08)		YES
	Coordination meetings with WPs teams in Rome (WP4/WP3 and WP6)	A	Meetings minutes	----	-----	January and April 2008				YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Preparation and periodic updating of project's outline, leaflets and organisation document	A	Documents							YES
	Activities monitoring through constant contacts with WPs leaders	A	e-mails, monitoring sheets							YES
WP1 - 3 <sup>RD</sup> YEAR & EXTENSION										
WP1	2° interim technical & financial report	D3	Report	Nov 08	Nov 08	Nov 08	100%			YES
	Organisation of 3rd Steering Committee Meeting (Brussels)			Not Planned		October 08	100%			YES
	Organisation of 4th Steering Committee Meeting (Sofia)	A	Agenda, list of Participants	Oct 08	Dec 08	March 09	100%			YES
	Organisation and participation to the 3th Project Meeting (Sofia)	A	Agenda, list of Participants, Report etc.	Oct 08	Dec 08	April 09	100%			YES & CD-ROM
	Minutes of the 3rd Steering Committee Meeting (Brussels)	D2	Report	Not planned		April 09	100%			YES
	Minutes of the 4th Steering Committee Meeting (Sofia)	D2	Report	Oct 08	May 09	July 09	100%			YES
	Organisation of 5th Steering Committee Meeting (Venice)	A	Agenda, list of Participants	Not planned		Nov 09	100%			YES
	Minutes of 5th Steering Committee Meeting (Venice)	D2	Report	Not planned	Dec 09	Jan 10	100%			YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Contacts with European and International resources of interest	A	No. of European and International resources of interest	All over the project period			100%			YES
	Enlargement of EpiSouth Partners 2 <sup>nd</sup> phase	M	List of Participants/ Official Commitment letters/FPs Nomination Organization Doc	March 08	June 10	June 10	95%	Libya is presently part of EpiSouth Network		YES
	Missions for Coordination in EpiSouth Countries	A	Missions Agenda, Related Doc. etc.				100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preparatory Meeting for 3rd Project Meeting (Sofia, Jan 2009)</li> <li>- Coordination meeting with WHO-LYO office (Jan 2010)</li> <li>- Preparatory Meeting for 4<sup>th</sup> Project Meeting &amp; EpiSouth Conference (Rome, Feb 2010)</li> </ul>		YES
	Work plan for each year	D1	Workplan	October 08	February 09	March 09	100%	The 3 <sup>rd</sup> project workplan was drafted with the contribution of each WP and formally approved during the 3rd Project Meeting in Sofia (March 09)		YES
	Preparation and periodic updating of project's outline, leaflets and organisation document	A	Documents							YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Activities monitoring through constant contacts with WPs leaders	A	e-mails, monitoring sheets							YES
WP2 - 1 <sup>ST</sup> YEAR										
WP2	Subcontracting CINECA for web site	M	Subcontract with the agency for the web site done	Nov 06	Mar 07	Mar 07	100%			YES (HARD COPY ONLY)
	Opening of the Restricted area of work on the web site – Member's private area Network Working Area -NWA (with WP4)	M	Pages available on the restricted area of the WEB site	Dec 06	May 07	July 07	100%	Delayed receipt of the official letters of commitment and nomination of focal points from the authorities of some participating countries	FREQUENT TELEPHONE CALLS AND E-MAILS TO URGE THE COUNTRIES TO SEND THE NEEDED DOCUMENTS	YES
	Draft pages web site (Public area)	M	Several pag available in the public area of the WEB site	Dec 06	Mar 07	Mar 07	100%			YES (HARD COPY ONLY)
	Press coverage of First EpiSouth Meeting (Rome)	Extra	Press releases (ISS website)	Not foreseen	Mar 07	Mar 07	100%			YES
	Form for receiving the bulletin	A (not specifically foreseen in the grant agreement)	Form available on the public area of the WEB site	Not specifically foreseen	Mar 07	Mar. 07	100%			YES
	Final version of the web-site at least quarterly updated	D5	All pages available in the public area of the WEB site	June 07	Sep 07	Sep 07	100%			YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Mailing list of Bulletin recipients	I	Availability of the database including information for all people registered to receive the electronic bulletin	Not specifically foreseen	Sep 07	Sep 07	100%			
	Draft issue of electronic bulletin	M	Issue N. 0 of the Electronic Bulletin sent to all registered people	Jun 07	Sep 07	Sep 07	100%			YES
	Participation to scientific seminars on EpiSouth issues	D7	Abstract submitted to the ESCAIDE conference	Sept 07	Dec 07	July 07	50%	ESCAIDE Conference planned for October 07		YES
WP2 - 2 <sup>ND</sup> YEAR										
WP2	Participation to the preparatory meeting of the Project Networking Meeting in Athens in cooperation with WP1, WP3, WP4 and WP8	A (not specifically foreseen in the grant agreement)	Agenda of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Project Meeting	Not foreseen	Oct 07	Oct 07	100%			YES
	Maintenance and quarterly update of the EpiSouth web site (both public and restricted areas)	D5	Pages available on both public and restricted areas of the WEB site	Dec 07, Mar 08, Jun 08, Sep 08	Jan 08, Apr 08, Jul 08	Jan 08, Apr 08, Jul 08	100%			NO
	Updating of the mailing list of the electronic bulletin recipients	I	Availability of the database including information for	Not specifically foreseen	Jan 08, Apr 08, Jul 08	Jan 08, May 08, Jul 08	100%			YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
			all people registered to receive the electronic bulletin							
	Quarterly electronic bulletin	<b>D6</b>	Issues N. 1-3 of the electronic bulletin sent to all registered people	Dec 07, Mar 08, Jun 08, Sep 08	Jan 08, Apr 08, Jul 08	Jan 08, May 08, Jul 08	100%			YES
	Support to WP3 (on-line monitoring forms)	A (not specifically foreseen in the grant agreement)	Form available for data collection	Not specifically foreseen	Apr 08	Jun 08	100%	Delay in the definition of the criteria to be used to draft the form		YES
	Support to WP4 (Directory of partners' institutions to be available on web site)	A (not specifically foreseen in the grant agreement)	Directory available in the public area of the web site	Not specifically foreseen	Apr 08	Sep 08	80%	Delay in the completion of the on-line questionnaire by participating countries and in defining the criteria for the on-line directory (draft web pages are available for testing)	FREQUENT CONTACTS WITH THE WP4 LEADER AND CINECA	NO
	Support to the WP5 (Draft and Final Directory of training courses and fellowships)	A (not spec. foreseen in the GA)	Directory available in the public area of the web site	Not specifically foreseen	Apr 08		0%	List of training courses and fellowship and criteria for the on-line directory not yet provided		NO
	Support to the WP6 (Pilot secured section on cross-border EI on website with alerts originating from partners)	A (not spec. foreseen in the GA)	On-line platform to enter and share alerts originating from partners	Not specifically foreseen	Jun 08	Sep 08	80%	Delay in developing the draft version of the platform	FREQUENT CONTACTS WITH CINECA TO FACILITATE THE DRAFT VERSION OF THE ON-LINE PLATFORM	NO
	Support to the WP7 (on-line	A (not spec. foreseen in	On-line questionnaire	Not specifically	Mar 08	Sep 08	100%	Delay in developing the final version of the		YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	questionnaire on migrant status and vaccination access)	the GA)	available for data collection in the restricted area of the web site	foreseen				questionnaire for the on-line compilation		
	Support to WP8 (questionnaire on HPH and VPH officials on line)	A (not spec. foreseen in the GA)	On-line questionnaire available for data collection in the restricted area of the web site	Not specifically foreseen	Mar 08	Sep 08	100%	Delay in developing the final version of the questionnaire for the on-line compilation		YES
	Submission of abstracts and posters, scientific articles and participation to scientific conferences and congresses of interest for the project	<b>D7</b>	Submitted abstracts and articles	Not specifically foreseen	Oct 07, Dec 07	Oct 07, Dec 07, Apr 08, Jun 08, Jul 08	100%			YES
WP2 - 3 <sup>RD</sup> YEAR & EXTENSION										
<b>WP2</b>	Participation to 5th Steering Committee Meeting (Venice)	A	Agenda, list of Participants	Not planned		Nov 09	100%			YES
	Organizing of the 4th Project Meeting and of the Final Conference (Rome) in cooperation with WP1	A	Agenda of the 4th Project Meeting and of the Final Conference, Press coverage	Not foreseen		Apr 10	100%			YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Maintenance and quarterly update of the EpiSouth web-site (both public and restricted areas)	D	Pages available on both public and restricted areas of the web-site	Dec 08, Mar 09, Jun 09, Sep 09, Dec 09, Mar 10, Jun 10	Jan 09, Apr 09, Jul 09, Oct 09, Jan 10, Apr 10, Jul 10	Jan 09, Apr 09, Jul 09, Oct 09, Jan 10, Apr 10, Jul 10, Oct 10	100%	Although the first phase of the project was closed and the new phase had not yet started, the maintenance and quarterly update of the EpiSouth web-site as usual, thanks to internal ISS resources	All the partners and FPs have encouraged this option by providing their possible contribution even during the period between the first and the new phase	YES
	Updating of the mailing list of the electronic bulletin recipients	I	Availability of the database including information for all people registered to receive the electronic bulletin	Not specifically foreseen	Jan 09, Apr 09, Jul 09, Oct 09, Jan 10, Apr 10, Jul 10	Jan 09, Apr 09, Jul 09, Oct 09, Jan 10, Apr 10, Jul 10	100%			NO
	Quarterly electronic bulletin	D	Issues N. 4-11 of the electronic bulletin sent to all registered people	Oct 08, Dec 08, Mar 09, Jun 09, Sep 09, Dec 09, Mar 10, Jun 10	Nov 08, Jan 09, Apr 09, Jul 09, Oct 09, Jan 10, Apr 10, Jul 10	Nov 08, Jan 09, Apr 09, Jul 09, Oct 09, Jan 10, Apr 10, Jul 10	100%	Although the first phase of the project was closed and the new phase had not yet started, the publication of the Issue n. 11 has made possible as usual, thanks to internal ISS resources	All the partners and FPs have encouraged this option by providing their possible contribution even during the period between the first and the new phase	YES
	Support to WP3 (statistical analysis of the monitoring survey's results)	A (not spec. foreseen in the GA)	EpiSouth Report 8/2009: EpiSouth Project	Not specifically foreseen	Apr 09	Sep 09	100%			NO

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	and for the preparation of the report)		Monitoring Report							
	Support to WP4 (preparation of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Project Meeting Report and 4 <sup>th</sup> Project Meeting Report)	A (not spec. foreseen in the GA)	EpiSouth Report 7/2009: Executive Summary of the Third Project Meeting Report; EpiSouth Report 11/2010: Executive Summary of the 4 <sup>th</sup> Project Meeting Report	Not specifically foreseen	Apr 08	Sep 09: Jun 10	100%			NO
	Support to WP4 (preparation of the Strategic Documents)	A (not spec. foreseen in the GA)	EpiSouth Strategic Documents	Not specifically foreseen	Apr 08	Apr 10	100%			YES
	Support to the WP5 (Draft and Final Directory of training courses and fellowships)	A (not spec. foreseen in the GA)	Directory available in the public area of the web site	Not specifically foreseen	Apr 08	Oct 10	100%	List of training courses and fellowship and criteria for the on-line directory provided although with delay	Frequent contacts with the WP5 leader to urge a decision on the criteria for developing the on-line directory	YES
	Support to the WP7 (statistical analysis and preparation of the Report on migrant status and vaccination access)	A (not spec. foreseen in the GA)	EpiSouth Report 9/2009: Assessment of Countries Migration Status Profile and	Not specifically foreseen	Mar 08	Dic 09	100%			YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
			Vaccination Access of Mobile Population							
	Submission of abstracts and participation to scientific conferences and congresses of interest for the project	D	Submitted abstracts and articles	Not specifically foreseen	Oct 07, Dec 07	Feb 09, Sep 09, Oct 09, Apr 10, Sep 10	100%			YES
	Dissemination of the project results	D	Publication of EpiSouth collection of survey reports	Not specifically foreseen	Oct 07,	Apr 10	100%			
WP3 - 1 <sup>ST</sup> YEAR										
WP3	Consensus on evaluation criteria, work plan, and form among Steering committee members	A	Evaluation criteria reached, plan designed	Oct 06	Dec 06	Dec 06	100%	The project concretely started at the beginning of December 2006		YES (POWER POINT PRESENTATION)
	Tools for Meeting Evaluation and Network Monitoring (questionnaires)	Not foreseen in the original PP (Project Plan)	Questionnaires developed and distributed, answers interpreted and published on the website	NA	Mar 07	Mar 07	100%	None		YES
	1st Project Meeting (Rome)	Not foreseen in the original	Presentations prepared and given, Meeting	NA	NA	Mar 07	100%	None		YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
		PP	facilitator role performed							
	Evaluation work-plan on NWA of web site	M	Plan on the website	Dec 06	May 07	July 07	75%	None		YES
	Evaluation questionnaire on NWA of web site	M	Monitoring and evaluation tools on the website	Dec 06	May 07	July 07	75%	None		YES
	Partners filling in the evaluation forms on web site	A		Dec 06 - Sept 07	Apr 07- Dec 07		25%			
	Monitoring of partners form for respect of scheduled milestones, deliverables and project indicators		Partners sent info re activities carried out	Mar 07 – Oct 07	Jun 07- Dec 07		25%			
WP3 - 2 <sup>ND</sup> YEAR										
WP3	Participation in the preparatory meeting of the Project Networking Meeting in Athens in cooperation with WP1, WP2, WP4 and WP8		Actual participation accomplished	June 07	Oct 07	Oct 07	100%	None		YES
	Evaluation Plan & evaluation Questionnaires (horizontal & vertical WPs) presented to the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Project		Eval. Plan and questionnaires developed and discussed		Dec 07	Dec 07	100%	None		YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Meeting									
	Analysis and Reports of Meeting & Networking Evaluation Questionnaires filled in at 2 <sup>nd</sup> Project Meeting	Not foreseen in the original Project Plan	Reports completed and available on the web site	NA	Feb 08	Mar 08	100%	None		YES
	Final Version of Evaluation Plan on web site	M	Agreed plan on the website	Dec 06	Feb 08	Jun 08	100%	None		YES
	Final Version of evaluation Questionnaires (Overall Project & horizontal WPs) filled in by FPs	M			Mar 08	Sept 08	100%	EpiSouth Focal Points compiled the evaluation forms posted in the members area of the web site		YES
	Monitoring sheets on web site (with WP2)	M	Monitoring and evaluation tools on the website		Mar 08	Jun 08	75%	Final version of forms has been developed but not made available on the web site because of technical difficulties: The sheets were compiled by each WP leaders and sent by e-mail		YES
	1 <sup>st</sup> Evaluation Report	M	Report ready and on web site	Oct 07	Apr 08		50%	Draft to be shared with the WP3 ST		NO
WP3 - 3RD YEAR PLUS EXTENSION										
WP3	Draft Mid-term evaluation Report (01/10/2006-30/09/2008)	M - Report	Report ready and on web site	Oct 08	Jan 09	Sept 09	40% Jan 09 100% Sept 09	Delays due to the decision to include interviews and meeting discussion groups results.	Results presented at Sofia meeting.  Project	YES Project monitoring report (Oct 06-Mar 09)

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
									monitoring report period extended to March 2009.	
	On-line Version of evaluation Questionnaires (WP6-7-8) filled in by FPs	A	Questionnaires	NA	Feb-Mar 09	Feb-Mar 09	100%			N/A
	Questionnaire with 5 questions for all FP on future expectation, activities and funding (with WP4) <sup>3</sup>	A	Reports completed and available on the web site	NA	Jan 09 -Mar 09	Feb-Mar 09	100%			YES INCLUDED IN THE MONITORING REPORT (OCT 06-MAR 09)
	In depth phone interviews to some people on future expectation, activities and funding (with WP4)	A Interview	In depth phone interviews made to 10 FPs of 9 involved countries	NA	Jan 09 -Mar 09	Mar 09	100%			YES INCLUDED IN THE MONITORING REPORT (OCT 06-MAR 09)
	Template for the 8 small groups discussion for Sofia Meeting (with WP4) <sup>4</sup>	A Template	Template for 5 discussion groups prepared for the Sofia meeting	NA	Feb -Mar 09	Mar 09	100%			YES
	Results of the Mid-term evaluation Report presented at Sofia Meeting	A Report	Results presented at Sofia meeting	NA	Mar 09	Mar 09	100%	Mid-term evaluation report was replaced by the EpiSouth Project Monitoring report (Oct 06-Mar 09)	Results of interviews and questionnaires as well as findings of the evaluation questionnaires (WP1-5, WP6, 7 and 8) were presented	

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Analysis and Reports of Meeting & Networking Evaluation Questionnaires filled in at 3 <sup>rd</sup> Project Meeting	A Reports		NA	Apr 09	Sept 09	100%	Delays due to the decision to include Reports of Meeting & Networking Evaluation Questionnaires in the Monitoring report (Oct 06-Mar 09)		YES Included in the monitoring report (Oct 06-Mar 09)
	On-line version of evaluation Questionnaires (WP1-WP5-second round) filled in by FPs	A Questionnaires	Monitoring and evaluation tools on the website	NA	Sept 09	Jun 10	100%	Due to the extension period, in accordance with WP1 it was decided to postpone the second round first in December 2009 and then in 2010. The return rate was poor.	Regular reminders sent to FPs. On-line questionnaires available on the web until end of June 2010.	YES Included in the second monitoring report (Apr 09-Jun 10)
	On-line Version of evaluation Questionnaires (WP6-7-8-second round) filled in by FPs	A Questionnaires	Monitoring and evaluation tools on the website	NA	May 09 - Jun 10	Jun 10	100%	Due to the extension period, in accordance with WP1 it was decided to postpone the second round in 2010. The return rate was poor.	Regular reminders sent to FPs. On-line questionnaires available on the web until end of June 2010.	YES Included in the second monitoring report (Apr 09-Jun 10)
	Analysis and Report of Networking Evaluation Questionnaires filled in at 4 <sup>th</sup> Project Meeting	A Reports		NA	May 10 - Jun 10	Jun 10	100%			YES Included in the second monitoring report (Apr 09-Jun 10)
	Monitoring Report (Apr 09 – Jun 10)	A Report		NA	Jun 10	Jun 10 / Aug 10	100%	Being the on-line questionnaires available until June 2010, the Monitoring Report was finalised in August 2010.	Report available on the website.	YES
	Final evaluation report	D8 Report	Final evaluation report prepared	Sept 09	Jun 10	Jun 10 /Aug 10	100%	Due to the extension period, and the availability of updated data, the preparation of	Report available on the website.	YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
								the Final Evaluation Report was postponed to June 2010 and finalised in August 2010		
WP 4 - 1 <sup>ST</sup> YEAR										
WP4	Consensus on Network plan during the 1 <sup>st</sup> Steering Committee	A	Consensus achieved during the meeting	Oct 06	Dec 06	Dec 06	100%	The project concretely started at the beginning of December 2006		YES (POWER POINT PRESENTATION)
	Networking work-plan	D9	Networking work-plan	Dec 06	Mar 07	Mar 07	50%			
	1st Project Meeting (Rome)	Not foreseen in the original Project's Plan	Participation	NA	NA	Mar 07	100%			YES
	WP4 Steering Team (WP4 ST) establishment			NA	April 07	July 07	100%			
	Permanent communication tool: restricted area of work on web site – Member's private area Network Working Area NWA (with WP2)	M	See WP 2	Dec 06	May 07	Jul 07	100%	See WP2	See WP2	SEE WP2
	Preparation of questionnaire for	M	Pre-tested questionnaire	May 07	May 07	Aug 07	100%	The questionnaire was drafted by WP4,		YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	collecting information for Directory		uploaded in the web-site					amended by WP1 and uploaded by WP2 after activation of Website Members private area		
	Partners filling in the questionnaire for Directory information on web site	A	Questionnaire revised by WP4 ST uploaded in the web-site	May 07	Aug 07		20%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Poor return rate by WP4 ST members</li> <li>- Website version of the questionnaire to be completed on-line by WP leaders institutions and Focal Points ready on November 07</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- More active involvement of WP4 ST members</li> <li>- Stressing WP leaders institutions and Focal Points to complete the questionnaire on-line by Dec 07</li> </ul>	
	Preparation of Directory to be available on web site (with peoples' consent)	D10	Database	Aug 07	Nov 07		In progress	See the delays reported above	NA	
	Link with relevant web-sites (e.g. EU IRIDE project)	A	Link available on the project's web-site	June 07	Sept 07	Sept 07	100%			
	Organization of a Plenary Network meeting in Athens (with WP1, WP6, WP7, WP8)	M	Programme, List of participants	Oct 07	Dec 07	NA	NA	As the 1 <sup>st</sup> Project Meeting was held in March 2007, the 2 <sup>nd</sup> PM will be held in Dec 2007.		
WP4 - 2 <sup>ND</sup> YEAR										
WP4	Participation in the preparatory meeting of the Project Networking Meeting in Athens	A	Participation Organisation schedule	Not foreseen in the original Project Plan	Oct 07	Oct 07	100%			YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	(with WP1, WP6, WP7, WP8)									
	Organisation of Project Networking Meeting in Athens	A	Participation	Sept. 07	Oct-Dec 07	Oct-Dec 07	100%	As the 1 <sup>st</sup> SCM was held in Dec 2006, and the 1 <sup>st</sup> Project Meeting in March 2007, the 2 <sup>nd</sup> SC and Project Meetings were held in Dec 2007.		
	Preparation of the 2nd Project Networking Meeting proceedings (Athens)	D11	Proceedings issued	Nov 07	Feb 08	Mar 08	100%	Meeting proceedings documents collection and preparation requiring more time than expected. A public version of the meeting report was uploaded in the website. A CD-rom with meeting proceedings was produced and sent to all participants and project Focal Points.		YES (CD-ROM)
	Networking work-plan 2008	D 9		Dec 07	Mar 08		80%	Time needed to understand network development and evolution, usefulness and use of the available networking tools.		YES (draft networking plan uploaded in the members area 2008)
	Validated questionnaire for the directory uploaded in the ENWA	M	On-line questionnaire uploaded	NA	Jan 08	Jan 08	100%			
	Partners filling in the questionnaire for Directory information on web site	A	Number of questionnaires uploaded by partners, revised and	Apr.-May 07	Jan-Mar 08	Mar-Sept. 08	53,33%	In progress. Acceptable return rate by participating institutions.	Regular reminders sent by WP4 team.	

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
			validated							
	Preparation of Directory to be available on web site in collaboration with WP2 (with people's consent)	D10	First version of directory uploaded in the public area	Jun-Aug 07	Apr 08	Jun- Sept. 08	75%	In progress. Delays occurred due to technical issues.	The directory will be finalised with validated questionnaires, widened with compiled new questionnaires and updated.	
	Coordination Work with WP6-WP7-WP8 for drafting the 3 strategic documents (i.e. Preparation of the guidelines for the three draft of the strategic documents (WP6,7 and 8) at the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Project Meeting	A		NA	Oct 07-Sept 08	Oct 07-Sept 08	30%	The coordination work will be enhanced starting from October 2008 in order to consolidate the drafts for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Project Meeting (March 2008)	More and better information will be available after the third networking meeting in Sofia. Strong coordination and exchanges foreseen in Year III.	YES (parallel sessions outlines)
WP4 - 3 <sup>rd</sup> YEAR PLUS EXTENSION										
WP4	First version of Directory of participant Institutions made accessible on the Web	A	First version of directory uploaded in the public area		Nov 08	Nov 08	100%			YES
	Final Version of the Networking Framework Document	D9	Document prepared and uploaded in the public area		Oct08 –Mar09	Oct 08 (STWA) Dec 08 (STWA) Jun 09 (ENWA)	75%	The networking document draft was updated and revised. A networking framework document was uploaded	Regular reminders sent by WP4 team	YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
								in the website member's area starting from October 2008 (both in WP1 and WP4 STWA)		
	Validation of remaining questionnaires and Final Directory	D10	Number of questionnaires uploaded by partners, revised and validated	Aug 07	Oct 08 – Mar 09	N/A	53,33%	Due to project extension and burden of questionnaires to be filled by all FPs, in accordance with the project coordinator, it was decided to postpone the date to upload the questionnaires in the web.	Questionnaires made available on-line in December 2009. The directory finalised with validated available questionnaires, widened with compiled new and updated questionnaires. Regular reminders sent by WP4 team.	
	Steering Committee meeting in Brussels on 30th-31st October 2008	A	Participation		Oct 08	N/A	0%	Due to unexpected health problems the WP 4 representative participation was not possible.	The documents for the WP4 presentation prepared and sent to the coordinator. WP4 presentations illustrated by WP3 representative.	
	Preparation of and participation to the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Project Networking Meeting in Sofia in cooperation	A	Participation		Jan 09-Mar 09	Jan 09 – Mar 09	100%			

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	with WP1 and WP7 (with focus on the parallel sessions) and 4 <sup>th</sup> SC									
	Preparation of the Third Project Networking Meeting proceedings	D11	Proceedings issued	Nov 08	May 09 -Jun 09	June 09	90% in June 2009 100% in July 2009	Meeting proceedings documents collection and preparation as well as revision required more time than expected. A first version was ready by June 2009.	A public version of the meeting report uploaded in the website. A CD-rom with meeting proceedings sent to all participants and project Focal Points in July 2010.	YES
	Support to the preparation of the draft of the four strategic documents (WP5, 6, 7 and 8) in cooperation with WP1 and related WPs	A	Guidelines prepared	Sep 08, Sep 09	Dec 08 – Sept 09	Dec 08-Sept 09	100%			YES
	Identification of the strategic document scientific board (SB) potential members, preparation of SB Terms of	A	SB composition defined		N/A	Sept 09 – Oct 09	100%			YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Reference (TOR) and definition of SB composition.									
	Participation to the WP8 Steering Team Meeting for the preparation of the WP8 Strategic Document	A	Participation		N/A	Nov 09	100%			
	Support to the organisation of and participation in the 5 <sup>th</sup> EpiSouth Steering Committee in cooperation with WP1	A	Meeting organised and Participation		N/A	Nov 09	100%			
	On-line questionnaire Institutions Directory to be filled in by FPs (second round)	A	Questionnaire uploaded in the web-site for updating or completion		N/A	Dec 09	100%			
	Organisation of 4 telephone conferences for the discussion of the four strategic documents (WP5, 6, 7 and 8) in cooperation with related WPs	A	Teleconference s organised		N/A	Dec 09-Feb10	100%			
	Participation in the preparatory meeting of the 4th Project Networking	A	Participation		N/A	Feb 10	100%			

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Meeting in Rome									
	Finalisation of the four strategic documents (WP5, 6, 7 and 8) in cooperation with WP1 and related WPs	D18, D22, D24	Strategic documents published	Sep 09	Apr 10	Apr 10	100%			YES
	Preparation of the 4th Project Networking Meeting in Rome in cooperation with WP1 and participation	A	Participation		Apr 10	Apr 10	100%			
	Preparation of the 4 <sup>th</sup> Project Networking Meeting proceedings	D11	Proceedings issued	Sep 09	Sept 09	June 10 due to the extension period	100%			YES
	Updated version of Directory of participant Institutions made accessible on the Web	A	Updated version of directory uploaded in the public area		NA	Apr-Jun 10	80%	21/26 countries represented in the Directory.	Regular reminders sent to FPs to complete the directory with all countries represented. FPs contacted also by phone. 23 questionnaires representing 21/26 countries were completed by the end of the	YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
									project (81% of countries represented; 70% of institutions included).	
WP5 -1 <sup>ST</sup> YEAR										
WP5	Preparation of the questionnaire for the Survey to identify training needs	A	Nº of drafts questionnaires/ Final version of the questionnaire	Jan 07	May 07	June 07	100%		No action needed. Questionnaire already finished and sent	YES
	Questionnaire filled by EpiSouth participants and analysed by the WP5 ST	I	Data base		May 07	Foreseen for Nov 07	80%	Delays in the process of validation and quality control of information was longer than expected. (The countries answered the questionnaire after the deadline. In fact, most of them had sent their responses at the end of august. In addition many of them delivered incomplete responses).	Active validation and quality control. Data base and preliminary data analysis is done. Final results will be available in Nov 07	
	Report of the survey on training needs	M	Report	Feb 07	June 07	Foreseen Nov 07	80%	Due to the reasons above explained the database was not available until end of Oct 07 & therefore the analysis and the report are not finalised	Due to the delaying questionnaire response, data were not available on time (see above). The preliminary analysis	

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
									focussed on few items (flow charts and results in responses from questions 29 to 46) to allow the proper implementation of the 1 <sup>st</sup> training module	
	Collaboration and link with EPIET & FETPs	A	Nº of Meetings and coordinated activities <sup>6</sup>	All over the project period	All over the project period	-	-		No action needed.	
	Feeding the project web-site with/for training information	A	Links in the public area	All over the project period	All over the project period	-	-		No action needed.	YES
	First training module	M	First training module carried out/ Nº of participants in the first training/Programme	May 07	Sept 07	Sept 07	100%		No action needed.	YES & CD ROM
	Teaching materials of the first training module	D12	CD with the contents	May 07	Oct 07	Sept 07	100%			YES

<sup>6</sup> Including: Dissemination of information of Conference ESCAIDE; Participation of EPIET and FEATP in the training module: Participation of EPIET & FEATP in elaboration of training needs survey

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Evaluation of the first training module	I	Evaluation forms for the training module filled and analyzed	May 07	Sept 07	Foreseen Nov 07	90%	Analysis and evaluation report under review by WP 5 Steering Team		
WP5 - 2 <sup>ND</sup> YEAR										
WP5	Report of the survey on training needs	M	Report	Febr 07	Feb 08	Febr 08 (1 <sup>st</sup> version) August 08 (final version)	100%	Once the final report was finished, one lost questionnaire was detected. This obliged us to re-enter data, analyse them with new one and do the correction corresponding.	No action needed	YES
	Evaluation of the first training module	I	Evaluation forms for the training module filled and analyzed	May 07	Sept 07	Foreseen Nov 08	95%	Analysis and evaluation report under review by WP 5 Steering Team		YES
	Collaboration and link with EPIET & FETPs	A	Nº of Meetings and coordinated activities <sup>7</sup>	All over the project period	All over the project period	-	-			YES
	Feeding the project web-site with/for training information	A	Links in the public area	All over the project period	All over the project period	-	Just WP5 info in ENWA			YES

<sup>7</sup> Including: Dissemination of information of Conference ESCAIDE; Participation of EPIET and FEATP in the training module: Participation of EPIET & FEATP in elaboration of training needs survey

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Second training module	<b>M</b>	Second training module carried out/ 28 participants /Programme	June 08	June 08	June 08	100%			YES
	Teaching materials of the second training module	<b>D14</b>	CD with the contents	May 08	June 08	June 08	100%			YES
	Evaluation of the Second training module	<b>I</b>	Evaluation forms for the training module filled and analyzed	May 08	June 08	Foreseen Dec 08	90%	In elaboration	To be finished and reviewed by WP 5 Steering Team	
	Directory of training courses and fellowships	<b>D13</b>			May 08		0%	In elaboration		
	Abstracts for ESCAIDE sent and accepted		Abstract	All over the Project Period	-	July 08	100%		Poster (ESCAIDE Nov 08)	
WP5 - 3RD YEAR PLUS EXTENSION										
<b>WP5</b>	2nd Interim Technical implementation & financial report	<b>D3</b>	Report	Nov 08	Nov 07	Nov 07	100%	Some data not easily available for financial report	Support from administrative staff of ISCIII and WP1	
	3rd and Final Technical implementation & financial report	<b>D4</b>	Report	Oct. 2010	Sept2010	Oct2010	100%	Some data not easily available	Support from administrative staff of ISCIII and WP1	
	Third training module	<b>M18</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Module carried out/ 24 participants /Programme	June 09	June 09	June 09	100%	Previous to the Pandemic Flue 29 people were registered for attending the module	No action needed.	
	Training Materials of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Module	<b>D 15</b>	Materials on the WebSite	M8	July 09	Nov 2010	100%		No action needed	

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Seminar in the National Centre of Epidemiology- Spain-	<b>D7</b>	Conference Ppt presentation		Nov 08	Nov 08	100%		No action needed	
	Participation to the Spanish Scientific Meeting of Epidemiology for a 12 minutes communication – Zaragoza- SPAIN	<b>D7</b>	Conference and abstract		Oct 09	Febr 08	100%		No action needed	
	Directory of training courses and fellowship	<b>D 13</b>	Prototype already prepared	Oct 07	Jul 2009	Oct 10	100%	Technical difficulties		YES
	Preparation of proposals for funding at International and National level		Several proposals sent to different stakeholders and financial institutions	Not foreseen:						
	Collaboration and link with EPIET & FETPs	A	Nº of Meetings and coordinated activities <sup>8</sup>	All over the project period	All over the project period	-	-		No action needed.	YES
	Feeding the project web-site with/for training information	A	Links in the public area	All over the project period	All over the project period	-	Just WP5 info in ENWA		No action needed.	YES

<sup>8</sup> Including: Dissemination of information of Conference ESCAIDE; Participation of EPIET and FETP in the training module: Participation of EPIET & FEATP in elaboration of facilitators guides

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Presented poster at ESCAIDE Berlin	D7	Abstract		-	Nov 08	100%		No action needed.	
	Abstracts sent to TEPHINET 2010	D7	Abstracts			July 2010	100%	Finally not accepted	No action needed	
	Looking for funds and financial resources at International and National level (together with WP1 & 6)	Several proposals sent to different stakeholders and financial institutions and meetings	Two accepted proposals	Since the middle of the project	foreseen in the project		100%			
	Strategic Document on Training	D18	It was not a deliverable for the WP5	Not foreseen		Feb 2010	100%	Short time for develop it.	No action needed	YES
WP6 – 1 <sup>ST</sup> YEAR										
WP6	Consensus on criteria for epidemic intelligence (international events) during the 1st Steering Committee	M	1st Steering Committee Meeting	Oct 06	Dec 06	Dec 06	100%	The project concretely started at the beginning of December 2006		YES (POWER POINT PRESENTATION)
	WP6 Steering Team (WP6 ST) establishment	Not foreseen in the original PP	1st EpiSouth Meeting Rome		Apr 07	Apr 07	100%			YES
	Collaboration with MedISys and ECDC on epidemic intelligence	A	Meeting Collaboration	n/a	Year round	n/a	100%			
	Monitoring international events and alerts dissemination	A	Pilot bulletin		May 07	Sept 07	80%	Start project delayed December 2006 Recruitment staff longer than anticipated.		TELECONF MATERIAL

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Cross border epidemic procedures	<b>D16</b>	Report	March 07	June 07	NA	75%	Time necessary to allow Involvement of WP6 Steering Team		TELECONF. MATERAIL
	Assessment of existing epidemic intelligence activities in participating countries	A	questionnaire		May-Jun 07	Jul-Sept 07	100%	Time necessary to allow Involvement of WP6 Steering Team		YES
	Mission to support partners in implementation of WP6	A	Report			Year 2	0%	Effective start of the project (May 2007), Missions would be more efficient after the endorsement of procedures		
	Pilot secured section on cross-border epidemic intelligence on website with alerts originating from partners	<b>M</b>	Data base and alerts Web	Jun 07	Nov 07	Year 2	0%	Effective start of the project (May 2007), Missions would be more efficient after the endorsement of procedures		
	Section on cross-border epidemic on EpiSouth web-site with alarm posted	<b>D17</b>	web	Oct 07	Dec 07		NA	The project concretely started at the beginning of December 2006		
	Participation to scientific seminars on cross-border epidemic intelligence	<b>D19</b>	Abstract	Oct 07	Dec 07		50%	Abstract sent and accepted by Sept 07 for the seminar held on Dec. 07		YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
WP6 - 2 <sup>ND</sup> YEAR										
WP6	2 <sup>nd</sup> consensus on criteria for epidemic intelligence (international events) during the Athens meeting	Part of <b>D18</b>	Athens report	Oct 07	Dec 07	Dec 07	100%	Use face-to-face meeting to have the approval of all EpiSouth participant countries		YES (MINUTES)
	WP6 Steering Team (WP6 ST) Teleconferences	Not foreseen in the original Project's Plan	1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> WP6 teleconferences		Oct 07 July 08	Oct 07 July 08	100%	2 teleconferences organised with the members of WP6 ST for decision, consensus and validation of WP6 activities		YES (MINUTES)
	Collaboration with MedISys and ECDC on epidemic intelligence	A	Meeting Collaboration	n/a	Year round	n/a	100%			YES (INVITATION)
	Monitoring international events and alerts dissemination	A	eWEB bulletins and thematic notes		Feb 08	April 08	100%	Start project delayed December 2006 Recruitment staff longer than anticipated.		YES (EWEB UPLOADING)
	Reporting of epidemic intelligence assessment (activities in participating countries)	A	Interim report		June 08	June 08	100%	An analysis of all data collected among countries was provided		YES (WP6 REPORT)
	Mission to support partners in implementation of WP6	A	Report			Year 3	50%	Contact with selected countries established: Mission in Morocco in November 2008	Long procedures with countries	

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Pilot secured section on cross-border epidemic intelligence: electronic platform on website with alerts originating from partners	M	web	May 2007	June 08	Year 3	30%	Meeting performed in April 2008 in Roma (ISS); Maquette provided by CINECA;	Need of prioritisation for CINECA	YES (COPY OF MAQUETTE)
	Participation to scientific seminars on cross-border epidemic intelligence	D19	Abstract	n/a	Year round	n/a	100%			YES (SLIDES)
WP6 - 3 <sup>RD</sup> YEAR PLUS EXTENSION										
WP6	1 <sup>st</sup> discussion on the WP6 strategic document during the Sofia meeting	Not foreseen in the original Project's Plan	Sofia report		Mar 09	Apr 09	100%	Use the meeting parallel session to have comments from EpiSouth countries		YES (MINUTES)
	WP6 Strategic document Teleconferences	Not foreseen in the original Project's Plan	WP6 ST and SD team teleconferences				100%	Organised by the WP4 team with G. Rodier (WHO) as a chairman + inclusion of the WP6 ST		YES (MINUTES)
	Monitoring international events and alerts dissemination	A	eWEB bulletins and notes			Year 3	100%	Start project delayed December 2006 Recruitment staff longer than anticipated.		YES (EWEB UPLOADING)
	The WP6 epidemic intelligence strategic document	D	Strategic document			Year 3	100%	An analysis of all data collected among countries was provided		YES (RWP6 REPORT)
	Mission to support partners in implementation	A	Report			Year 3	50%	One 1 <sup>st</sup> mission done in Morocco. The 2 <sup>nd</sup> was postponed and actually not done due to the		YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	of WP6							A(H1N1) pandemic		
	The secured cross-border epidemic intelligence platform: for alerts exchanges	D	Secured website			Year 3	100%	Platform launched in Nov. 2009. Work done jointly with CINECA + the WP2		YES <a href="#">SECURE WEBSITE</a>
	Participation to scientific seminars on cross-border epidemic intelligence	D	Abstract	n/a	Year round	n/a	100%	EMPHNET and ICID conferences		YES <a href="#">(SLIDES + POSTER)</a>
WP7 – 1 <sup>ST</sup> YEAR										
WP7	Contact with national representative persons and networks (ESEN2, VENICE etc.)	A	Database	Oct. 06	March-April 07	April 07	100%			
	WP7 Steering Team (WP7 ST) establishment	A	List of WP7 ST		April 07	April-May 07	100%			
	Questionnaire for collecting information for the survey on situation of vaccine preventable-diseases and migrant population among participating	A	Forms	October-December 06	April – May 07	June 07	100%	The diversity of the situation with migrant population in the countries, participating in the project and the differences of existing problems, related to different country-specific conditions	Several versions of the questionnaire were prepared to meet all requirements. Decision to complete a draft questionnaire by WP7 ST countries as a	YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	countries prepared and discussed								pilot study.	
	Questionnaire distributed to partners	M	Forms	Dec 06	May 07	Sept 07	50%	The questionnaire distributed to all WP7 ST partners to be completed and evaluated.	Proposals from partners for inclusion of additional details received	
	Follow-up of response to the questionnaire	A	Database	Dec 06 - March 07	May – July 07	Aug - Sept 07	50%	The questionnaire completed by 7 WP7 ST partners and comments sent		
	Data analysis of survey questionnaires	A	Report	March-June, 07	August - Sept 07	Sept – Oct 07	50 %	Preliminary analysis on the basis of 7 WP7 ST partners questionnaires performed.	An updated – Final version of the questionnaire produced	
	Provisional survey results on the web-restricted area	M	Report	July, 2007	Oct 07	Nov 07	0%			
	Mission to support partners in implementation of WP7	A	Event & Report	During the project time	Nov-Dec 2007					
	Report on assessment survey for vaccine-preventable disease and migrant populations presented Project Meeting	D20	Report	September, 2007	December 2007					

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Exchange of information on cases/outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases among migrant populations in partner countries <b>(with WP6)</b>	A	Database	No date	December 2007					
	Initial discussion at the Project Meeting on recommendations on access to immunization, exchanging data and adjusting vaccination plan	A	Report	September 2007	December 2007					
WP7 – 2 <sup>ND</sup> YEAR										
WP7	Data analysis of the provisional assessment survey (pre-tested questionnaire)	A	Report			Oct-Nov 07	100%			YES
	Provisional assessment survey (pre-tested questionnaire) results on the w-restricted area	A	Report		Feb 08	Feb.08	100%			YES
	Discussion at the Project Meeting on recommendations	A	WP7 parallel session minutes		(Dec.07)	Dec.07	100%			YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Report with results from the provisional assessment survey (pre-tested questionnaire)	<b>M</b>	Report		M 17 (Feb.08)	Feb.08	100%	On the ground of the results from the provisional assessment survey (pre-tested questionnaire) was taken the decision to elaborate a new Questionnaire "Assessment of countries migration status profile & vaccination access of migrant population" and to involve all participating countries to fill in the new questionnaire.		YES
	Follow-up of response regarding changes of the pre-tested questionnaire and proposed new Revised questionnaire	<b>A</b>				(Feb-May,08)	100%	Finalisation of the new revised questionnaire "Assessment of Countries Migration Status Profile & Vaccination Access of Migrant Population"		YES
	Questionnaire on web site (with WP2)	<b>A</b>	Forms		(March 08)	(Sept.08)	100%			YES
	Revised questionnaire compiled on-line by all partners	<b>M</b>	Database		(Apr.08)	Pending		Deadline for partners – 31 October2008		
	Follow-up of response to the questionnaire	<b>A</b>	Database		(Apr.08)	Pending				

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Data analysis of survey questionnaires	<b>A</b>	Report		(May.08)	Pending				
	Preliminary Survey results on the w-restricted area	<b>M</b>	Report		(June.08)	Pending				
	Final Report on survey for vaccine-preventable disease and migrant	<b>D20</b>	Report		(July.08)	Pending				
	Exchange of information on cases/outbreaks in partner countries (with WP6)	<b>A</b>	Database		(June.08)	M 21 (June.08)	100%			YES
	Preparation of draft recommendations	<b>A</b>	Report		(Jan-Sept)		50%	To be finalised on the basis of the results from the Final Report on survey for vaccine-preventable disease and migrant in all participating countries		
	Survey to assess the Roma minority immunization coverage and timeliness of immunizations	<b>A</b>	Report			Nov.07-May08	100%	A study, conducted to obtain an updated and clear idea about WP7 specific objectives – the problem with migration and immunizations of mobile populations (Roma people in Balkans) and to evaluate the feasibility of this kind of surveys for the		YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
								purposes of the WP7.		
	Joint ECDC / WHO Workshop “ Key topics on migrants and hard to reach populations health in central-eastern Europe: advocating and promoting immunization” organised and hosted at the NCIPD (information uploaded in the NWA)	A	Event/Report			Feb.08	100%			YES
WP7 - 3 <sup>RD</sup> YEAR PLUS EXTENSION										
WP7	Follow-up of response to the on-line Questionnaire	A	Forms	M3-M6	M25 – M28	M28 (Jan, 09)	100%	Deadline for partners – 31 October, 2008/ Response delay	Change and prolongation of the deadline (3 times); reminders; e-mails; telephone calls	YES
	Data analysis of the survey questionnaire	A	Analysis	M6-M9	M29- M30	M29- M30 (Feb 09) Mar,09	100%	22 of total of 26 countries responded.		YES
	Preparatory phase of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Project networking Meeting in Sofia	A	Event	M24	M28-M30	M28-M30	100%			YES
	4 <sup>th</sup> SC meeting and 3 <sup>rd</sup> project					30March- 1 April 2009				

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Meeting conducted in Sofia, 30 March -1 April, 2009									
	Final report on survey for vaccine preventable diseases and migrants	D20	Report	M12	M31	M37-39	100%	Problems explained in the Technical interim report	Planned for the period of extension (Oct 2009 – Jan 2010)	YES
	Strategic document on vaccine preventable diseases and migrant populations & recommendations for improving access to immunizations and for exchanging data on vaccine preventable diseases (with WP4)	D21 & D22	Guidelines	M36		M43	100%	Problems explained in the Technical interim report	Planned for the period of extension (Oct 2009 – Jan 2010)	YES
	Participation at the 5th SC Meeting in Venice, November 12-13, 2009	A				Nov 12-13 2009	100%			YES
	Participation at the Final Project Meeting together with "Conference on CD and health threats in the	A				21-23 April	100%			YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Mediterranean Region", Rome 21-23 April 2010									
	Exchange of information on cases/outbreaks in partner countries (with WP6)	A	Data base		M25-M36	Continuous within the project duration	100%			YES
	Missions to support partners				M33-M36		0%	Explained in the Technical interim report		
	Dissemination of results & participation in conferences	A			M25-M36	Nov 5, 2008, 26-28 Oct 2009, 19-22 Oct 2009, 22-25 April 2010	100%			
WP8 – 1 <sup>ST</sup> YEAR										
WP8	Constitution of the Steering Team (WP8 ST)	M	Constitution of the Steering Team	NA	Apr 07	Apr 07	100%			
	List of zoonotic diseases of interest	A	List of Zoonotic diseases available	Oct 06	Jun 07	May 07	100%			Power point presentation in rome
	Questionnaire for 22 EpiSouth countries aiming at defining five zoonotic diseases	Not foreseen in the original Project's Plan	Questionnaire uploaded	NA	NA	Aug 07	100%	May 07 sent to WP8 steering team for comments. Jun 07 finalized format. Aug 07 uploaded in STWA and ENWA		YES
	Collaboration and Link with existing networks (MED-VET-NET, MZCC etc.)	A	No. of European and International resources of interest	NA	Continuous collaboration	NA	100%	MZCC representative included in WP 8 Working group in Greece		
WP8 – 2 <sup>ND</sup> YEAR										

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
WP8	Analysis of data collected with Zoonosis Questionnaires and the list of zoonoses of priorities	A	List of Zoonotic Diseases Available	Not Foreseen	Oct 2007	Oct 2007	100%	NA	NA	YES
	Uploading of the Zoonoses priority list document in WA	A	List of Zoonotic Diseases Available	Not Foreseen	Nov 2007	Nov 2007	100%	NA	NA	YES
	Preparation of the 2nd SC & 2nd Project Meeting (Athens)	A		Not Foreseen	Oct-Nov 2007	Oct-Nov 2007	100%	NA	NA	YES
	Zoonosis draft strategic document preparation/2 <sup>ND</sup> Project Meeting	M		M12	Dec 2007	Dec 2007	100%	NA	NA	YES
	Collaboration and Link with existing networks (MED-VET-NET, MZCC etc.)	A					80%	MED VET NET appears not to be available, MZCC is under change	We will continue the efforts	NA
	Finalisation of the questionnaire for HPH and VPH officials on web site (with WP2)	M	Questionnaire prepared	M9	Feb – Mar 2008	Feb 2008	100%	On 08/02/08 we uploaded in ENWA the final HPH VPH with a deadline end of February for comments and we asked from Cineca to foresee for an electronic version that would also be a search machine		YES
	On line Data Collection				Apr – Aug 2008	In progress		The technical aspects of this electronic version	On 10 <sup>th</sup> of September	YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
								did not let CINECA to deliver the electronic version of the data base but on 27 <sup>th</sup> of May with a deadline to approve it until the end of June. We approved it on the 24 <sup>th</sup> of June.	2008 the electronic version was uploaded to be compiled until the 31 <sup>st</sup> of October 2008.	
	Work with the ST for drafting zoonosis strategic document (i.e. countries doc on 5 zoonosis of priority)				Jan – Sept 2008	Jan– Sept 2008	100%		YES	YES
WP8 - 3 <sup>RD</sup> YEAR PLUS EXTENSION										
WP8	On line Data Collection of the questionnaire for HPH and VPH officials on web site (with WP2)	M					100%	Specific countries had a considerable difficulty to send their data		YES
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Project Meeting and 2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting for strategic document preparation Sofia 2009	M	Final strategic document on emerging zoonoses prepared	M 24		Sofia, 29March – 1 April 2009	100%			YES
	Work with the Steering Team for zoonosis strategic document	A		NA	2008-2009	2008-2009	100%	NA	NA	YES
	Directory with HPH & VPH Focal (with WP2)	D 23	Database with HPH and VPH contact points prepared	M 36	M 36	M 36	100%	NA	NA	YES

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WP	Activities/Tasks <sup>1</sup>	D/M/A <sup>2</sup>	Indicators	Date foreseen by GA <sup>3</sup>	Date foreseen by Approved Work-plan	Date of achievement	Level of achievement <sup>4</sup>	Justification/ Problems encountered	Action to be taken to overcome the problem	Related Doc Available <sup>5</sup>
	Collaboration and Link with existing networks (MED-VET-NET, MZCC etc.)	A					80%	MED VET NET appears not to be available, MZCC is under change		

### 3. TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT

#### 3.1 ACTIVITIES RELATED TO WORK PACKAGES

##### 3.1.1 WP 1 coordination of the project

This WP1 was linked to all the specific objectives of the action and includes the coordination, management and administration of the project. The WP1 has provided an information hub through which general exchanges of information can be co-ordinated.

The objectives directly linked to the WP were:

- guarantying a high quality performance of the project ensuring that timetables for the completion of works are set and adhered to and the aims and objectives of the project are met within the time-frame specified;
- ensuring the enlargement of the number of non-EU countries and international partners participating in the EpiSouth project;
- establishing links with appropriate European and International resources of interest for the project.

In accordance with the objectives set above the following activities were undertaken during the whole period of project implementation:

##### 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR

1. 1<sup>st</sup> Steering Committee Meeting (Venice, 11 - 13 December 2006)
2. 1<sup>st</sup> Project Meeting (Rome, 28-30 March, 2007)
3. Ad hoc meetings with WHO and ECDC representatives
4. Obtainment of formal commitment letter to the project from 12 non-UE countries
5. Coordination mission to Madrid (WP5)
6. Preparation and partners approval of Project Work-plan for the 1<sup>st</sup> year
7. Preparation of the first interim report

##### 2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR

1. Preparatory Meeting for the 2nd Project Meeting (Athens, 12-13 October 2007)
2. 2nd Steering Committee Meeting (Athens, 10 and 12 December 2007)
3. 2nd Project Meeting (Athens, 10-12 December, 2007)
4. Contacts with WHO, ECDC, EC and Italian Ministry of Health representatives

5. Obtainment of formal commitment letters to the project from 5 non-UE countries
6. Coordination mission to Athens (WP8) and Madrid (WP5)
7. Coordination meetings with WPs teams in Rome (WP4/WP3 and WP6)
8. Preparation and partners approval of Project Work-plan for the 2nd year
9. Preparation and periodic updating of project's outline, leaflets and organisation document
10. Support to the preparation of Monitoring and Evaluation Tools (with WP3)
11. Activities monitoring through constant contacts with WPs leaders
12. Support to the activities of WP5, WP6, WP7 and WP8

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### 3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR PLUS EXTENSION

1. 3rd Steering Committee Meeting (Brussels, 30 and 31 October 2008)
2. Second Interim Report (01/10/2007 – 30/09/2008)
3. 4th Steering Committee Meeting (Sofia, 30 March 2009 )
4. 3rd Project Meeting (Sofia, 30 March-1 April 2009)
5. 5th Steering Committee Meeting (Venice, 12 and 13 November 2009)
6. 4th Project Meeting (Rome, 20 and 21 April 2010)
7. EpiSouth Conference on Communicable Diseases and Public Health in the Mediterranean and Balkans (Rome, 21-23 April 2010)
8. Coordination missions to Sofia
9. Project Work-plan for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd years
10. Contacts with WHO, ECDC, EC and Italian Ministry of Health representatives
11. Preparation and periodic updating of project's outline, leaflets and organisation document
12. Support to the preparation of Monitoring and Evaluation Reports (with WP3)
13. Monitoring of activities through constant contacts with WPs leaders and Monitoring sheets
14. Final Technical and Financial Report
15. Obtainment of formal commitment letters to the project from 1 non-UE country

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## MILESTONES AND DELIVERABLES ACHIEVED

### Coordination Meetings

#### a.1) Steering Committees

##### **1<sup>st</sup> Steering Committee Meeting (Venice, 11 - 13 December 2006) - M**

The meeting was the kick-off meeting of EpiSouth project. The meeting was attended by all members (representatives of the 6 associated partners' leader of a WP, plus 1 person in charge of the WP3-Evaluation and a representative of the EC as observer). ECDC was also present and declare its commitment in becoming involved in all the activities. WHO was invited (EMRO and EURO) but didn't attend. *(for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.1 - Agenda and List of participants to the 1<sup>st</sup> SC Meeting).*

##### **2<sup>nd</sup> Steering Committee Meeting (Athens, 10 & 12 December 2007) – M**

The meeting was attended by all members (representatives of the 6 associated partners' leader of a WP, and representatives of the EC , ECDC and WHO as observer). This meeting has addressed in particular the project status of the activities and has identified approaches and strategies to ensure the actual participation of all the countries involved *(for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.2 - Agenda and List of participants to the 2<sup>nd</sup> SC Meeting).*

##### **3<sup>rd</sup> Steering Committee Meeting (Brussels, 30and 31 October 2008) – Not planned in the Original Grant Agreement**

The meeting was organised on the basis of the need of identifying and discussing future development of the activities and ways of ensuring the EpiSouth Network sustainability after the end of the Project. It was also discussed the opportunity of extending the on-going EpiSouth Project of some months to ensure full accomplishment of all the planned activities. In fact consensus was reached and a no-cost extension of 9-months was asked to the ECSANCO accordingly. The meeting was attended by all members, representatives of the 6 associated partners' leader of a WP, and representatives of the EC , ECDC and WHO as observer *(for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.3 - Agenda and List of participants to the 3<sup>rd</sup> SC Meeting).*

##### **4<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting (Sofia, 30 March 2009) – M**

As for the previous SC Meetings, all members (representatives of the 6 associated partners' leader of a WP, and representatives of the EC , ECDC and WHO as observer) were present. In addition, it was decided to invite also representatives of the regions of the non-EU Countries involved in the Project (Lebanon, Tunisia, Algeria representatives come to the meeting while Albania was absent).

The Meeting was especially dedicated to the identification of potential project proposals lines for the 2<sup>nd</sup> project phase (Financing Institutions/Programmes, calls available, deadlines, strategies, sectors and activities, partners roles and governance etc.) and to possible Evaluation process for EpiSouth before its closure ( internal and external processes, strategies, procedures, responsible and schedules).

*For further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.4 - Agenda and List of participants to the 4<sup>th</sup> SC Meeting).*

#### **5<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting (Venice, 12 and 13 November 2009) – Not planned in the Original Grant Agreement**

As for the previous SC Meeting in Sofia, all members (representatives of the 6 associated partners' leader of a WP, and representatives of the EC , ECDC and WHO as observer) were present as well as the representatives of the regions of the non-EU Countries involved in the Project (Lebanon, Tunisia, Algeria representatives while Albania was absent).

In addition, Mr. Guénaél Rodier and Mrs. Maarit Kokki have also been invited to facilitate discussion on future EpiSouth activities in coordination and synergy with WHO and ECDC.

The representatives of Veneto Region were also present and reported on the activities carried out by the Region in the health cooperation sector.

This Meeting was dedicated to the technical aspects and organisation of the EpiSouth Conference on Communicable Diseases and Public Health in the Mediterranean and Balkans to be held in Rome in April 2010 (technical issues; target audience, guests, budget etc.).

In addition the status of the preparation of the Four Project Strategic Documents (SD) was discussed also with the support of Dr. Rodier who was the chairman of the SD Scientific Board.

Finally a reflection on the EpiSouth Network was carried out: strengths, weakness, technical aspects in political contexts; geographical coverage; ways of working together/keeping partners' participating; appropriateness for dealing with CD; effectiveness; sustainability; etc. (including also aspects highlighted by the internal evaluation).

*For further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.5 - Agenda and List of participants to the 5<sup>th</sup> SC Meeting.*

#### **a.2) Project Meetings**

##### **1<sup>st</sup> Project Meeting (Rome, 28-30 March, 2007) – Not planned in the Original Grant Agreement**

As already reported the ultimate objective of EpiSouth project was to create a working network among the Mediterranean and Balkan Countries. Therefore, once the project had been approved by

EU-DGSANCO, the effort done by the EpiSouth Project Steering Committee was to verify the strategic possibility to involve in the Project all the interested countries of the Mediterranean area.

In this framework, the idea of organising the 1<sup>st</sup> Project Meeting has emerged during the Steering Committee to gather together all the representatives of the Mediterranean and Balkan Countries with the double aim of sharing the EpiSouth project objectives and methodology and of discussing with all the invited countries their willingness and interest to participate to the project.

In addition to the 9 Countries which were involved in the project from the beginning, 13 countries from the Balkans, North Africa and Middle East participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> project meeting. Representatives of EU DGSANCO, EU ECDC, and WHO have also joined the meeting.

During the meeting the objectives and the activities of EpiSouth Project were described in detail as well as the project structure which has been conceived with 8 Working Packages (WPs).

Therefore, during the meeting the views and comments of all the participating countries regarding their interests and expectations in participating to the Project were shared and commented in plenary and, before the conclusion of the works, each participating country has been asked to express its preliminary intention to participate to EpiSouth Project and its priority Working Package/s to work with. After the Meeting all documents were collected and registered on a CD-rom that was sent to all participants (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.6. – Report of the 1<sup>st</sup> EpiSouth Project Meeting, EpiSouth Report 1/2007*).

On the basis of what were agreed during the meeting as well as on the basis of the WPs priorities expressed by each country, a proposal on *EpiSouth Project Organization* were outlined and shared with all the participants in few weeks after the closure of the meeting (*for details related to the organisation that the project has endorsed after the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting in Rome, please see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.7 – EpiSouth Project organisation document*).

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Project Meeting (Athens, 10-12 December 2008) M**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> EpiSouth Meeting took place in Athens from 10th December to 12th December 2007. The meeting was hosted by the Hellenic Center for Diseases Control and Prevention (H.C.D.C.P.), leader of WP8- Epidemiology and preparedness to cross-border emerging zoonoses.

All the twenty-one countries involved in the Network (plus Tunisia that was in progress with its official commitment to EpiSouth at that time), were present, including EU and non-EU partner countries. Among them, 9 were from Southern Europe (Bulgaria, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Romania, Slovenia and Spain), 6 from Balkans (Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, FYROM, Kosovo and Serbia), 3 from North Africa (Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco) and 4 from the Middle East (Israel, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey). Egypt, Montenegro, Palestine and Syria were represented and invited as potential partners.

As for the 1<sup>st</sup> Project Meeting, participation of non-EU partner countries representatives was made possible by EC EuropAID and EC DG ENLARG through TAIXEX facility.

International Organisations (i.e. ECDC, WHO-EURO, WHO-EMRO and WHO-LYO/HQ) were present and actively involved; TAIXEX office was also represented. Guest scientists from Greece, France and Italy had been invited.

After the first meeting in Rome (28-30 March 2007), the Athens meeting represented a further occasion in which all project partners could meet and discuss on relevant project issues.

This second EpiSouth meeting was meant to consolidate the cooperation among the countries that formally agreed to take part in the Network as well as to further extend the Network to invited countries that could be part of it. It also represented the occasion to work and agree on contents and procedures in order to start a concrete collaboration on the specific project thematic issues (Epidemic Intelligence, VPD and Migrants, Zoonoses). In fact, by the end of the project period, three Strategic Documents will be available to guide and support the Mediterranean Countries on critical aspects and operational standards related to the three specific issues addressed by the project (*For further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no. 8 – Report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> EpiSouth Project Meeting- EpiSouth Report 2/2008*).

### **3rd Project Meeting ( Sofia, 31 March-1 April 2009) M**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> EpiSouth Meeting took place in Sofia from 30<sup>th</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009. The meeting was hosted by the National Centre of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases (NCIPD), leader of WP7 “Vaccine Preventable Diseases and Migrants”.

Twenty-two countries involved in the Network were present, including EU and non-EU partner countries. Among them, 9 were from Southern Europe (Bulgaria, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Romania, Slovenia and Spain), 3 from Balkans (Albania, Kosovo and Serbia), 4 from North Africa (Algeria, Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco) and 6 from the Middle East (Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria and Turkey). Libya was also represented.

The participation of non-EU partner countries representatives was made possible by the Italian Ministry of Work, Health and Social Policies through the EpiMed project.

International Organisations (i.e. ECDC, WHO-EURO, WHO-EMRO and WHO-LYO/HQ) were present and actively involved. Guest scientists from Institut Pasteur (France) as well as from international agencies such as OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health), EFSA (European Food Safety Authority) and IOM (International Organisation for Migration) had been invited as speakers.

After the first meeting in Rome and the second meeting in Athens, the meeting in Sofia represented a further occasion in which project partners could meet and discuss future prospects on the basis of the status of the project activities.

The Third EpiSouth Meeting was meant to discuss, starting from the project state-of-the-art, the future prospects; define advanced outlines of the four strategic documents to be produced by the project; identify strategic lines of activities and potential options of financing the network after the project end. It was the occasion to strengthen the cooperation among the countries that formally

take part in the Network as well as to further extend the Network. It also represented the occasion to exchange views for working more concretely on specific issues (Epidemic Intelligence, VPD and Migrants, Zoonoses), make explicit their expectations and express their interest by profiting of the lectures of experts (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no. 9 – Report of the 3<sup>rd</sup> EpiSouth Project Meeting- EpiSouth Report 7/2009*).

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Project Meeting (Rome, 20 April 2010) M**

The 4<sup>th</sup> EpiSouth Meeting took place in Rome on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> April 2010. The meeting was hosted by the Italian National Institute of Health (ISS) and organised by the EpiSouth Project Coordination (WP1) in cooperation with Padua GH (WP4-Networking), and representatives of the EpiSouth Network Countries.

Twenty-one among twenty-six countries involved in the Network were present, including EU and non-EU partner countries. Among them, 8 were from Southern Europe (Bulgaria, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Romania, Slovenia and Spain), 6 from Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia), 3 from North Africa (Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco) and 4 from the Middle East (Israel, Jordan, Palestine and Syria). Libya was also represented as observer.

Five countries that were expected to attend (Cyprus, Egypt, Lebanon, Turkey and Kosovo) were unable to be present due to the Icelandic volcanic ash cloud closing several airports. Also the participation of collaborating institution such as WHO, ECDC and EC have been jeopardized by the natural disaster and substituted by videoconferences.

After the third meeting in Sofia (30<sup>th</sup> March - 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009), the final meeting in Rome represented an important occasion in which project partners could present the achievements and discuss in detail the further concrete cooperation in the new phase of the “EpiSouth Plus” project.

This meeting was meant to discuss, starting from the EpiSouth project outcomes, the future prospects in relation to the activities proposed in the new project “EpiSouth Plus” to be financed by DGSANCO and DGAIDCO.

Besides the deliverables that were presented by the WP leaders, the meeting discussed strengths and weaknesses of the Network as starting point for future collaboration in order to benefit from lessons learned and overcome past limitations (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no. 10 – Report of the 4<sup>th</sup> EpiSouth Project Meeting- EpiSouth Report 11/2010*).

### **a.3) EpiSouth Conference on Communicable Diseases and Public Health in the Mediterranean and Balkans**

The *EpiSouth Conference on Communicable Diseases and Public Health in the Mediterranean and Balkans* was held on 21-23 April at ISS in Rome. Besides presenting the results that were achieved by the EpiSouth project in three years time, the Conference main aim was also to discuss and provide recommendations for *the Control of Public Health Threats and other risks in the Mediterranean Region and Balkans* in the light of the future activities of the EpiSouth Network.

The Conference was organised by the EpiSouth Project Coordination Team with the support of experts in the field, who enhanced and enriched the discussions during the Six Round Tables of the Conference.

In particular the Four Strategic Documents (Training, Cross Border Epidemic Intelligence, Vaccine preventable Diseases and Migrants, and Emerging Zoonoses) were presented and discussed with the audience (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no. 11 – Conference Agenda, Presentations and Photos*).

During the Conference also all the other Reports produced during the Project implementation were presented and divulged through the ISTISAN Publication (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no. 12 – EpiSouth Collection of Survey Reports, Istisan Report 10/6*).

### **b) Ensure the enlargement of the number of non-EU countries and international partners participating in the EpiSouth project - M**

The first successful step towards the enlargement has been the organisation of the 1<sup>st</sup> Project Meeting in Rome described in the 1<sup>st</sup> Interim Report. Starting from April 2007 the non-EU Countries started to send official request of participation to EpiSouth and progressively 13 and 4 countries during the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year respectively were involved in the Network.

It is worth stressing that the enlargement was concretely possible thanking EC DG RELEX and DG AIDCO-EuropeAid, which, through TAIEX have ensured the financial support needed to allow the participation of non-EU Countries to the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Project Meetings.

In addition, the Italian Ministry of Health has jointly developed, with the Italian National Institute of Health (ISS), the Epimed initiative which has enhanced the impact of the EpiSouth project mainly by supporting the participation of non EU Countries in EpiSouth training modules as well as coordination missions of ISS to the non EU Countries.

At the end of the Project, in June 2010, 64 Focal Points (30 from EU-Countries and 34 from non-EU Countries) plus 7 from Collaborating Institutions are part of the EpiSouth Network (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.13. List of Countries Focal Points*).

Although the enlargement could be considered a considerable success for the project, it has had also the effect of delaying the overall schedule of the project activities. In fact, delay has been reported especially in those activities which have requested the collection of data and information

from all the Countries involved and, even if the return rate is satisfactory, it is not deniable that big and time demanding efforts have been done to ensure proper replies from the majority of the partners involved.

In addition, it should be considered that the design of tools, like questionnaires for data collection, is often a complex task that has to consider high variability among the Countries in terms of data availability, sources, internal existing problems, different country-specific conditions, languages barriers, etc.

**d) Establish links with appropriate European and International resources of interest for the project - D**

ECDC was represented in the Project Steering Committee starting from the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting held in Venice. Working relationships and collaborations with this institution were strengthen and enhanced during the whole course of the project implementation.

In particular, the ESCAIDE Conference, held in Stockholm on 18-20 October 2007, was a fruitful occasion for meeting representatives of ECDC in their own offices.

Representatives of WHO participated to the 1<sup>st</sup> Project meeting in Rome where they agreed to become part of the Steering Committee as observers and to give their contribution in WPs development. From that moment several contacts and meetings were carried out with them all over the project implementation. In particular a visit was paid by the EpiSouth Coordination team to the WHO Office in Lyon in January 2010 with the aim of discussing concrete areas of collaboration and synergies for the new phase of EpiSouth Project.

EpiSouth Project has been presented by the project leader at the thematic session on communicable disease of EuroMed International Conference on Health held in Brussels (4-5 December 2007) and of EuroMed Ministerial Conference on Health held in Cairo (16-17 November 2008). In the Final Declaration of the Second Euromed Ministerial Conference the Networks are identified among the tools for cooperation and integration with neighbouring countries is in line with the EU's external actions of Neighbourhood Policy and the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership: EpiSouth was mentioned as a concrete example in place.

The Project was also presented at the EU Open Days (Brussels, 6-9 October 2008) and it was discussed at the EU-DGSANCO Workshop on Health Programme projects on Generic Preparedness planning and response in health emergencies (Luxembourg, 30 September and 1 October 2009).

The EpiSouth Coordinator reported about the Project at the EuroMesco International Conference (Amman, 16-17 October 2008) and the EpiSouth Leader reported the Project experience at the Connecting Health Organizations for Regional Disease Surveillance (CHORDS) Workshop organized by the Global Health and Security Initiative at the Fondation Mérieux Les Pensières Conference Centre (Annecy, France, March 17 – 19, 2010).

**e) Setting up the work plan of the project and assuring that the described objectives are attained**

Each draft of the three year Work-plan for the three implementation years was elaborated with the support of the WPs leaders, discussed during the Steering Committee Meetings and finally adopted and shared with all EpiSouth participants during Project Meetings.

The Yearly Work-plans schedule differed slightly from the original schedule of the Grant Agreement both because there was some delay in the actual starting of the project (signed Grant Agreement received by ISS on October 20, 2007), and because the schedules were re-arranged to ensure the active involvement of all the participants (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.14 – Project Work-Plans for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year*).

**e) Other coordination activities**

The main beneficiary acted as a contact between the participants and the DG SANCO both for administrative and technical issues. Moreover, it was agreed in the *Project Organization Document* that the project coordinator (Italy-ISS) is informed about all the Steering Teams communications, progress etc. Therefore feed-back and comments has been provided when needed or requested, which has required a very important workload.

To facilitate the preparation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Project Meetings coordination missions in Athens and Sofia were carried out by the project coordination (October 2008 and January 2009).

In order to promote coordination with the other WPs, missions were carried out in Madrid (2-6 June 2008, in the framework of the 2<sup>nd</sup> training session organised by the WP5); in Marrakech, Morocco (3 and November 2008, for the Cross-Border Epidemic Intelligence WP6 Steering Team Meeting); in Malta (5 and 6 November 2009, for the Epidemiology and Preparedness to Cross-border Emerging Zoonotic Infections WP8 Steering Team Meeting).

Other coordination meetings were organised at ISS in Rome (April 2008 with WP6 team and CINECA; January 2009 with WP4 team; February 2010 with WPs leaders).

Representatives of EpiSouth Project from Italian Institute for Health have participated (with ISS funds) in several events aimed at enhancing the working relations with Mediterranean Countries. In particular:

- i. Public Health Diseases Information Day organized by the Joint Research Center (Ispra, Italy – January 11, 2007) in order to promote coordination in the sector of Epidemic Intelligence of EpiSouth project with the EC tools called MedISys and discussing about “tailorization” of the system for the EpiSouth project covering the countries of the Mediterranean basin.
- ii. Conference for partnership in the health sector with the Mediterranean and Middle East Countries (Italian Ministry of Health and Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Rome, February 8, 2007)
- iii. Coordination Meeting for monitoring and planning health sector for the Joint Italy-Morocco Commission (Italian Ministry of Health – Rome, May 16, 2007)

- iv. Preparation of material for monitoring and planning health sector for the Joint Italy-Algeria Commission (Italian Ministry of Health – Rome, July, 2007)
- v. Joint Italy-Tunisia Commission for monitoring and planning health sector (Italian Ministry of Health – Rome, September 26-29, 2007)
- vi. European Conference organized by the EU Portuguese Presidency on “Health and Migration in EU: Better health for all in an inclusive society”- (Lisbon, Portugal – September 27 and 28, 2007). Since the conference was relevant for the WP7 - VPD and migrants, inputs has been provided to the WP7 leader and WP7ST through the website NWA and all material has been posted in the Public are of the website.

To facilitate the dissemination of EpiSouth preparation and periodic updating of project’s outline and leaflet were done and uploading of updated versions was made in the public area of EpiSouth website (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.15. Project’s outline and no. 16. Project’s leaflet*).

In the occasion of the EpiSouth Conference in April 2010 also a Project Brochure/WPs Fact Sheets was prepared and disseminated (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.17. Project’s Fact Sheets*).

Monitoring of the project’s activities was regularly done through constant contacts with WPs leaders and compilation of Monitoring Sheets (prepared on the basis of the Yearly Project’s Work Plan).

#### **f) Activities undertaken in relation to other WPs**

During the project implementation specific support was done to the WPs especially with regards to the preparation of questionnaires for data collection and surveys, the data analysis and the finalisation of reports. Technical and logistic support was done in the organisation of the Training Modules (WP5) and Steering Team Meetings (WP6 and WP8) also because the participation of Non-EU Countries was managed by ISS with the funds of the Italian Ministry of Health. During the project implementation period several other activities were performed to accomplish the WP1 objectives as reported in detail in Table 4.

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#### **PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND SOLUTIONS**

Minor problems were encountered during the implementation, and the majority of them was due, as already reported, to the successful enlargement. Coordination involving all partners had to be very close to ensure the needed collaboration of all the participants. Issues related to appropriate feedback, governance and decision making process had to be addressed and were still under discussion during the 4<sup>th</sup> Project Meeting in April 2010.

The Network building Process presented many challenges as they are reported and discussed in the related project documents. In addition, as the non-EU countries participation to the activities was

possible through the support of TAIEX and the Italian Ministry of Health, different kind of arrangements were requested and carried out with some additional burden due to the administrative and logistic aspects.

The recruitment process of the fulltime coordinator was finalised in March 2007. So, during the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year the Project leader, the Statistician and the Data manager could reduce their support to the project management in terms of total days worked as reported also in the financial report.

Out of the other two positions planned, the position for the full-time Technical Assistant was finally posted and selection made with the starting of the contract on 10 June 2008.

The other position planned (Epidemiologist) has been posted and the selection process has been concluded in September 2008.

### **3.1.2 WP 2 Dissemination of the results**

The objective of WP2 is to disseminate the information produced by the EpiSouth Project. In particular, the specific objectives are:

- to create an ad hoc web-site (in English) with a public area and a restricted area accessed by the project's participants by mean of a personal ID and password;
- to release an electronic bulletin (in English) to be sent by e-mail to the needed recipients;
- to participate to European congresses, conferences, etc. of interest for the project, in order to communicate the results of the Project to a scientific audience;
- to present the project results publishing articles in peer-reviewed journals;
- to organize the press releases for the project's meetings and conferences.
- to support the other WPs activities, in connection with the use of the project web-site.

#### **Activities undertaken in relation to the objectives**

The activities carried out during the three years of the project have been related to all these specific objectives plus others that were not specifically foreseen.

In particular, the activities undertaken have been:

1. subcontracting CINECA for the construction and maintenance of the ad hoc project web-site and sustain constant contact with them.
2. opening, constant maintenance and regular updating (during all the period) of the public area of the web-site and the restricted working area of the web-site ( Network Working Area-NWA) accessed by all the EpiSouth participants by a personal user ID and password;
3. release of a quarterly electronic bulletin summarising the information presented in the project's web-site, sending it by e-mail to the selected institutions in the participating and non-participating EU and non-EU, neighbouring countries, as well as to European and international institutions (EC, ECDC, WHO, etc.), and to people who register for this service in

the web-site. Therefore, the mailing list of the recipients has been constantly updated. Information on its publication is given in national and European bulletins.

4. submission and preparation of abstracts for oral presentations and posters and participation to several national and international congresses, conferences, etc. of interest for the project, in order to disseminate its results to a scientific audience;
5. publication of articles in peer-reviewed journals and other kind of scientific journal, to present the project results;
6. organizing the press coverage for the first EpiSouth activities in English and Arabic October 2007, March 2009, April 2010 and October 2010;
7. participation to the preparatory meetings of the project network meetings in cooperation with the other WPs
8. support to WP3 for the preparation of the on-line evaluation questionnaires;
9. support to WP4 for designing the on-line directory of the partners' institutions;
10. support to WP5 for designing the on-line directory of the training courses and fellowships;
11. support to WP6 for designing the on-line cross-border epidemic intelligence platform with alerts originating from partners, the tool for on-line posting of epi-bulletins, thematic notes and informative notes;
12. support to WP7 for the preparation of the on-line questionnaire "Assessment of Countries Migration Status Profile & Vaccination Access of Migrant Population".
13. support to WP8 for the preparation of the on-line questionnaire for the Directory on Human Public Health (HPH) and Veterinary Public Health (VPH) officials.
14. support to WP3 for the preparation of the reports and for the statistical analysis of the survey results;
15. support to WP7 and WP8 for the preparation of the reports and for the statistical analysis of the survey's results
16. support to the revision of the Four WPs Strategic Documents.

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#### DELIVERABLES ACHIEVED

- The EpiSouth web-site was opened since March 2007.
- The issue n.0 of the EpiSouth quarterly electronic bulletin was delivered in September 2007. Since then 11 issues of the bulletin were released (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no. 18*) with the Mailing list of the recipients constantly updated.
- The EpiSouth project and its activities were presented and discussed in several Conference and seminars (*for the detailed list see the Table n.6*)

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#### DESCRIPTION OF INDICATORS OF ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

Both the public and restricted areas of the project's web-site were maintained and updated at least quarterly.

An increase in the number of monthly visitors and accesses in the public area have been observed since April 2007, when the public area of the web site was first opened (see figure below).

In the whole period (April 2007 - June 2010) there have been 43,549 different visitors for a total of 67,567 visits to the public area of the web-site.

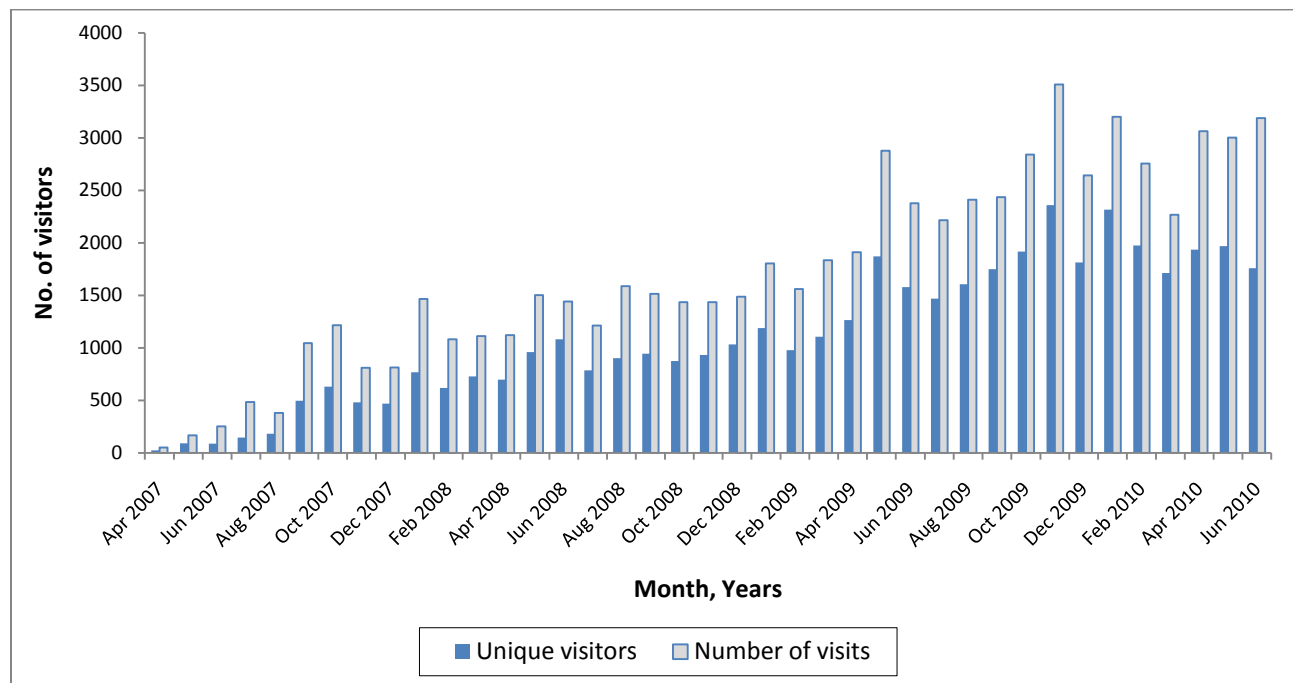


Figure 1 – Access to the EpiSouth website, April 2007 – June 2010

However, the number of visits per visitor, as well as the number of visited pages for visit, has declined. This could indicate a change in the profile of the users (initially driven from a general curiosity and now driven from specific interests).

In the restricted Network Working Area (NWA) a total of 564 documents have been uploaded with a total of 7,509 downloads and an average of 13.3 downloads per document. Only 15 topics have been posted in the forum areas with a total of 29 replies. A total of 38 meetings/events have been uploaded (20 internal events and 18 external events).

The “Enter Data” session was opened in January 2008; since than 5 on-line questionnaires have been prepared in collaboration with WPs, uploaded in the EpiSouth Members area for the on-line compilation (in collaboration with CINECA) and compiled on-line by the Project’s Focal Points:

1. WP3: Evaluation of WP1-WP5 activities;
2. WP3: Evaluation of WP6-WP8 activities;
3. WP4: Directory of institutions partners;
4. WP7: Assessment of migration status and vaccination access;
5. WP8: Directory of HPH/VPH Officials.

The full contact details of all the EpiSouth participants have been made available in this restricted area.

The Cross-Border Alert Platform was opened in November 2009 with 40 new alerts and 28 follow-up posted by seven different EpiSouth countries.

11 issues of the electronic bulletin were released and sent to all people included in the mailing list and uploaded in the specific section of the public area of the we-site.

The mailing list of the recipients has been quarterly updated including all people who registered to receive the bulletin through the on-line form, and other from different sources. The number of recipients increased from 501 in September 2007 (date of release of the issue n.0) up to a database of 1,138 in July 2010 (date of release of the issue n. 11).

Technical support was given to the WPs not only for the preparation of on-line questionnaires, but also for on-line directories (Directory of Public Institutions, Directory of HPH/VPH contacts and Directory of Training Courses and Fellowships) and data analysis, development of the cross-border alerts secured platform; the tool for on-line posting of epi-bulletins, thematic notes and informative notes, and for the preparation of reports.

In the whole project period posters and oral presentation providing an overview of the EpiSouth Project and WPs activities were submitted and presented to several scientific events (*for details see Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.18 and the List of presentation and dissemination of EpiSouth activities at International Conference and Workshops under the coordination and support of WP2 in the Table 6*).

Moreover, publications describing the project were made available:

1. Article published in the Journal edited by the Italian National Institute of Health (ISS) Vol. – N. 4, April 2008-ISSN 0394-9303;
2. Article published in *Eurosurveillance* 2009;14(5):pii=19113
3. Article published in the Journal edited by Cineca *Notizie dal Cineca* 2008 n. 62/63.
4. EpiSouth collection of survey reports on ISS publication (ISTISAN Report 10/6).
5. Proceedings of the Health Threats Conference

The EpiSouth link in the website of Public Health Institutions was activated and EpiSouth announcements were posted in the ENPI INFO Center/EuroMed and the PPRD South Portals.

Several press coverage on EpiSouth Network and activities have been made available (*for details see Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.18*).

Press releases on EpiSouth activities were published in October 2007, March 2009 and April 2010 in occasion of the first and the final project meeting respectively.

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#### PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND SOLUTIONS

Major problems have not been registered for this WP during the project implementation.

The web site and the members area (NWA) were considered appropriate to the aim of sharing information and data, even if 20% of the enabled users did not ever access the NWA and the forum was certainly underused.

Additional efforts should be deployed to ensure high impact factor publications. Other minor problems have produced delay that did not undermine the performance of the expected activities.

The issue of data sharing and their use should always consider the need of National authorities approval, which can sometimes cause some delays.

During the project implementation period several other activities were performed to accomplish the WP2 objectives as reported in detail in Table 4.

### **3.1.3 WP 3 Evaluation of the project**

The EpiSouth official planning document specifies completion and acceptance criteria to evaluate the project. The first comprise:

- Deliverables on time and compliant to what was foreseen initially,
- Respect of deadlines by all partners and
- Results measurable and satisfying.

Acceptance criteria at the end of project include:

- Deliverables on time and in compliance with the plan,
- Measurable results,
- Results satisfying in quality, validated and endorsed by peers,
- Web-site with a strategy for sustainability on the long term,
- Progression over the three years of visits to the website, increase of identified partners in the Mediterranean countries (outside EU), increased dissemination of bulletins, increase of the interest /attendees to the training courses,
- Analysis of the profile of users and visitors to the site,
- Content of final report compliant with the whole description of the project and the deliverables mentioned under each work package,
- References to the financial support of the Commission.

WP3 goals are to evaluate EpiSouth in terms of:

- Respect of the scheduled milestones and deliverables according to the project WPs,
- Achievement of the stated project indicators, both for quantitative and qualitative aspects,
- Active participation of both associated and collaborating countries in the project activities.

In order to accomplish the above mentioned goals the activities carried out by WP3 during the first year included the following:

- Criteria for evaluating the quality of the process (activities indicators) and of the outcomes (output indicators) were jointly defined during the first EpiSouth Steering Committee in Venice (December 2006), on the basis of a proposal made by the WP3leader.
- An Evaluation Work-plan was drafted and posted on the Steering Committee section of the web-site and later also on the Network Working Area..

The Evaluation Plan (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.20-Evaluation Plan & questionnaires*) gives attention both to aspects critical for the process of Network building and to specific elements of individual WPs. As far as Network building is concerned the key question to which EpiSouth's evaluation Plan has been designed to answer is: "How far has the project contributed to resources and information sharing among the Network's members?". With regard to the vertical packages the main question will be: "Have specific WP's delivered their products and achieved their objectives ?" The Plan identifies the sources which will be used to assess the project's degree of success, e.g. Key products and Web site frequency of use and customers' satisfaction and spells out the Final evaluation report's outline.

WP3 contributed to the preparation of the First and Second EpiSouth Conferences and actively participated to the former.

Three activities not specifically foreseen by the official agreement were also carried out, i.e. monitoring and evaluation questionnaire were designed to assist in the collection and analysis of information concerning the project's progress, two of these questionnaires were distributed and their results analysed and finally meeting management principles relevant to EpiSouth were made explicit.

More specifically six questionnaires were designed to investigate the project's main aspects. Most questions included in such tools are closed and some are open; such structure will make the process of collection and analysis easier. The questionnaires include the following:

- i) EpiSouth Meeting Evaluation Tool,
- ii) EpiSouth Network Development Monitoring Tool,
- iii) EpiSouth Network Development Evaluation Tool: Framework/ horizontal packages (WP1 to WP5),  
EpiSouth Vertical Packages Evaluation Tools:
- iv) Cross border epidemic intelligence (WP6),
- v) Vaccine preventable diseases and migrant populations (WP7),
- vi) Epidemiology and preparedness to cross border zoonotic infections (WP8).

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#### EPISOUTH MEETING EVALUATION

The questionnaires concerning Meeting management were distributed during the Rome, Athens and Sofia Project Meetings, the answers analysed, commented and made available on the project's web-site (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.21-Reports on Meeting Evaluation*).

Meeting management principles were formulated, presented to the first EpiSouth conference in Rome and adopted by the participants.

The Reports related to each Meeting have been shared during the Project implementation only internally among the participants. Nevertheless, the results of the three questionnaire submitted have been reported in the Final Evaluation Report that is available in the Public Area of EpiSouth website.

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#### EPISOUTH NETWORK DEVELOPMENT MONITORING

The questionnaires concerning the Network development were distributed during the Four Project Meetings (Rome, Athens, Sofia and Roma), the answers analysed, commented and made available on the project's web-site. In particular:

- the results of the questionnaires submitted in Rome (2007) and Athens (2007) have been reported in the Report *Monitoring Tool of Network Development: results from the questionnaire distributed during the Second Project Meeting (Athens, 10-12 December 2007- EpiSouth Report 3/2008;*
- the results of the questionnaires submitted in Sofia (2009) have been reported in the *Monitoring Report (October 2006- March 2009) EpiSouth Report 8/2009;*
- the results of the questionnaires submitted in Rome (2010) have been reported in the *Final Evaluation Report EpiSouth Report 12/2010.*

(For further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.22-23 and 24).

i) **EpiSouth Network Development Evaluation Tool: Framework/ horizontal packages (WP1 to WP5) and EpiSouth Vertical Packages Evaluation**

With the aim to assess EpiSouth management and content related activities through the eyes of participants, two questionnaires were designed and uploaded in the project web site to allow on line compilation to the project Focal Points (FPs) in two occasions, i.e. before the Sofia meeting (2009) and before the project closure (2010).

The results of the 1<sup>st</sup> round compilation are reported in the *Monitoring Report (October 2006- March 2009) EpiSouth Report 8/2009;* the results of the 2<sup>nd</sup> round compilation are reported

In the *Final Evaluation Report EpiSouth Report 12/2010.*

Network construction and development was EpiSouth primary goal and also a pre-requisite to the accomplishment of vertical packages objectives. The Sofia Conference represented an important step for the project because it was the last project meeting before its concluding convention. That meeting was also an opportunity to collect information on how the EpiSouth

Network had evolved that far and how it could grow in the future. It was a chance to reveal challenges, opportunities and options for further progress directly through the voices of participants.

In order to identify key topics to be discussed more in depth during the Sofia meeting and better direct the attention of the group discussion on issues critical to the project success, a questionnaire was sent to all focal points and a convenience sample of EpiSouth focal points working for national institutions were individually interviewed by phone during the months of February-March 2009.

The questionnaire and the interviews covered topics related to network building, its results so far, and future perspectives. More specifically, topics relevant to Network development included:

- trust, cohesion and actual collaboration among participants,
- exchange of data, information and knowledge,
- strengthening of each other,
- development of solutions to common problems.

Although the time span of the EpiSouth project was necessarily constrained by administrative rules, it was deemed important that EU Commission executives providing political and financial support, project managers, and members maintained a long term horizon sharing a vision. Therefore the questionnaire and the individual interviews also explored the future of EpiSouth. The topics covered by the two instruments (interviews and questionnaires) were similar. 24/56 (43%) eligible FPs from 21 countries (6 EU and 15 non-EU) either replied to the questionnaire or were interviewed.

The opinions and ideas collected through this exercise were presented to the Sophia meeting's participants with two aims: first to provide a feed back on what members thought and second to offer food for thought to the small groups meetings. The results of the questionnaires and the interviews have been reported in the *Final Evaluation Report - EpiSouth Report 12/2010*.

In the *Monitoring Report (October 2006- March 2009)- EpiSouth Report 8/2009-* all the results collected with the Project evaluation tools at the mid-term of project implementation were reported and discussed. The final analysis of all the project monitoring phases was performed and discussed in the *Final Evaluation Report EpiSouth Report 12/2010*.

During the project implementation period several other activities were performed to accomplish the WP3 objectives as reported in detail in Table 4.

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#### PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND SOLUTIONS

- Draft Mid-term evaluation Report (01/10/2006-30/09/2008) - Delays occurred due to the decision to include the interviews and meeting discussion groups results.**

**Action taken.** A Project Monitoring report was prepared covering the period from October 2006 to March 2009 including WP1-WP5 and WP6-WP8 on-line questionnaires, third meeting evaluation

questionnaires, analysis of individual interviews and questionnaires as well as the analysis of the web site utilization.

**ii. Reports of Meeting & Networking Evaluation Questionnaires. Delays occurred due to the decision to include analysis of Meeting & Networking Evaluation Questionnaires in the Monitoring report (Oct 06-Mar 09)**

**Action taken.** The results of the third meeting evaluation questionnaires were included in the Project Monitoring Report (October 2006- March 2009).

Second round of the evaluation Questionnaires (WP1-WP5) - In accordance with the coordinator, due to the number of questionnaires to be filled by participants and in view of the project extension, it was decided not to burden participants by postponing the date for completion and updating.

Second round of the evaluation Questionnaires (WP1-WP5 and WP6,7 and 8) - Due to the number of activities to be completed toward the preparation of the final conference, in accordance with the coordinator, it was decided to postpone the date for completion and updating to the last two months of the project after the final conference. Therefore the questionnaires were revised and made available on the website in May 2010.

Regular reminders were sent to the FPs.

Some of the above mentioned activities were not specifically foreseen by the official agreement but were considered useful to the completion of WP3 mandate and more in general to EpiSouth success.

#### **3.1.4 WP 4 Network of Public Health Institutions**

“To facilitate the networking process and activities among participants of EpiSouth in order to strengthen solidarity and cohesion within the Community by bringing together also the non-EU countries in South of Europe, including Mediterranean bordering ones” the main activities during the second year of the project have been oriented to the development of the following: to organize the second networking meeting and produce the related proceedings; to prepare the directory of participating public health institutions; to draw up the guidelines for the three strategic documents; to design the networking workplan 2008.

#### **THE MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN DURING THE PROJECT'S FIRST YEAR WERE AS FOLLOWS:**

- The first Steering Committee Meeting was organised in collaboration and under the supervision of WP1. The meeting took place in Venice on 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> December 2006 with the participation of the Steering Committee members and EC and ECDC representatives. The meeting venue was located at *Centro Culturale Don Orione Artigianelli*, where people were accommodated and also facilities for the meeting were available.
- A Network plan draft was illustrated and consensus was reached on the proposal.

- The Networking workplan was prepared on the occasion of the 1<sup>st</sup> project Meeting in Rome, submitted to the attention of the participants and finally produced as Networking Framework Document
- In collaboration with WP1, contribution was made to (re)designing the Networking content and process. Since the number of national and international institutions and people invited to attend the meeting was higher than originally expected, it was decided to strengthen the networking through a number of actions, namely: the proposition to some written networking principles to agree with; the enlargement of the Steering Committee by including ECDC, EC-SANCO-E3 observers as WHO representatives; the identification of Country Focal points of EpiSouth Network; the setting up of WPs Steering Teams (participants were left free to join WPs based on their own interests).
- Networking process was facilitated by adopting a participatory approach: consensus about contents and participation during the meeting, rotation in the facilitator and moderator roles.
- The WP4 Steering team constituted by Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Israel and Kosovo was established.
- In cooperation with WP2, the permanent communication tool was set up, including a restricted area of work on web-site Members's private area was created (NWA Network Working Area).
- A "directory framework" was prepared by WP4 and illustrated during the 1<sup>st</sup> project Meeting in Rome. This was intended to be a basis for designing a detailed questionnaire. The framework was agreed by all participants.
- The draft questionnaire concerning partner institutions was uploaded on the project Web-site (WP4 ST Members Area) for testing the completion. Revision and comments were requested to Steering Team members. No relevant comments were made and the final validated version of the questionnaire was prepared.
- A participant for WP4, a regional representative, attended the WP5 Training Module scheduled in Madrid from 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> September 2007.

#### MILESTONES AND DELIVERABLES ACHIEVED

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**M3** Networking plan prepared and produced as Networking Framework Document

**M6** Preparation of questionnaire for collecting information for Directory (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.25 -Network Institutions Questionnaire*)

**M7** Permanent communication tool activated, with WP2

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#### THE ACTIVITIES, UNDERTAKEN DURING THE PROJECT'S SECOND YEAR WERE AS FOLLOWS:

- The preparatory meeting of the Second Project meeting was attended in Athens to discuss the tentative agenda for the 2nd EpiSouth Steering Committee, to define working timetable, roles, responsibilities as well as organisational aspects in cooperation with WP1, WP2, WP3 and WP8.
- Guidelines draft for the three strategic documents were prepared and agreed in cooperation with WP6,7 and 8 to be discussed during the meeting and particularly during the parallel sessions time.
- Second Project Networking meeting proceedings were prepared in cooperation with WP1. The meeting report summarising the meeting outcomes was prepared, submitted to the project

coordinator for revision and uploaded in the NWA for comments and contributions. The final agreed version was finally uploaded in the public area of the project website. Meeting proceedings documents were included in a CD-Rom and sent to all meeting participants and absent Focal Points.

- Networking framework 2008 was designed by taking into account the evolution of the EpiSouth network and the availability of common communication tools. Networking objectives, activities, different levels of responsibility, networking tools and information management were defined. The document has been uploaded in the NWA
- Validated on-line questionnaire for the directory was uploaded in the website Members' area. Instructions on how to fill in the on-line forms were sent to all Focal Points.
- All partners were requested to fill in the questionnaire regarding the directory information on the website. The questionnaire was completed and uploaded in the website by a number of partners. Questionnaires were revised and validated by the WP leader. Regular communications and reminders inviting all the project Focal Points to compile the questionnaire were sent.
- In cooperation with WP2 and WP1 as well as with CINECA, the first version of the directory of institutions was made available on the web site.

#### MILESTONES AND DELIVERABLES ACHIEVED

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**M15** Second networking meeting in Athens organised

**M16** On-line questionnaire for collecting information for Directory available in the website (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.25 -Network Institutions Questionnaire*)

**M18** Proceedings of the Second Project Meeting prepared (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no. 8*).

**M24** Networking Framework 2008 prepared (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no. 26*).

**M24** First version of Directory of participating institutions prepared

#### DESCRIPTION OF INDICATORS OF ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

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- N. 84 attendees in the Second networking meeting in Athens
- N. 16/30 on-line questionnaires uploaded and validated
- Minutes of the Second Project Meeting prepared and included in the meeting proceedings
- N. 106 CD-Roms including Second Project meeting proceedings prepared and sent to meeting participants and project Focal Points
- Draft Networking Framework 2008 prepared
- First version of Directory of participating institutions prepared
- 53,33% of participating institutions included in the Directory first version

## PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND HOW PROBLEMS WERE RESOLVED

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- WP4 questionnaire return rate not satisfactory.
- Action taken. Various reminders were made and sent to the participants. Next steps: regular reminders will be sent to Focal Points representing missing institutions in order to complete the Directory and have all countries represented. Focal Points of institutions already included in the Directory will be invited to update the data, if necessary.

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## THE ACTIVITIES, UNDERTAKEN DURING THE PROJECT'S THIRD YEAR PLUS THE EXTENSION PERIOD WERE AS FOLLOWS:

- (M26) In cooperation with WP2 and WP1 as well as with CINECA, the directory of institutions was made accessible on the Web public area (16/26 participating countries included).
- (M25-M27-M33) Networking workplan 2008 was revised and included again in the WP4 and WP1 STWA as *Networking Framework document* in December 2008. Finally it was uploaded in the NWA (June 2009) for consensus and finalisation.
- (M28) The preparatory meeting of the Third Project meeting was attended in Sofia (12-13 January 2009) to discuss the tentative agenda of the 3<sup>rd</sup> project meeting in cooperation with non-EU countries representatives; to define working timetable, roles, responsibilities as well as organisational aspects in cooperation with WP1 and WP7, WP5, WP6 and WP8. In particular, strategic document outline, parallel sessions and discussion groups organisation were discussed in detail.
- (M28-M30) Contribution was given to the organisation of the Third Project meeting by finalizing the meeting agenda and approaches in strict coordination with WP1 and WP7. Exchanges of views and relevant meeting documents for consensus among WP leaders and ST members took place before the meeting.
- (M28-M29) A new simplified version of the Strategic document outline was drafted by taking into account the preparatory meeting discussions. Guidelines for drawing up the four strategic documents were prepared together with a roadmap. Parallel sessions working procedures were also prepared and sent to the concerned WP leaders in order to let them fruitfully lead the sessions.
- (M28-M30) Support was provided to the WP3 in the preparation of set of questions for meeting discussion as well as in the interviews of selected FPs.
- (M30) The WP4 took part in the 4<sup>th</sup> SC meeting as well as in the 3<sup>rd</sup> networking meeting by supporting WP1 and WP7, introducing working procedures and outputs for the 4 parallel sessions and facilitating the work in cooperation with WP5,6,7 and 8. During the plenary sessions partners were informed about the Strategic Document preparation roadmap and invited to contribute to

the elaboration. WP4 supported the organisation both of the parallel sessions and discussion groups.

- (M33-M36) Third Project Networking meeting proceedings were prepared in cooperation with WP1. The meeting report summarising the meeting outcomes was prepared on the basis of the collected meeting minutes, submitted to the project coordinator for revision. The final version was uploaded in the public area of the project website. Meeting proceedings documents were included in a CD-Rom and sent to all meeting participants and absent Focal Points.
- (M27-M36) Coordination work with WP5-WP6-WP7-WP8 was provided for drafting the strategic document. Strategic document editorial board, writing group and scientific board were defined in terms of composition, tasks, timetable and procedures.
- (M33-M36) Strategic document scientific board potential members were identified, contacted and invited either directly or through the coordinator or the related WP leader. Terms of reference (TOR) were prepared.
- (M37) The Strategic document Scientific Board composition was finalised; the list of names and TORs were sent to all concerned members. Writing teams drafted the SDs preliminary versions.
- (M38) The WP8 – Epidemiology and preparedness to cross-border emerging zoonoses Steering Team Meeting was attended in Malta (5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> November 2009) to support the preparation of the WP8 Strategic Document in collaboration with WP1.
- (M38) Organisational support was given to WP1 on the occasion of the 5<sup>th</sup> EpiSouth Steering Committee meeting in Venice (12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> November 2009); the meeting was attended to present the status of project activities and plan to June 2010 including financial aspects, to update on the Strategic document preparation and discuss operational next steps, to reflect on EpiSouth networking, final conference and future of the network.
- (M39) Questionnaires for Directory of institutions newly made available on-line for updating or completion.
- (M39-M41) Four telephone conferences were organised in collaboration with the SB chairman to comment the four Strategic Documents drafts with related WP writing teams and SB members. Documents were prepared and sent to the related attendees before the conferences. The discussions allowed to revise the documents for the final version.
- (M41) The preparatory meeting of the Fourth Project meeting was attended in Rome (4<sup>th</sup> February 2010) to discuss the tentative agenda of the 4<sup>th</sup> project meeting and final conference; to define working timetable, roles, responsibilities as well as organisational aspects in cooperation with WP1, WP5, WP6 and new partners of EpiSouth Plus phase. In particular, strategic document finalisation, EpiSouth project conclusion and way forward, conference contents were discussed in detail.
- (M41-M43) The revised version of the Strategic documents were received from the WP writing teams and/or directly newly sent to the SB members for final approval. Regular reminders were sent to the concerned WP leaders to comply with the roadmap.
- (M43) The final version of the Strategic documents were collected, revised in editing and included in one document prepared in cooperation with WP1 and WP2 and sent to WP2 for publication before the final conference.
- (M43) Organisation in cooperation with WP1 and participation in the 4<sup>th</sup> networking meeting. Participation in the final conference in Rome (20<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2010).

- (M43-M45) Fourth Project Networking meeting proceedings were prepared in cooperation with WP1. The meeting report summarising the meeting outcomes was prepared on the basis of the collected meeting minutes, submitted to the project coordinator for revision. The final version was uploaded in the public area of the project website.
- (M43-M45) Updated version of the Directory was uploaded on the website. 23 questionnaires representing 21/26 countries were completed. Some questionnaires were updated and/or newly uploaded. 81% of countries are represented in the Directory, 70% (23/33) of institutions are included (Libya not included as formally involved in the project second phase). Regular reminders were sent to FPs to complete or update the questionnaires; FPs were also contacted by phone in order to try to have all the countries represented by the end of the project.

#### MILESTONES AND DELIVERABLES ACHIEVED

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1. **M26** First version of Directory of participating institutions uploaded in the website public area
2. **M30** Third networking meeting in Sofia co-organised with WP1
3. **M33** Revised Networking Framework document uploaded in the website ENWA
4. **M36** Proceedings of the Third Project Meeting prepared
5. **M42** Updated version of participating institutions uploaded in the website public area
6. **M42** Four strategic documents prepared in collaboration of WP5,WP6,WP7 and WP8
7. **M42** Fourth networking meeting in Rome co-organised with WP1
8. **M45** Proceedings of the Fourth Project Meeting prepared
9. **M45** Final updated version of Directory of participating institutions uploaded in the website public area.

#### DESCRIPTION OF INDICATORS OF ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

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- First version of Directory of participating institutions prepared and made available in the website
- N. 62 attendees in the Third networking meeting in Sofia
- Revised Networking Framework prepared and uploaded in the website
- Third Project Meeting proceedings prepared
- N. 150 CD-Roms including Third Project meeting proceedings prepared and dispatched
- N. 23 questionnaires for Directory information collected, analysed and validated
- Updated version of Directory of participating institutions made available in the website
- Final version of the WP5,WP6,WP7 and WP8 strategic documents prepared in cooperation with WP1 and related WPs
- N.58 attendees in the Fourth networking meeting in Rome
- Fourth Project Meeting proceedings prepared
- N. 150 CD-Roms including Fourth Project meeting proceedings prepared
- Final version of Directory of participating institutions made available in the website.

## PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND HOW PROBLEMS WERE SOLVED

- WP4 questionnaire return rate. To September 2009 16 institutions among 30 filled up the questionnaire. Additional questionnaires were completed and uploaded on the web site but they needed revision before validation.

Action taken. Various reminders were made and sent to participants both for revision and completion. Due to the number of other questionnaires to be fulfilled by the participants and in view of the project extension, in accordance with the coordinator, it was decided not to burden the participants by postponing the date for completion and updating.

The questionnaires were newly made available on the website for completion and/or updating in December 2009. Regular reminders were sent to Focal Points representing missing institutions in order to complete the Directory and have all countries represented before the end of the project (concerned Focal Points were contacted also by phone). Focal Points of institutions already included in the Directory were invited to update the data, if necessary.

- The participation of a WP4 representative in the 3<sup>rd</sup> EpiSouth Steering Committee in Brussels was not possible due to unexpected health problems.

Action taken. All the documents requested related to WP4 to be presented in Brussels (WP achievements, delays and challenges; WP monitoring sheet and workplan for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year) were prepared and sent to the project coordinator in due time. The presentations were made by WP3 representative.

## ACTIVITIES RELATED TO OTHER WORK PACKAGES:

### i. WP2

- Support to the preparation of dissemination documents (poster) for [The First East Mediterranean Public Health Network \(EMPHNET\) and the 4th TEPHINET Regional Scientific Conference \(Amman, Jordan, 19-21 October 2009\)](#) in cooperation with WP1.

### ii. WP3

- Support to the preparation of the six questions for all FPs on future expectations, activities and funding. Dispatch of questionnaires, collection of replies.
- Support to in depth phone interviews to 10 selected FPs on future expectations, activities and funding. Conduction of some interviews in French language.

During the project implementation period several other activities were performed to accomplish the WP4 objectives as reported in detail in Table 4.

### 3.1.5 WP 5 Training in field /applied epidemiology

#### OBJECTIVES FOR THE WP5

Focused into the main WP5 objectives: strengthen the early response capacity of the participating countries to health threats and infectious diseases spread by:

- i. Identifying training needs related to the vertical WP in participating countries, in particular WP6, WP7; WP8
- ii. Organising short term training courses to comply with identified training needs and other WP objectives
- iii. Promoting the participation to already existing European training courses (to be undertaken during the second year of the project)

#### ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO REACH THE OBJECTIVES DURING THE 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR

- a) The WP5 Steering Team (WP5ST) was set in April 2007.

#### RELATED THE FIRST OBJECTIVE:

- b) Preparation of the questionnaire to identify training needs
  - Discussion with Steering Team members to identify the main topics to take account in the training needs assessment.
  - Searched, reviewed, information regarding needs assessment, skills, knowledge on epidemiology surveillance, early warning response, commonly used tools (e.g. statistical packages), communication systems, dissemination, decision making and other gaps to be detected.
  - Discussion with WP5 Steering Team on topics, reviewed information to draw a preliminary needs assessment questionnaire
  - Drafts questionnaires made
  - Collected comments and drafts reviewed from WP5ST
  - Final version of pre-tested questionnaire on training needs surveillance sent to the WP5ST and the rest of the participating countries Compilation follow up

#### RELATED THE SECOND OBJECTIVE:

- c) Organization of the First Training Module with two sessions: Workshop on International Surveillance Systems and a specific training on Analysis of surveillance data (time series and spatial analysis) (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.28-First Training Module*).

### Other activities undertaken:

- d) Establishing links with the EPIET and Field Epidemiology Training Programmes in order to open ways to disseminate EPISOUTH Project onto International Scientific forum (as ESCAIDE)

### MILESTONES AND DELIVERABLES ACHIEVED

#### Milestones:

- a) Preliminary draft report Survey on training needs  
b) First training module carried out

#### Deliverables:

- c) Teaching materials on the First Training Module sent to all participants on Cd-rom and uploaded in the website (containing Presentations done by experts and participants, temporary series and spacial analysis with their practice exercises; “R” statistical programme, etc)

### DESCRIPTION OF INDICATORS OF ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

Activity	Indicator	
Survey on training needs among EpiSouth participants	Nº of countries answered the survey	18
	Draft report on training need prepared	(to be reviewed by WP5ST and uploaded on the Website)
1st Training Module carried out	Done	YES
	Nº of subjects in the training modules developed with other WP	Vaccination and Migrant Population; International Surveillance in France (WP6)
	Nº of participants in the first module	33
	Evaluation forms for the training module filled and analysed)	(to be reviewed by WP5ST and be disseminated)

### Outputs and indicators

Output	Indicator	
Teaching materials from training sessions	First Module available in the web – site	Available

### PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND SOLUTIONS FOUND

Due to the steering team building process, the survey on training needs was delayed, and therefore the first module was postponed. In addition, the process of coordination with the training

Steering Team was slow and difficult. It take more time and effort than it was expected. So we need to detect what kind of difficulties has had each one to work in a real network.

In relation to the survey on training needs, the process of collecting the filled questionnaires was longer than expected. The countries answered the questionnaire after the deadline. In fact, most of them sent their responses at the end of August. In addition many of them delivered incomplete responses, and other countries have not answered the questionnaire at all.

The actions to be taken to solve the difficulties explained above were: active validation and quality control of the data collected.

The report of the survey on training needs is not still available. Due to the reasons mentioned above the database was not achieved until the end of October 07.

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#### ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO REACH THE OBJECTIVES IN THE SECOND YEAR

The activities done have been jointly decided within the Steering Team.

##### RELATED THE FIRST OBJECTIVE :

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2. a) Discussion with WP5ST, collected comments and draft reviewed from WP5ST to finalise the report on the training needs assessment carried out during the first year of the project.

2.b) An article on Training Needs Assessment in EpiSouth community has been published in a Turkey Journal of Health

##### RELATED THE SECOND OBJECTIVE:

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2. c) Discussion with WP5 Steering Team on the participants' profile for the Second Training Module

2.d) Discussion with WP5ST on the topics and experts for the training module

2.e) In coordination with WP1, organizational activities (e-mails, faxes and telephone calls for participants, experts, embassies for getting visas, registration forms for the module, etc) related to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Training Module organisation. Other activities undertaken by ISCIII: elaboration of the training materials, work sessions, focus group and case study for workshop, etc.

2.f) Second Training Module with two sessions: Workshop on *Epidemic Intelligence and Risk Assessment*. *IHR*; and *Limitation for emerging infectious diseases control at national level*. And a

specific training on *Risk assessment* and an Overview on *Modelling Infectious Diseases Introduction to models and dynamics*.

2.g) Training materials, diplomas and CD's

**Other activities undertaken:**

- a) Establishing links with the EPIET and Field Epidemiology Training Programmes in order to open ways to disseminate EPISOUTH Project onto International Scientific forum (as ESCAIDE)
- b) Explored funding possibilities: mainly FM7 and Spanish Cooperation Agency

**MILESTONES AND DELIVERABLES ACHIEVED**

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3. a) Survey report on training needs (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.27-Training Needs Questionnaire*)

3. b) Second training module carried out

**The deliverables:**

3.c) Teaching materials on the Second Training Module (containing Presentations done by experts and participants, Modelling on Infectious Diseases with their practice exercises; Berkeley Madonna demo- programme, etc) (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.29*).

## DESCRIPTION OF INDICATORS OF ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

Activity	Indicator	
Survey on training needs among EpiSouth participants (Done during the first year)	Nº of countries answered the survey	18
Report finished during the second year	Final report on training need prepared	Reviewed by WP5ST and uploaded on the Website
2nd Training Module carried out	Done	YES
	Nº of subjects in the training modules developed with other WP	2 subjects: Vaccination (WP7) & International Surveillance (WP6)
	Nº of participants in the first module	28
	Evaluation forms for the training module filled and analysed (to be finished and reviewed by WP5ST)	(to be reviewed by WP5ST and disseminated)

## Outputs and indicators

Output	Indicator	
Directory of training courses and fellowship	Directory prepared (in draft version) but not yet shared with WP5ST	To be shared and reviewed by ST and made operational
Teaching materials from training sessions	Second Module available in the web –site	Link on the website created

## PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND SOLUTIONS FOUND

Some delays and constraints were encountered during this second year.

For making the directory training courses we found more complex than expected to concretize the ideas in a web format.

The process of coordination and communication with the training Steering Team have not been so smooth as wished. People involve (FPs) have many other priorities and pressures for sending feedback. We could need to carry out some motivating activities to facilitate them the access and real participation

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## ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO REACH THE OBJECTIVES IN THE 3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR PLUS EXTENSION

Activities done have been jointly decided within the Steering Team.

### Related to the first objective :

2. b) Discussion with WP5ST focused on zoonoses aspects for preparing the Third training module. Close collaboration reached with the Hellenic Centre of Diseases Control and Prevention (Greece) and our partners from the WP8, and the ECDC. With this third module the most relevant prioritised topics as per training needs assessment have been covered. Despite of the high satisfaction and quality reached in the courses, further trainings would be needed for harmonising the procedures among the regions and this will be considered during the Second Phase of EpiSouth.

### Related the second objective:

c) Discussion with WP5 Steering Team on the participants' profile for the Third Training Module

2.d) Discussion with WP5ST the topics and experts for the training module

2.e) In coordination with WP1, organization activities (e-mails, faxes and telephone calls for participants, experts, embassies for getting visas, registration forms for the module, etc) for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Training Module. Other activities undertaken from ISCIII: elaboration of the training materials, work sessions, focus group and case study for workshop, etc

2.f) Third Training Module with two sessions: Workshops on *Lessons Learnt on Outbreak management and Risk Communication* ; And a specific training on *Multivariate analysis and Regression*.

2.e) Training materials, diplomas

### Other activities undertaken:

c) Establishing links with the EPIET and Field Epidemiology Training Programmes in order to open ways to disseminate EPISOUTH Project onto International Scientific forum (as ESCAIDE)

d) Explored funding possibilities: mainly FM7 and Spanish Cooperation Agency

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## MILESTONES AND DELIVERABLES ACHIEVED

3. a) Third training module carried out

### The deliverables:

3.c) Teaching materials on the Third Training Module (containing Presentations done by experts and participants, Multivariate analysis and Regression themes with their practice exercises; etc) (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.30*).

## DESCRIPTION OF INDICATORS OF ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

Activity	Indicator	
Third Training Module carried out	Done	YES
	Nº of subjects in the training modules developed with other WP	2 subjects: Outbreak management related to zoonoses (WP8 and ECDC) & Risk Communication (ECDC)
	Nº of participants in the first module	21*

\*Twenty –Seven registration forms were received during the process.

## Outputs and indicators

Output	Indicator	
Directory of training courses and fellowship	Directory prepared	Available. Some technical troubles delayed final implementation
Teaching materials from training sessions	Third Module available in the web –site	Link on the website created

An extra activity has been performed during this period: The Strategic Document on Training that was not planned in the Grant Agreement.

[http://www.EpiSouth.org/outputs/wp5/2\\_EpiSouth%20Strategic%20document%20on%20Training%20Rev%20luglio%202010.pdf](http://www.EpiSouth.org/outputs/wp5/2_EpiSouth%20Strategic%20document%20on%20Training%20Rev%20luglio%202010.pdf)

## PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND SOLUTIONS FOUND

Some delays and troubles were encountered during this last period year.

The preparation process of the training module has been affected by the H1N1 Pandemic Flue. On one side, countries took their time for sending their candidates. Twenty – seven Registration forms were received from 18 countries (12 of them were Non –EU countries), but only 21 attended the module. The needs in the departments and institutions of surveillance restricted the epidemiologists to go abroad. On the other side, find experts for delivering the lectures have also been affected by the same cause. The confirmation of the participation of some of them occurred few days before the start of the course.

Despite of these circumstances, a good number of participants attended the course and took advantage of it.

The directory training courses has taken more time than expected to implement.

The process of coordination and communication with the training Steering Team have been improved but just with some of the participants countries which coincides with those participating in the Steering Committee Meetings. This shows that the “face to face” communication helps greatly to create real links among professionals and institutions. Other communication tools should be explored (teleconferences through skype or others). Even though people involved have many other functions and priorities from their institutions and departments, and EpiSouth should not be felt as an additional task.

### **Differences between the programme and objectives foreseen and those actually conducted and achieved**

Activities regarding sustainability were not planned but the majority of the period has been focused on looking for funds for the future. Many proposals have been elaborated and presented to different national and international agencies.

Finally, another not –planned activity has been done: A Strategic Document on Training for the EpiSouth Region, containing a state of the art regarding training of the Public Health workforces and possible lines for collaboration in order to improve the common capacity for surveillance and response in the region (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.31- EpiSouth Strategic Document*)

## **3.1.6 WP 6 cross border epidemic intelligence**

### **THE WP6 OBJECTIVES:**

To establish a common platform on “epidemic intelligence” where participating countries may find broad internationally and regionally focused information. In particular:

- Monitoring of health events of international importance (e.g. Avian Flu, SARS) through identification of informal signals. After verification, analysis and interpretation, some signals will become genuine alerts that will be disseminated
- Addressing regional cross border issues by implementing a platform allowing participating partners to share national alerts of common interest. The need to share information with non EU neighbouring countries is important to secure public health within EU countries. Thus, Mediterranean countries should be considered as belonging to the same epidemiological group.

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## ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO REACH THE OBJECTIVES IN THE 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR

### Baseline analysis

- In order to provide a baseline, background information was collected. Actives searches were performed to identify available sources allowing detection of health threats that could affect EpiSouth countries.
- During the pilot phase these sources were explored and a number of crude signals corresponding to potential EpiSouth epidemic intelligence criteria were identified, verified and analysed. These data were used to assess the type of information that could be collected and eventually disseminated.
- Contacts have been made with the JRC team in charge of MediSys development. A meeting held in Ispra set the basis for the collaboration and possible developments needed for EpiSouth. Similar contacts and exchange of expertise has been maintained on a regular basis with the ECDC team in charge of epidemic intelligence.

### WP6 steering team

- The active implication of participating countries in the development of EpiSouth was confirmed in March 2007, during the first plenary EpiSouth meeting which was held in Rome. During this meeting, countries agreed not only to participate but also to contribute to the construction of EpiSouth through their active participation to WP Steering team (ST).
- For most countries, Epidemic Intelligence (EI) and Cross Border (CB) issues, represented somewhat, the newest, the most complex and possibly the most sensitive concept. To secure participation to the WP6, a bottom up approach was preferred.
- Following Rome's meeting, focal points of countries that had agreed to become member the WP6-ST were contacted.
- Strategic documents were elaborated and disseminated to the WP6 Steering Team in order to define WP6 concepts:
  - **Epidemic Intelligence (EI)**: monitoring of health events occurring **outside** EpiSouth catchments area but that could affect EpiSouth Countries.
  - **Cross border issues (CB)**: Health event occurring within EpiSouth (Early Warning and information sharing).
- The role of WP6 ST has been implicated in the elaboration of WP6 content (selection of criteria strategy etc.):

### EI and CB questionnaire

- An epidemic intelligence and cross border questionnaire was disseminated to WP6 ST in July 2007 to help assess perception and expectation of participating countries toward EpiSouth (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.32-Epidemic Intelligence assessment Questionnaire*).
- WP6-ST is made of Croatia, France, Israel, Jordan, Malta, Morocco and Tunisia, and then is considered as representative of the 4 EpiSouth sub-regions Southern EU countries, Balkans, Maghreb and Middle-East.

- The questionnaire was sent back by the WP6-ST. Answers were analysed and feedback was provided to the WP6-ST.

#### WP6 steering team consensus teleconference

- To allow active contribution of WP6-ST members to the elaboration of EI core components a teleconference has been organised and it will be held on 24<sup>th</sup> October. This teleconference, initially scheduled earlier, had to be postponed several times due to competing agendas (summer vacations, Ramadan...).
- The main objective of this teleconference is to define EpiSouth EI criteria, supports of communication etc. Information drawn from EI and CB questionnaire will be used as a basis for discussion questionnaire was send to WP6-SG. Answers were analysed and feedback was provided to the WP6-SG
- Criteria, strategy, etc. selected by the steering group will be presented to all participant countries for endorsement to the Athens meeting in December 2007.

#### Cross Border issue

- Procedures aiming to define information flow from all participating parties (Countries, ECDC, WHO) are under elaboration.
- First drafts will be presented for the plenary meeting in Athens in December 2007.
- Consensus of all concerned parties on cross border issue will be a prerequisite to posting of national alerts on EpiSouth secured Website.

#### MILESTONES AND DELIVERABLES YEAR 1

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- **Consensus Meeting:** Done during Venice Meeting in December 2006
- **Pilot secure Web Site :** postponed (see above for details)

#### INDICATORS AND OUTPUT

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- **Strategic EI and Cross border document posted:** During the first year 18 strategic documents concerning WP6 were posted on EpiSouth website leading to 72 downloads by each of the 11 authorised Users
- **EI and CB Questionnaire:** The WP6 questionnaire was elaborated and disseminated in July 2007, answers were collected in August and analysis completed by early September 2007.
- **Scientific Seminar.** The promotion of EpiSouth EI and CB activities has already been initiated. An abstract submitted in June for a Scientific seminar to be held in December Paris has been accepted for an oral presentation questionnaire was send to WP6-SG. Answers were analysed and feedback was provided to the WP6-SG (*for further details see also Table 6. Participation to Conferences*).

## MAIN DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PROGRAMME FORESEEN AND ACHIEVED

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### Effective start of the project

EpiSouth project was effectively launched in December 2006 with the consensus Meeting held in Venice.

However, implementation of WP6 full-fledged activities was conditioned to the recruitment of the fulltime epidemiologist required to develop EpiSouth related activities. Due to the late notice concerning the grant agreement and the difficulty to identify adequate candidate, this recruitment was only effective in May 2007. Therefore, implementation of WP6 core activities (including milestones and deliverables) had to be delayed accordingly.

### Cross border Activities

- Information sharing within EpiSouth countries is, somehow, the most sensitive issue. To prevent confusion between epidemic intelligence and cross border issues it has been decided to clearly separate both issues.
- Priority has been given to implementation of EI that will provide information from EpiSouth to the countries. The provision EI data to the countries *by EpiSouth* should build confidence in the overall project.
- In a second stage cross border issues, that will require countries to provide information concerning national health data *to EpiSouth*, will be developed.
- To prevent duplication and full contribution of main EpiSouth Partners: ECDC and WHO formal procedures have to be finalized and endorsed by all parties.

### Missions to participating countries

- Missions to participating countries had to be postponed. First, because of the delay in the effective start of the project (May 2007), but also because these missions would be more efficient after the endorsement of EI and CB procedures. The planned missions have then been postponed to year 2.

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## ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO REACH THE OBJECTIVES IN THE 2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR

- The first year of EpiSouth project, particularly for the “Cross-border Epidemic Intelligence” (CBEI) work package was dedicated to the implementation of CBEI activities.
- Cross-border epidemic intelligence WP due to its specificity is somehow a very sensitive WP. To prevent confusion between Epidemic intelligence and cross-border, the 1<sup>st</sup> part was mostly developed last year.
- Regular contacts and exchange of expertise have been maintained on a regular basis with the ECDC and MediSys JRC team in charge of epidemic intelligence.

### **WP6 steering group: Parallel session during Athens meeting**

- During the second plenary EpiSouth meeting which was held in Athens in December 2007, 4 new countries expressed their desire to integrate the EpiSouth project: Egypt, Montenegro, Palestine and Syria. During this Athens meeting, parallel sessions were organised on the specific vertical workpackage: WP6, WP7 and WP8.
- For most countries, Epidemic Intelligence (EI) and Cross Border (CB) issues, represented somewhat, the newest, the most complex and possibly the most sensitive concept. To secure participation to the WP6, a bottom up approach was preferred.
- As a consequence a specific parallel session for Epidemic Intelligence was organised, during Athens meeting, including: a “training” part on WP6 concepts and, a “case-study” part. This WP6 parallel session was very fruitful as we succeed to have consensual decisions from EpiSouth participating countries about the main orientations and activities of the WP6.
- Strategic documents were elaborated and disseminated to the WP6 parallel session participants in order to confirm and report WP6 decisions taken in Athens. Minutes of the WP6 parallel session are available in the Members Area of EpiSouth website.

### **Epidemic intelligence (EI) and cross-border (CB) report**

- Epidemic intelligence, the 1<sup>st</sup> part, was mostly developed last year. Baseline background information was collected among countries. Actives searches were performed to identify available sources allowing detection of health threats that could affect EpiSouth countries.
- Using the CBEI questionnaire (last July 2007), an interim report was sent to all participant countries in order to share the analysis of WP6 questionnaire answers. It helped to assess perceptions and expectations from participating countries towards EpiSouth.

### **WP6 steering team (ST) consensus teleconferences and preparation of the face-to-face meeting**

- WP6- steering team is composed by Croatia, France, Israel, Jordan, Malta, Morocco and Tunisia, and then is considered as representative of the 4 EpiSouth sub-regions Southern EU countries, Balkans, Maghreb and Middle-East. In 2008, 2 additional countries integrated the WP6 steering team: Montenegro and Palestine. Both countries were mostly welcomed and working time was spent for them in order to provide WP6 background and facilitate their integration in the WP6.
- To allow active contribution of WP6-ST members regarding the elaboration of EI core components, a first teleconference was held the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 2007. This teleconference, initially scheduled earlier, had to be postponed several times due to competing agendas.
- The main objective of this teleconference was to define EpiSouth EI criteria, supports of communication etc. Information drawn from EI and CB questionnaire was used as a basis for discussion.
- Criteria, strategy, etc. selected by the steering group have been presented to all participant countries for endorsement to the Athens meeting in December 2007.
- A second teleconference was held in July 2008, including the 2 new country members: Montenegro and Palestine. The objectives of this 2<sup>nd</sup> teleconference were the determination of EI activities to be developed during the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester 2008, of the eWEB bulletin pilot phase ending and the organisation of WP6 ST face-to-face meeting.

- For the WP6 ST face-to-face meeting, 2 countries were volunteers to host the steering committee: Jordan and Morocco. The preparation of the WP6ST started from the WP6 second teleconference performed in July 2008 where all members agreed on the dates for the meeting.

#### **EpiSouth Epidemiological Weekly Bulletin (eWEB) and thematic notes**

- One of the objectives of the WP6 in terms of Epidemic Intelligence (EI) is to implement and elaborate a tool for the communication of public health events that are of interest for the whole EpiSouth community. The edition of a weekly epidemiological bulletin providing information about international outbreaks occurring outside EpiSouth countries was planned for the year 2 after a good understanding of EI concepts.
- A pilot format of this weekly bulletin was proposed to all countries during Athens meeting last December 2007 for suggestion and comments.
- The EpiSouth Weekly Epidemiological Bulletin (eWEB) is distributed every Thursday and covers the previous period from the Wednesday morning to Tuesday evening.
- The first eWEB bulletin was produced and distributed to all participating countries on 27th March 2008. The 1st edition covered so the period from Wednesday 18th March to Tuesday 26th March 2008.
- A pilot phase of several months was dedicated for fine-tuning and adjustment regarding the format and the contents.
- Every week, the eWEB bulletin is archived in a database hosted in the secured EpiSouth website (*for further details see also Table 5 List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no. 33*).
- With CINECA partner, we elaborated a tool for interactive data queries in order to perform multicriteria researches on all bulletins. Multi criteria research could be done on 3 key points: the disease, the geographic area and the date.
- In addition to weekly epidemiological bulletin, thematic note were also produced. The objective of the thematic note is to develop deeply a complex epidemiological situation which needs further analysis and background.
- The 1st thematic note was edited on 3rd of April 2008 on Yellow Fever in South America (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.34*).
- At 30th September 2008, 27 eWEB bulletins and 5 thematic notes were edited and distributed.

#### **Cross Border issue: the development of the secured platform**

- Procedures aiming to define information flow from all participating parties (Countries, ECDC, WHO) are under elaboration.
- Consensus of all concerned parties on cross border EI procedures will be a prerequisite to posting of national alerts on EpiSouth secured Website.
- CB activities would be operational once the secured platform will be shared with the WP6 steering team
- In April 2008, WP6 team had a meeting with CINECA partner and WP1 and 2 in Roma, in order to agree about the elaboration of the Cross-border alert system platform. A pilot model was supposed to be delivered during the summer. Actually, a first version was available by the end of September and is currently under assessment.

- The CB alert platform functionalities will be discussed with the WP6 steering team in November 2008.
- The finalisation of this alert system is planned for the year 3.

## MILESTONES AND DELIVERABLES YEAR 2

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- Consensus Meeting: Done during Athens Meeting in December 2007 + 2 WP6 steering team teleconferences + preparation of WP6 face-to-face meeting
- Pilot secure Web Site: meeting with CINECA and joint collaboration with WP1 and 2.
- eWEB bulletin production and communication to all EpiSouth network
- Questionnaires contributions and compilation for: WP4 – 7 – 8
- French participation in the Madrid training module

## DESCRIPTION OF INDICATORS OF ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

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- **Strategic EI and Cross border document posted:** From the beginning, 51 strategic documents concerning WP6 were posted on EpiSouth website leading to 1022 visits, 962 downloads by one of the 51 authorised users among which 33 documents and 890 download for 2008.
- **An interim WP6 report:** A WP6 report was written and distributed in May 2008 providing an analysis of Cross-border Epidemic Intelligence situation in EpiSouth countries and a summary of needs and expectations regarding this specific workpackage (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website no. 35 Cross-Border Epidemic Intelligence evaluation: "Results from the questionnaire on countries' needs and xpectations"*).
- **Scientific Seminar:** The promotion of EpiSouth EI and CB activities (already initiated last year) was done in a French public conference (JVS) in Paris in November 2007. In addition, EpiSouth was presented also in another scientific symposium (EPITER) in Paris in March 2008 (*for further details see also Table 6.*).

## PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND HOW PROBLEMS WERE RESOLVED

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- **The WP6 steering committee meeting was initially planned in Jordan:** During Athens meeting, last December 2007, several countries from the WP6 steering team proposed to host the meeting and finally Jordan was chosen. Due to the political context in the Middle-East area, the possible welcome in Jordan was not possible. As, the second option was Morocco, the WP6 steering team meeting will be organised in Marrakech on 3-4 November 2008.

## DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE PROGRAMME AND OBJECTIVES FORESEEN AND THOSE ACTUALLY CONDUCTED AND ACHIEVED

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The implementation of WP6 full-fledged activities was conditioned by the recruitment of the fulltime epidemiologist which was effective last year in May 2007. However all required activities related to Epidemic Intelligence were accelerated and developed as much as possible. Unfortunately, at this date, the delay is still consequent and mainly regarding:

- the development of evaluation missions in participating countries,
- The development of the secured web site platform on cross-border alert sharing.

#### **i. Missions to participating countries**

Evaluation missions in participating countries were proposed in priority to countries which are members of the WP6 steering team as it appeared important to begin with countries which are very actively involved in the “Cross-border Epidemic Intelligence” work package. It has been considered that these missions would be more efficient after the endorsement of EI and CB procedures. Their approval also delayed the missions. For this year (2008), 2 missions were planned in Morocco and in Israel which were volunteers. The major difficulty is the specific context of Middle-East which remains sometimes delicate and improbable.

#### **ii. Cross border (CB) activities**

The development of cross-border issues was intentionally planned in a second stage (second year) as these cross border issues are sensitive. This part requires specific tools and, moreover, confidence of the different participants regarding the overall project as EpiSouth countries are supposed to share confidential information about their own national public health events.

The CB platform is supposed to be developed thanks to a collective effort from the WP6 steering team which has already worked through 2 teleconferences. This work will be continued during a face-to-face meeting that will be performed in Marrakech next November 2008.

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### **ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO REACH THE OBJECTIVES IN THE 3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR PLUS EXTENSION**

- The results of activities implemented during the 3 past years correspond to a gradual implementation strategy. During the first phase, the project focused on the evaluation of the regional context and the elaboration of adequate strategies acceptable by the countries.
- The active involvement of participating countries either through their representative within the WP steering group or during plenary session was actively promoted. This process “somewhat slow” was essential to build on confidence and create an ownership feeling.
- Human resources allocated to the EI and CB activities initially tailored for a 9 countries network were grossly underestimated. Although the team, was reinforced in July 2009, this additional support was essential to covers the monitoring of the a/h1n1 pandemic but was not enough to cover further development.
- Despite the difficulties met at the beginning, 17 non-eu countries have joined EpiSouth, highlighting the common need to exchange health information across the Mediterranean and the Balkans. In practice, perceptions and understanding of both EI and CB have notably

evolved since the first meeting in 2007. An evident sign of improvement is the high countries response rate to information requests regarding the A/H1N1 pandemic.

### **EpiSouth Epidemiological Weekly Bulletin (eWEB) and thematic notes**

- The EpiSouth electronic weekly epidemiological bulletin (e-web) has been issued since 19th march 2008 and is available on the EpiSouth website since April 2008.
- The e-web provides a weekly summary of new health events occurring in both non-EpiSouth and EpiSouth countries (providing that information is already public or directly provided by the affected EpiSouth country). Events are presented in a public health perspective.
- The e-web aims neither to present an exhaustive list of all “international health alerts” nor to provide weekly updates on previously reported health crises. E-webs are posted every Thursday on the EpiSouth website public area.
- Every week, the e-web bulletin is archived in a database hosted on the secured EpiSouth website.
- In addition to weekly epidemiological bulletin, thematic note were also produced. The objective of the thematic note is to develop deeply a complex epidemiological situation which needs further analysis and background.
- For both bulletins and thematic notes, all countries decide to make them public and accessible for free from the EpiSouth public website. This work was done jointly with cineca partner and the wp2 team.
- Since march 2009, e-web bulletins are now available in the public area of EpiSouth website and sent by email in a pdf format.
- At 30th June 2010, in total 119 e-web bulletins were released.
- For the 3rd period (1st October 2008 to 30th June 2010):
- 92 e-web bulletins (from n°28 to n°119)
- 5 A(H1N1) thematic notes
- 9 thematic notes: (cf. List and titles below)

### WP6 - Thematic Notes

28/05/2010 FIFA world cup in South Africa - health risks and public health  
23/11/2009 Hajj 2009: a mass gathering in the context of pandemic A(H1N1)2009 influenza  
19/11/2009 Yellow fever in South America  
25/07/2009 Epidemiological context of China and Olympic Games  
08/04/2009 Human Ebola Reston cases in Philippines  
26/03/2009 Alkhurma virus thematic note  
15/11/2008 Urinary lithiasis outbreak among children in China linked with melamine  
02/10/2008 Epidemiology of Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever virus  
13/09/2008 A(H1N1) virus resistance to Oseltamivir in the Southern Hemisphere

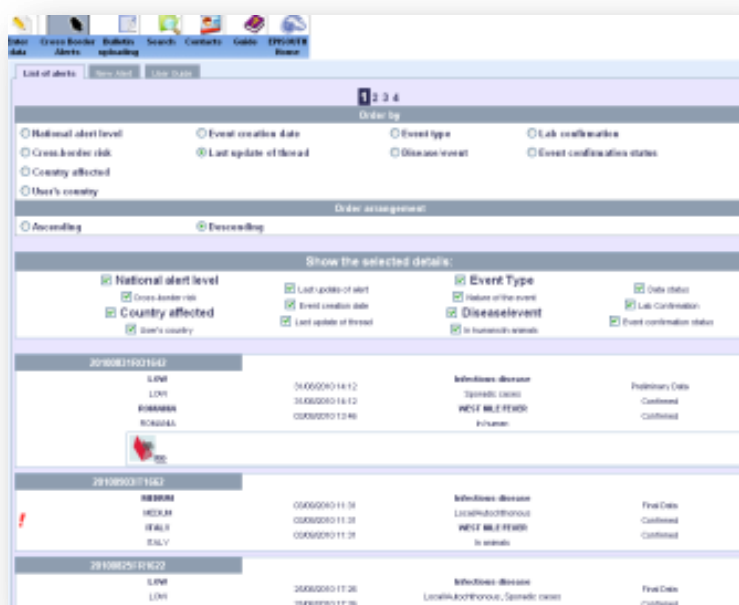
### The WP6 steering team meeting in Marrakech

- During the year 2, it was agreed with the WP6 steering team members that procedures aiming to define information flow from all participating parties (Countries, ECDC, WHO) in the Epidemic Intelligence platform will be discussed.
- The organisation of a face-to-face meeting with all the WP6 ST members, WP2 team and WP1 was the opportunity to discuss all these points:
  - reach a consensus on cross-border alerts sharing procedures
  - define the prerequisite to post a national alert on EpiSouth secured Website
  - discuss the CB alert platform functionalities
- The pilot model was presented and was under assessment only between the WP6 steering team members: The finalisation of this alert platform was planned for the year 3.
- Objectives and the meeting agenda are available in the web site (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.36*).

### The launch of the secured platform for alert and cross Border issues

- Thanks to a great collaboration with all the WP2, CINECA and the WP6 steering team contribution, the EpiSouth epidemic Intelligence secure platform has been created.
- In 2007 and 2008, several discussion and meetings were performed in order to have reflexions on the objectives, goal, and principles of this EpiSouth early warning system.
- The WP6 parallel session in addition to the WP6 Marrakech steering team meeting allow EpiSouth members to share ideas and make the platform process advanced.
- Several months of discussion were needed in order to have a consensus about the final organisation of the EpiSouth early warning system.

- The EpiSouth Epidemic Intelligence platform was inspired by existing ones (EWRS, WHO ...) while aiming to avoid duplicating or copying, but above all to have a similar system, simple, user friendly and easy to use.
- The main objective of the EpiSouth platform is thus to allow the circulation of information that would not respond to mandatory notification criteria, or that could not be readily accessible to other (e.g. information posted on EWRS is accessible to EU countries only).
- EpiSouth early warning platform acts in synergy and conjunction with these mandatory systems and aims at facilitating the dissemination of information that would otherwise not be possible or too delayed (not timely).
- EpiSouth EI-CB and diseases surveillance systems are complementary, as disease surveillance network could be the source of information that would be efficiently disseminated to all Mediterranean countries by EpiSouth. Likewise, EpiSouth could be a source of information for the disease surveillance systems especially regarding areas out side of their catchment area. It can also complement the other EW systems.
- The early warning CB platform, tailored to EpiSouth needs, is operational since **November 2009**. It is too early to assess its use and performances, yet 38 messages have been posted on the platform including 6 on the A/H1N1 pandemic.
- The user guide for the EpiSouth cross-border alert (CBA) platform is available in the NWA (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.37.*).



### The WP6 strategic Document: Sofia parallel session and the WP6 scientific board

- The strategic document (SD) should explain why Epidemic Intelligence is an important issue to deal with and why it requires a concerted action today and in the future in the geographical areas of interest.

- It should illustrate in brief the innovative experience of EpiSouth Network project in the Epidemic Intelligence field: what is about, what it has done, what it has achieved and what the main lessons learned are.
- An analysis of the EI issue using SWOT (strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and threats) as framework was adopted for the WP6 SD.
- After the analysis, a clear, logic and well framed strategy was proposed in order to tackle the issue and the role that, in this respect, EpiSouth Network could and should play together with other actors.
- All the WPs strategic documents were organised in a single final document and presented at the Project Final Conference (Roma, March 2010).
- An Editorial board, writing group and scientific board was defined and was composed by the WP6 Steering team members and external experts: Christophe Paquet from AFD and Evelyn Depoortere from ECDC. The scientific board was piloted by Gueanel Rodier from WHO-HQ.
- In order to discuss the SD draft documents within the scientific board, email exchanges and teleconferences were organised by the WP4 team. The initial discussion started during the Sofia annual meeting in April 2008 where specific WP parallel sessions were organised.
- For the final WP6 strategic document see *Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.31- EpiSouth Strategic Document)*

### The A(H1N1) influenza pandemic

- Since April 2009, all continents have been progressively affected by the A(H1N1)v influenza pandemic.
- In the scope of the project, EpiSouth countries shared, on a voluntary basis, information regarding their confirmed cases, case definitions and cases management strategies, thanks to a questionnaire prepared and launched by the WP6 team. Data concerning confirmed cases were analysed on a weekly basis by the WP6 team.
- The first confirmed case was reported on the 27th of April in Spain. The pandemic spread within the four EpiSouth sub-regions was slightly different: the number of cases started to increase markedly first among EpiSouth EU countries (week 19), followed by Middle-East (week 23), and finally North Africa and Balkans (Week 27).
- These different dynamics can be partly explained by the historical or socio-economical links existing between countries. The more rapidly affected EpiSouth countries (e.g. Spain, Israel or France) are those with close links (e.g. numerous direct daily flights with the Americas) while countries with less direct or frequent connections could delay longer the implementation of a local cycle of transmission.
- Later, population movements within EpiSouth countries also contributed to a further pandemic spread (e.g. cases exported from France to Algeria, Slovenia and Tunisia and from Spain to Lebanon and Serbia). The third phase was linked to relations with neighbouring areas e.g. Saudi Arabia exported cases to several EpiSouth countries.
- While all countries were faced with the same difficulties regarding implementation of control measures, the ongoing information exchange between countries has proven its importance.
- The WP6 mission in early warning information sharing was initiated since the beginning of the A(H1N1) pandemic thanks to the contribution of all EpiSouth countries.

- The first EpiSouth communication was issued on 25th April 2009 and over 200 documents synthesising internationally available information were issued (most are available on the [EpiSouth website](#)).
- They provided various information including monitoring of affected countries (necessary for establishment of national cases definition), analysis of epidemiological data made available from the first affected countries (North America and Southern hemisphere), dynamics of the pandemic, description of cases and deaths, group at risk, or on the [Haji pilgrimage](#) in a pandemic context.
- Information focused specifically on the Mediterranean area were although disseminated, especially EpiSouth countries shared data regarding their confirmed cases and deaths, national strategies for cases and contact management and immunisation. For instance, these data allowed documenting the role played by population movements within EpiSouth area in the dynamic of the pandemic in the region.
- Details on A(H1N1) pandemic documents released:
  - A specific **daily** bulletin providing updated data on the situation was distributed to all EpiSouth countries from 27 April to 20 May 2009.
  - From 31st May to 26 June 2009, the A(H1N1) bulletin was disseminated **twice a week**.
  - From 27 June to 29 July 2009, the specific A(H1N1) bulletin became **weekly** . All A(H1N1) situation update were included in the eWEB bulletin (from n°58 to n°71).
  - From the end of August 2009, the A(H1N1) update was available only from the eWEB bulletin and specific A(H1N1) pandemic bulletin stopped (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.38.*).
  - From November 2009 to end of January 2010, EpiSouth situation summaries were sent to ECDC every week in order to provide an update on the Mediterranean region.
  - 5 specific thematic notes on the A(H1N1) pandemic were done and disseminated to all the EpiSouth network
  - 3 abstracts were submitted to scientific congress and 2 presentations were performed in scientific conference (EMPHNET in Jordan and ICID in Florida) *See Table 6. For details*
  - Ten alerts were posted in the secure EpiSouth Epidemic Intelligence platform

## WP6 - A(H1N1) Informative Notes

### Issue date Bulletin

29/06/2009 29 June 2009: A(H1N1) Novel Influenza world situation  
 26/06/2009 26 June 2009: A(H1N1) Novel Influenza world situation  
 24/06/2009 24 June 2009: A(H1N1) Novel influenza world situation  
 22/06/2009 22 June 2009: A(H1N1) Novel influenza world situation  
 19/06/2009 18 June : A(H1N1) Novel Influenza world situation  
 17/06/2009 17 June 2009: A(H1N1) Novel influenza world situation  
 15/06/2009 15 June 2009: A(H1N1) Novel influenza world situation  
 10/06/2009 10 June 2009: A(H1N1) Novel Influenza world situation  
 05/06/2009 05 June 2009: A(H1N1) Novel influenza world situation  
 02/06/2009 02 June 2009: A(H1N1) Novel influenza world situation  
 29/05/2009 29 May 2009: A(H1N1) Novel influenza world situation  
 27/05/2009 27 May 2009: A(H1N1) Novel influenza world situation  
 20/05/2009 20 May 2009: A(H1N1) Novel influenza world situation  
 20/05/2009 A(H1N1) case definitions and contacts management in several countries  
 19/05/2009 19 May 2009: A(H1N1) Novel influenza world situation  
 18/05/2009 18 May 2009: A(H1N1) Novel influenza world situation  
 17/05/2009 A (H1N1) swine influenza situation up to 17 May 2009.pdf  
 15/05/2009 15 May 2009: A(H1N1) Novel influenza world situation  
 14/05/2009 14 May 2009: A(H1N1) Novel influenza world situation  
 13/05/2009 13 May 2009: A(H1N1) world situation  
 12/05/2009 12 May 2009: A(H1N1) influenza world situation  
 11/05/2009 11 May 2009: A(H1N1) world situation  
 11/05/2009 France A(H1N1) Novel influenza confirmed cases, as of 11 May 2009.  
 08/05/2009 A(H1N1) World situation as of 08 May 2009  
 07/05/2009 New-York Novel A(H1N1) influenza situation, New-York, USA, May 5th 2009  
 07/05/2009 07 May 2009: A(H1N1) world situation  
 06/05/2009 06 May 2009: A(H1N1) world situation  
 05/05/2009 05 May 2009: A(H1N1) world situation  
 04/05/2009 04 May 2009: A(H1N1) world situation  
 04/05/2009 03 May 2009: A(H1N1) world situation  
 02/05/2009 2nd May 2009: A(H1N1) world situation  
 02/05/2009 H1N1 France: 2 confirmed cases, up to 2nd May 2009  
 30/04/2009 30 April 2009 update: A(H1N1) Novel influenza situation  
 29/04/2009 29 April 2009 update: A(H1N1) Novel influenza situation  
 29/04/2009 France: 2 probable A(H1N1) novel influenza cases, 29 April 2009

28/04/2009 A(H1N1) "swine" influenza, Worldwide, up to 28 April 2009  
 27/04/2009 A(H1N1) swine influenza, Worldwide, up to 27 April 2009  
 25/04/2009 A(H1N1) swine influenza, Mexico and USA, 25 April 2009

29/07/2009 Pandemic A(H1N1) 2009 situation up to 28 July 2009  
22/07/2009 Pandemic A(H1N1) 2009 world situation as of 21 July 2009  
18/07/2009 Pandemic A(H1N1) in the regions and countries of the Northern Hemisphere  
13/07/2009 13 July 2009: A(H1N1) Novel influenza world situation  
06/07/2009 06 July 2009: A(H1N1) Novel influenza world situation  
06/07/2009 06 July 2009: A(H1N1) Novel influenza world situation

### MILESTONES AND DELIVERABLES YEAR 3

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- **The WP6 strategic document:** a first consensus on the contents of the Epidemic Intelligence strategic document was initiated during Sofia Meeting in March 2009 + WP6 steering team teleconferences
- **Launch of the Epidemic Intelligence secure platform:** work done jointly with CINECA and with WP2. + a consensus meeting done with the WP6 steering team in Marrakech in November 2008.
- **eWEB bulletin** production and communication to all EpiSouth network
- **Questionnaire contributions** for: WP4
- **Participation into scientific seminars:** IMED in February 2009 (Vienna), EMPHNET in October 2009 (Jordan) and ICID Congress (International Congress on Infectious Diseases) in March 2010 (Florida)
- **Continuation of activities initiated during year 2**

### DESCRIPTION OF INDICATORS OF ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

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- **The eWEB bulletin made public with a free access to all bulletins through internet done by the WP6 team in collaboration with CINECA, WP2 and WP1:** since March 2009, a total of eWEB bulletins are public During the A(H1N1) pandemic, EpiSouth A(H1N1) bulletins providing A(H1N1) data and synthesis on all EpiSouth countries, on Mediterranean EpiSouth neighbouring countries and world, were disseminated through the network and posted for free access in the EpiSouth website. A total of 84 A(H1N1) EpiSouth updates, bulletins and thematic notes were posted from 25<sup>th</sup> April 2009 to January 2010.
- **The WP6 strategic document:** A WP6 report was written thanks to the contribution of a small WP6 scientific board, the support of the WP4 team and the pilot group directed by Guëanel Rodier (WHO-HQ Lyon). All WP follow a a specific road map in order to harmonise all WP strategic documents.

- **Scientific Seminars.** The promotion of EpiSouth EI and CB activities (already initiated last year) was presented during:
  - The Pasteur Institute conference (MATI conference) in Tunisia in January 2009
  - The IMED conference in Vienna in February 2009
  - The EMPHNET conference (details) in Amman in October 2009.
  - The ICID congress in Miami in March 2010.

## PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND HOW PROBLEMS WERE RESOLVED

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Mission into WP6 steering team countries: A total of 3 WP6 missions were initially planned. Voluntary EpiSouth countries among the WP6 steering team proposed to start: Morocco, Israel and Albania. The mission into Morocco was associated to the WP6 steering team meeting in Marrakech in November 2008 in order to facilitate and optimise the Moroccan focal point time and travel expenses. The second WP6 mission was supposed to be held in Israel. Two tentative agenda and dates were proposed but failed due to the political complex context of the Middle-East area. Actually no additional WP6 mission was performed. Due to the political context in the Middle-East area, the possible welcome in Jordan was not possible.

## DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE PROGRAMME AND OBJECTIVES FORESEEN AND THOSE ACTUALLY CONDUCTED AND ACHIEVED

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The reinforced of WP6 full-fledged activities were planned by the WP6 team by the recruitment of a second fulltime epidemiologist. The recruitment of Nathalie El Omeiri was effective in July 2009. The recruitment of a second full time allow to accelerated and developed further Epidemic Intelligence activities. The WP6 team was reinforced and allow to reach all WP6 deliverables and was especially welcome during the A(H1N1) pandemic.

### i. Missions to participating countries

Evaluation missions in participating countries were proposed in priority to countries which are members of the WP6 steering team group as it appeared important to begin with countries which are very actively involved in the “Cross-border Epidemic Intelligence” workpackage. It has been considered that these missions would be more efficient after the endorsement of EI and CB procedures. From 2008, 2 missions were planned in Morocco and in Israel which were volunteers. The mission in Morocco was performed from 06 November to 12 November and was jointly organised with the 2 Moroccan focal points from the ministry of health (DELM) and the Institut National d’Hygiène (INH). The 2<sup>nd</sup> mission in Israel was planned latter but unfortunately due to difficulty linked to specific Middle-East context, the mission was postponed and actually not possible.

### ii. The WP5 training module session

Each year, the WP5 has organised a 1 week training module session in Madrid. Each EpiSouth participating countries have the opportunity to send 1 or 2 epidemiologist or eligible person to participate. In 2009, the 3<sup>rd</sup> WP5 training module was performed from the 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> June 2010. The

French focal points in InVS launch the proposal in the French institute but unfortunately none was available to participate due to the A(H1N1) pandemic. All resources were requested during the A(H1N1) pandemic and no French epidemiologist was able to participate.

### **3.1.7 WP 7 Vaccine Preventable diseases and migrant population**

#### **WP7SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES :**

- assessing the access of migrant population to immunizations;
- collecting data and establishing a regular exchange of information on cases/outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases among migrant population and immigrants in Mediterranean and Balkan countries;

#### **ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO REACH THE OBJECTIVES IN THE 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR**

The main activities during the first year of the project have been oriented to the collection of data necessary to develop a comprehensive questionnaire, including gathering information on country's specificity, related to the migrant population (type of the migrant population, information about immunization programs and its implementation, methods for monitoring and assessment of vaccination coverage, availability of specific programs aimed at ensuring high vaccination coverage of migrant population, monitoring and surveillance of VPD in general and in migrant population particularly).

#### **THE ACTIVITIES, UNDERTAKEN WERE AS FOLLOWS:**

- Information (publications regarding definitions for migrant population, legislation, organizations for humanitarian assistance involved etc.), related to the WP7 project topic was collected, reviewed and used for the preparation of the Questionnaire;
- Information for defining migrant groups in the Mediterranean and Balkan countries and for defining the target age groups were collected;
- Information for defining the vaccines to be included in the questionnaire was collected;
- Meetings were held with representatives of international organizations in Bulgaria (WHO, Red Cross, UNDP etc.), regarding issues related to the migration of the population;
- The WP7 Steering Team work was organized: a preliminary discussion was conducted with representatives of countries – possible partners in the WP7; Team structure was elaborated and approved, specific tasks were assigned and action plan was developed. WP7 Steering Team includes experts from: Bulgaria, Slovenia, Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Serbia, Morocco and Lebanon;
- Draft questionnaire “Vaccine preventable Diseases and migrant population” was developed;
- The Draft questionnaire was distributed to all WP7 ST partners and was uploaded on the WEB page of the project (ST WP7 members area) with the aim of discussing it with the ST;
- The Draft questionnaire was corrected according to all remarks received from the partners;
- Pilot survey using the Draft questionnaire for assessment of the access of migrant population to immunizations was organized and performed among WP7 ST countries. A total of 7 questionnaires (ST WP7 members) were completed;

- A preliminary analysis of this provisional assessment survey (within WP7ST, based on the Draft questionnaire) was performed, aiming at an optimization of the final version of the questionnaire. Contacts of the WP leader with national representative persons, with representatives of the ECDC and the WHO-EURO to discuss WP7 tasks, emphasize the importance of this topic, along with a lack of sufficient information and the need to include additional questions. Besides, the results from VENICE Survey on immunizations confirmed these observations.

#### MILESTONES AND DELIVERABLES ACHIEVED

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- Questionnaire for collecting information distributed (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.-39 VPD and migrants Questionnaire*).

#### PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND HOW PROBLEMS WERE RESOLVED

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- The diversity of the situation with migrant population in the countries participating in EPISOUTH project and the differences of existing problems, related to different country-specific conditions
- Several versions of the questionnaire were prepared to meet all requirements

#### Other activities

##### i. General Activities related to the organization and performance of the EPISOUTH tasks at the NCIPD

- Collection of materials for preparing presentation for the 1<sup>st</sup> EpiSouth Steering Committee Meeting in Venice, 11-13 December 2006 and participation at the meeting with presentation of the WP7 (objectives of the WP7, description of the work, time-table for processing & analysis of collected data, activities plan, expected results, etc.)
- Preparation for the First EpiSouth meeting in Rome, 28 - 30 March 2007 and participation to the meeting: producing and presentation of two presentations (Information about NCIPD and its Department of Epidemiology and surveillance of CD as a partner in EPISOUTH project and Information/Discussion specifically on the WP7 – description of the work activities, plan for the 1<sup>st</sup> year, selection of the WP partners etc.)
- Permanent technical assistance for organizing and facilitating the participation of the BG experts in all project related activities: literature search, stationary, equipment and technical assistance, drafting and following the correspondence with all project partners, organizing the participation at the meetings etc.
- Participation in drafting of the abstract for the ESCAIDE conference in Stockholm

##### ii. Activities undertaken in relation to WP2

- Preparation of appropriate information about WP7 to be used for presentation of the WP on the EpiSouth web page
- Preparation and submission of List with WEB addresses of Bulletins and existing surveillance networks, related to the Project Subject and main Objectives

- Preparation and providing of List with contact details of experts and organizations in Bulgaria to be proposed to receive the EpiSouth electronic Bulletin and other materials and information related to the project

### iii. Activities undertaken in relation to WP5

- Collecting the specific for Bulgaria information related to the evaluation of the needs of training in the field of Public Health and Epidemiology of Communicable Diseases; conducting working meetings with the representatives of the Medical University in Sofia; assessment of the obtained data on the training in epidemiology
- Filling in and submission of the completed WP5 questionnaire
- Producing of two presentations about the Communicable Diseases Surveillance System in Bulgaria for the First training course in Madrid
- Participation of two junior epidemiologists from the NCIPD in the 1<sup>st</sup> Training module in Madrid, Spain 10-14 September, 2007

### iv. Activities undertaken in relation to WP8

- Collecting information, necessary to answer the questionnaire of WP8 “Zoonoses”
  - Organizing work meeting with representatives of the Head Office of the National Veterinary Service (HO of NVS) of Bulgaria
  - Organizing & Participation in the work meeting with representatives from the NVMD
  - Organizing work meeting with representatives of the Regional Inspectorates for Prevention and Control of Public Health (RIOKOZs), epidemiologists from the Ministry of Health and experts from the HO of NVS
  - Collecting information on the zoonoses in Bulgaria from: literature search, publications, official national and regional reports of the MoH, the NVS and RIOKOZs
  - Data processing and analysis of the information
- Drafting the answers for the WP8 “Zoonoses” questionnaire and discussion with the experts before sending the filled in questionnaire
- Submission of the final version of the questionnaire

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## ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO REACH THE OBJECTIVES IN THE 2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR

To achieve the specific objectives of the WP7, the main activities during the second year of the project have been oriented on the elaboration of a new final version of the questionnaire in line with all received recommendations and based on the additionally obtained information on the methods for monitoring and assessment of vaccination coverage and VPD surveillance in general and in migrant population particularly.

**The activities were as follows:**

- The WP7 Steering Team structure was updated and at present the WP7 Steering Team includes experts from: Bulgaria, Slovenia, Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Serbia, Morocco, Lebanon, Algeria and Palestine; the communication between ST members was significantly improved during the great number of discussions on the final version of the questionnaire;
- Additional information regarding definitions for migrant population, data on the EU legislation etc., related to the WP7 project topic was collected and used for the preparation of the final version of the questionnaire;
- Participation in the Second Steering Committee & Project meeting, 10-12 December 2007, Athens, Greece;
- Preparation of materials and presentations for the Second EpiSouth Steering Committee and Project Meeting – development of a draft for Group discussion on "Migrants & immunizations"; preparation and conducting discussion with WP7 ST, focussing on the requested changes of the WP7 Questionnaire
- WP7 First year summary and WP7 Parallel session minutes has been published at the NWA (Members Area of EpiSouth website) in January 2008
  - The results from the pilot survey based on the first draft questionnaire, completed by the WP7 ST countries were summarized and the analysis was published on the website of the project;
- After following up all the comments and advices, sent by the partners and based on the analysis of results obtained from the Draft questionnaire (filled by the WP7 ST), a new, final version of the Questionnaire "Assessment of countries migration status profile & vaccination access of migrant population" has been produced. The questionnaire was uploaded on the WEB page (ST WP7 members area) and discussed one more time by the ST. Revision and preparation of the final version of the WP 7 Questionnaire: "Assessment of countries migration status profile & vaccination access of migrant population" has been completed in June 2008 and after the approval of the WP7 ST the questionnaire was submitted to the WP2 team. Meanwhile the word format of the questionnaire was uploaded in the member's area of EpiSouth web page to facilitate the Focal Points and contacts to become familiar with all the questions and to start collecting the data. CINECA finalised the preparation of the on-line version of the questionnaire, it was tested and made available in the official web site of the project in September, 2008.
- The analysis of the data from the new questionnaire, completed by all participating countries and reporting survey results remains to be done.
- Contacts of the WP leader with representatives of the ECDC and the WHO-EURO to discuss WP7 tasks emphasized on the importance of this topic, and a decision was taken to organize a workshop in Sofia, to discuss the problem with experts, representing the WP7ST, Balkan and CEE countries.
- A Joint ECDC / WHO Workshop "Key topics on migrants and hard to reach populations health in central-eastern Europe: advocating and promoting immunization" was organised and hosted at the NCIPD on 11-12 February, 2008 (information uploaded in the NWA)
- Dissemination of information related to the EpiSouth project and the results obtained up to now:

- A presentation about EpiSouth project was prepared and presented at the VI National Congress of clinical microbiology and infectology, Bulgaria, Plovdiv 5-7 April, 2008;
- Preparation and submission of an abstract for presentation of the EpiSouth WP7 at the EUPHA pre-conference (2008): "EpiSouth Project: assessing migrants' profile and migrants access to immunisation service in the countries of the Mediterranean and the Balkans (*see Table 6. For details*)
- As a supplementary (not included in the plan) activity, however closely related to the rest of WP7 activities, a specific survey on the performance of the National immunization program in infants of Roma and Bulgarian origin, born in 2006 in Sofia region, was conducted. The aim of the study was to compare the immunization coverage and timeliness of immunizations of children of Roma and Bulgarian origin and to evaluate the feasibility of this kind of surveys for the purposes of the WP7. The results obtained are very useful, especially for the preparation of the planned Recommendations facilitating the evaluation and improvement of immunizations among migrant population. The preliminary results of the study were presented at:
- Joint ECDC/WHO Workshop "Key topics on migrants and hard to reach populations health in central-eastern Europe: advocating and promoting immunization" hosted by the NCIPD, 11-12 February, 2008
- National Epidemiology meeting (May, 2008);
- Poster "Survey on the performance of the National immunization program in infants of Roma and Bulgarian origin in Sofia region" was accepted for presentation at ESCAIDE 2008 (Balkans (*see Table 6. For details*))

#### MILESTONES AND DELIVERABLES ACHIEVED

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- Report with results from the provisional assessment survey, (pre-tested questionnaire within WP7 ST countries) (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.-40 VPD and migrants Preliminary Report*).

#### DESCRIPTION OF INDICATORS OF ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

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- Report with results from the provisional assessment survey was presented and discussed during the Second Project Meeting in December, 2007
- The final version of the questionnaire was submitted in June 2008 and CINECA make it available on-line to be filled in by all partners in September 2008. The rest of the planned activities will be implemented after the final questionnaire will be completed by all partners.

#### PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND HOW PROBLEMS WERE RESOLVED

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- Several versions of the questionnaire were prepared to meet all requirements before finalization of the "Assessment of countries migration status profile and vaccination access of migrant population", because of the diversity of the situation with migrant population in the countries, participating in EPISOUTH project and respectively the differences of existing problems, related to different country-specific conditions
- Lack of enough and adequate information about the immunization coverage of migrant population and methods for its monitoring and evaluation

## Other activities

### i. General Activities related to the organization and performance of the EPISOUTH tasks at the NCIPD

- Preparation and participation at the Second EpiSouth meeting in Athens, December 2007
- Permanent technical assistance for organizing and facilitating the participation of the BG experts in all project related activities: literature search, stationary, equipment and technical assistance, drafting and following the correspondence with all project partners, organizing the participation at the meetings etc.
- Drafting reports – collecting materials and documents, needed for preparation and submission of the Second Project Year Interim technical implementation report and Financial statement for the period 1 October, 2007 – 30 September, 2008

## Activities related to:

### i. WP3

- Comments and proposals on the documents about the EpiSouth Evaluation and Monitoring Tools and specifically for Evaluation Tool of the EpiSouth Network – Vaccine preventable diseases and migrant populations (WP7)
- Collected information and completed the WP3 Questionnaire the "Monitoring Tool of the EpiSouth Network"
- Submission of data for the monitoring of implementation of the Project Work-plan and Timetable by the WP7 (Monitoring sheet for quarterly monitoring of project implementation)

### ii. WP4

- The data related to the institutional profile, National Surveillance System and existing Databases was collected and online-WP 4 "Questionnaire about Institutions partners" was completed

### iii. WP5

- Participation of two young epidemiologists, working in the NCIPD at the Second EpiSouth training course in Madrid;
- Preparation of country presentation for the training course

iv. WP6

- Preparation of analysis and report for CCHF cases in Bulgaria in 2008 and CCHF Epidemiology in Bulgaria (published EpiSouth CCHF\_08\_08\_2008) "Epidemiology of CCHF: Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Isl. Rep of Iran, Kosovo, Russian federation, Turkey"

v. WP8

- Collection of information needed for the construction of a Directory with Human PH and Veterinary PH specialists related to the WP8 activities and for filling in the Questionnaire:
  - An official letter requesting to appoint the contact persons was sent to the National veterinary service;
  - HPH experts, working in the NCIPD (epidemiologist and laboratory expert) were nominated

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#### ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO REACH THE OBJECTIVES IN THE 3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR PLUS EXTENSION

The main activities during the third year and the extension period of the project have been oriented toward the finalization of the planned project activities: the web based version of the questionnaire, followed by collecting, systematizing and processing the data. The obtained information was analyzed, aiming to evaluate the approaches used for monitoring and assessment of the access to immunizations, vaccination coverage, and VPD surveillance in EpiSouth countries, focusing particularly on the issues related to the migrant population.

The main goal was to collect as much as possible information needed for the elaboration of the WP7 Strategic document on Vaccination access and VPD surveillance among migrating/mobile populations and to present the achieved results during the final project meeting and the EpiSouth conference on communicable diseases and public health in the Mediterranean and Balkans, Rome 21-23 April, 2010.

- The WP7 Steering Team structure was updated and at present the WP7 Steering Team includes experts from: Bulgaria, Slovenia, Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Serbia, Morocco, Lebanon, Algeria, Palestine and Tunisia (joining the ST officially in September 2009);
- Final web based Questionnaire (revised several times within WP7 ST, and additionally in collaboration with the WP1&WP2) was uploaded at the EpiSouth web area for compilation;
- Testing the web based Questionnaire, correcting in line with the comments, and processing of approval was performed;
- Web based Questionnaire for Bulgaria was compiled on-line;
- Follow-up of response to the questionnaire from participating countries: the deadline for the collection of completed Questionnaires was changed several times because of the low response from the CFP; reminders were sent first to all participating countries and later on separately to

some countries; the very active correspondence via e-mail and communication by telephone calls to the belated CFP, made between October, 2008 and January, 2009 helped to collect as much as possible completed questionnaires (22/26 participating countries);

- Work with CFP linked to the compiled WP7 questionnaires (reading, comments, correspondence and approval of the compiled questionnaires);
- Elaboration of a Database containing all the information received via questionnaires (some countries completed only the preliminary questionnaire, some – the new word version of the questionnaire, and the most countries – the final web based questionnaire);
- Data analysis of survey questionnaires was done;
- Preliminary survey results were systematized and used for the elaboration of a report on the survey for vaccine-preventable diseases and migrants;
- The results obtained from the performed survey for vaccine-preventable diseases and migrants were presented during the 3rd Project meeting;
- Draft Strategic document for improving monitoring and access to immunizations and exchanging data on vaccine preventable diseases, in conformity with the WP4 recommendations was prepared for discussion during the 3rd Project meeting;
- The draft Strategic document for improving monitoring and access to immunizations and exchanging data on vaccine preventable diseases was presented to the auditory of the 3rd Project meeting and discussed;
- The final evaluation of the collected information on the access to immunizations, vaccination coverage, and VPD surveillance in EpiSouth countries was done;
- Preparation of the Final Report on survey for vaccine-preventable diseases and migrants, uploaded on the project web site (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.12 (Rapporti ISTISAN 10/6, pp 35-55) and n.41.*)
- Concluding the WP7 draft Strategic document & recommendations with ST;
- The WP7 Draft Strategic document submitted to the scientific and editorial board for comments;
- Participation in discussion during the EpiSouth WP7 teleconference, 10 February, 2010;
- Publication of the WP7 Strategic document (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.31.*)
- Dissemination of the WP7 results (*see Table 6.for further details*):
  - Participation at EUPHA Pre-conference on Migrant Health, 5th November 2008, Lisbon, Portugal: *"EpiSouth Project: assessing migrants' profile and migrants' access to immunisation service in the countries of the Mediterranean and the Balkans"*
  - Poster presentation *"Free vaccination access for mobile Roma children and current spread of measles in Europe: EpiSouth project results"*, ESCAIDE conference, Stockholm, 26-28 October, 2009;
  - Poster presentation *"Crimean–Congo haemorrhagic fever virus in Mediterranean and Balkans countries from 2002 to 2008"*, ESCAIDE conference, Stockholm, 26-28 October, 2009;
  - Poster presentation *"Migration status profile and vaccination access of mobile population in countries joining the EpiSouth network"*, 1<sup>st</sup> East Mediterranean Public Health Network (EMPHNET), 4<sup>th</sup> TEPHINET Regional Scientific Conference

- and the 7<sup>th</sup> conference of the Jordanian Public Health Association, Amman, Jordan 19-22 October, 2009;
- Two Poster presentations on EpiSouth project results, VIII National Congress of clinical microbiology and infectology, Plovdiv 20-25 April, 2010:
  - *"Assessment of migration status profile and vaccination access of migrant population in countries participating in the EpiSouth Network"*
  - *"Free vaccination access for children of mobile populations – is it sufficient to limit the current spread of VPD in Europe? Results from EPISOUTH."*
- Submitted abstract *"Communicable Disease Surveillance and potential for information exchange among Countries of the Mediterranean and Balkans participating to the EpiSouth Network"*, VIII<sup>th</sup> IEA Eastern Mediterranean Regional Scientific Meeting, Beirut, Lebanon 25-27 November, 2010;
- Information about the current EpiSouth Project provided to the Bulgarian health authorities (translation and adaptation of the project leaflet for the Bulgarian MoH and drafting written information for the Bulgarian delegation participating at the EuroMed Ministerial Conferences organized under the French Presidency in France and in Egypt).

## Other activities

### i. General Activities related to the organization and performance of the EPISOUTH tasks at the NCIPD

- Preparation and submission of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Interim Report;
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Steering Committee Meeting in Brussels, 30-31 October, 2008
  - Work on the monitoring sheet for the 3<sup>rd</sup> project year;
  - Preparation of presentation of the work done during the 2<sup>nd</sup> project year and reporting the planned activities for the next project year;
  - Participation in the meeting.
- Organization and conducting of Preparatory SC meeting in Sofia, 12-13 January, 2009;
- Preparatory phase of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Project Meeting in Sofia (with WP1)/ logistic of the meeting / Organizing committee / scientific committee;
- Conducting the 4<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee & 3<sup>rd</sup> Project Meeting in Sofia, 30 March – 1 April, 2009;
- Participation in the 4<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee & 3<sup>rd</sup> Project meeting, 30 March-1 April, 2009, Sofia, Bulgaria:
  - Preparation of materials and presentations for the 4<sup>th</sup> EpiSouth Steering Committee and 3<sup>rd</sup> Project Meeting – development of a draft for Group discussion "Migrants & immunizations"; preparation and conducting parallel sessions discussion with WP7 ST and other participants, focussing on the results explored through the WP7 Questionnaire and exchange of practical experience in some countries;

- Participation at the 5<sup>th</sup> SC Meeting in Venice, 12-13 November, 2009:
  - Preparation of presentation on Report for execution of the 3<sup>rd</sup> year activities and plan for the extension period;
- Participation at the Final Project Meeting together with "Conference on CD and health threats in the Mediterranean Region", Rome, 20-23 April, 2010:
  - Preparation of presentation on the WP7 activities and results
  - Preparation of WP7 Strategic document presentation
  - Preparation for the Round table 4;
- Permanent technical assistance for organizing and facilitating the participation of the BG experts in all project related activities: literature search, stationery, equipment and technical assistance, drafting and following the correspondence with all project partners, organizing the participation at the meetings etc.;
- Drafting reports – collecting materials and documents needed for preparation and submission of the Third Project Year and extension period Interim technical implementation report and Financial statement for the period 1 October, 2008 – 30 June, 2010.

**Activities related to:**

**i. WP3**

- EpiSouth WP3 Evaluation / Set of questions for Focal Points and Set of questions for individual interviews - Comments and proposals;
- Evaluation tool of the EpiSouth Network WP7 Package compilation on line;
- Completing the WP3 Questionnaire;
- Monitoring of project implementation reports & assess; Monitoring sheet.

**ii. WP4**

- Updated the data related to Institutional profile, National Surveillance System and existing Databases;
- Correspondence related to the Strategic document.

**iii. WP5**

- Participation of two epidemiologists, working in the NCIPD at the Third EpiSouth training course in Madrid;
- Preparation of country presentation for the training course.

**iv. WP6**

- Collaborative work with WP6 on thematic note on Crimean-Congo Haemorrhagic Fever Virus (EpiSouth CCHF\_01\_10\_2008\_final.pdf) based on analysis and report for CCHF cases in Bulgaria in 2008 and CCHF Epidemiology in Bulgaria (published EpiSouth CCHF\_08\_08\_2008) "Epidemiology of CCHF: Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Isl. Rep. of Iran, Kosovo, Russian Federation, Turkey";

- Co-authorship in poster presentation of WP6 *“Crimean–Congo haemorrhagic fever virus in Mediterranean and Balkans countries from 2002 to 2008”* for the ESCAIDE conference, 26-28 October, 2009;
- Information regarding suspected cases of Swine Flu in Bulgaria;
- Fill in the table for case definitions of A(H1N1), treatment and track of cases and contacts;
- Uploading the information about measles outbreak in Bulgaria on EpiSouth Alert platform.

v. WP8

- Supervising implementation of the tasks & communication with VPH structures; compilation of WP8 Questionnaire about HPH/VPH contacts; adjustments according to remarks for approval

## MILESTONES AND DELIVERABLES ACHIEVED

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### Milestones:

- Final Report on the results obtained from the survey for vaccine-preventable diseases and migrants prepared and published in the project web site;
- Final version of the WP7 Strategic document & recommendations for improving the access to immunization, for exchanging data on vaccine preventable diseases, and adjusting vaccination plans prepared (with WP4) and posted on web-restricted area.

### Deliverables:

- Final Report on assessment survey for vaccine preventable diseases and migrants prepared, published and disseminated (D 20);
- Strategic document on vaccine preventable diseases and migrant populations & recommendations for improving access to immunizations and for exchanging data on vaccine preventable diseases among migrant populations in the region prepared with WP 4, published and disseminated (D 21, D22)

All results related to the WP7 deliverables are published on the EpiSouth Web-site and in addition reported at several meetings and conferences.

## DESCRIPTION OF INDICATORS OF ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

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- Web based WP7 questionnaire was available to be filled in on-line by all partners since October 2008;

- Follow-up of response to the on-line questionnaire (22 completed questionnaires out of 26 participating countries);
- Data analysis of survey questionnaires and report with results from the assessment survey, presented and discussed during the Third Project Meeting in Sofia, 2009;
- Final Report on survey for vaccine-preventable diseases and migrants prepared;
- Draft Strategic document prepared and presented to the participants within WP7 parallel session during the Third Project Meeting in 2009;
- Preparation of Final version of WP7 Strategic document;
- Preparation of the 3rd Project Networking Meeting in Sofia;
- Exchange of information on cases/outbreaks in partner countries (with WP6);
- Dissemination of results & participation in conferences.

The WP 7 (Vaccine preventable diseases and migrant) in collaboration with WP 4 provided:

1. Report of the assessment survey;
2. Final strategic document on Vaccine preventable diseases and migrant populations & recommendations for improving the access of migrant populations to immunizations and for exchanging information on vaccine preventable diseases.

#### PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND HOW PROBLEMS WERE RESOLVED

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- The main problems during the third year were administrative problems and financial obstacles at the NCIPD, which was the reason that we did not have available funds required to hire assistant researchers. As a result, the work on the project as a whole was significantly impeded and it was not possible to respect the approved WP7 timetable. Anyway, the scheduled tasks were performed and the work on the project was successfully completed thanks to the efforts of the WP7 team and additional time spent. The extension of the project deadline till June, 2010, was also essential.
- A problem of less significance was the low response of participating countries in the beginning of filling in the web based questionnaire. Changes of the deadline for the collection of completed Questionnaires were done several times because of the late response from the CFP and reminders have been sent to all participants, including correspondence via e-mail and communication by telephone (October, 2008 – January, 2009).

#### DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE PROGRAMME AND OBJECTIVES FORESEEN AND THOSE ACTUALLY CONDUCTED AND ACHIEVED

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The only difference between the Programme for activities related to the WP7 and the activities actually conducted during the project implementation is that no Missions to EpiSouth countries have been undertaken. From the very beginning of the work it became clear that EpiSouth countries don't need such kind of support to implement the activities related to WP7.

Because of that, part of the funds originally allocated to the 6 planned missions was used to support the participation in two conferences at which the results of WP7 were reported, as follows:

1. Nadezhda Vladimirova – participation at EUPHA Pre-conference on Migrant Health, 5th November 2008, Lisbon, Portugal
2. Nadezhda Vladimirova – participation at ESCAIDE conference, Stockholm, 26-28 October, 2009

### **3.1.8 WP 8 Epidemiology and preparedness to cross-border emerging zoonotic infections**

WP8 aims at providing the following, keeping a focus in the Mediterranean countries and their particular needs:

- a platform for the communication of human (HPH) and veterinary public health (VPH) officials, with listing of accurate contacts for specific diseases
- indices for the description of epidemiology and monitoring in the area of a selected list of zoonoses, with the ultimate purpose of predicting risk of cross border transmission and providing communication

#### **ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO REACH THE OBJECTIVES IN THE 1ST YEAR**

- (Month 1-4) - Forming of the WP8 Working Group (WG) which is composed of the WP8 Leader Dr Rengina Vorou, and the Greek representatives for each EpiSouth Working Package (WP) along with O.Kalakouta and A. Chatzilouka from Cyprus. Additionally: Ms K. Mellou, Mr G.Dougas, Mr D. Papamichail, Ms K. Golfinopoulou, worked for WP8, S. Tsiodras, Prof N.Kontos, Veterinary Medicine in National School of Public Health, Mr D. Vourvidis, P.Triantafyllou, M.Tzani, Veterinarians from the Hellenic Ministry of Agricultural Development and Food, Mr N.Charisis, MZCC contributed to WP8, H. Maltezou for WP5, WP7 and WP8, Mr S.Patrinou for WP4, Dr A.Pavli and Mr D.Heliopoulos for WP6, K.Mellou for WP5, O.Adrami, T.Panagiotopoulos for WP7, O. Kalakouta and A. Chatzilouka for WP8.

The Greek Group consists of human public health (HPH) and veterinary public health (VPH) officials. The human public health (HPH) officials are representatives from the Hellenic Center for Diseases Control and Prevention and the veterinary public health (VPH) officials are representatives from the Hellenic Ministry of Rural Development and Food, from the National School of Public Health the WHO/MZCC.

- (Month 3) Preparation of the Greek presentation on the list of zoonotic diseases of interest for the EpiSouth kick-off meeting in Venice, Italy on 11-13 of December 2006.
- (Month 3) Participation in the EpiSouth kick-off meeting in Venice, Italy on 11-13 of December 2006,

- (Month 4-6) Collaboration of the Greek EpiSouth WP8 Group with the EpiSouth colleagues from Cyprus in order to prepare a documented proposal on the list of zoonotic diseases of interest for EpiSouth.
- (Month 4-5-6) Five meetings of the Greek EpiSouth WP8 Group order to identify the existing implicated structures in the field of Zoonoses and investigate the level of collaboration between them in national level and among them and corresponding stakeholders of Mediterranean and Balkan neighborhood.
- (Month 2-10) Studying National Epidemiological data regarding Zoonoses in order to depict the current situation in Greece.
- (Month 3-12) Reviewing International bibliography on Zoonoses focusing on emerging diseases with potential of cross-border transmission and on Mediterranean region.
- (Month 5) Meeting of the Greek EpiSouth WP8 Group for discussing WP8 activities, workplan, and questionnaire for distribution to EpiSouth countries.
- (Month 5) Participation in the 1st EpiSouth Project Meeting (28-30/3) in Rome:
  - Presentation during the relevant plenary session of the draft list of zoonoses as well as of the WP8 activities and workplan
  - WP8 steering group proposed the development of a structured questionnaire as a complementary tool for the selection of zoonoses of priority
- (Month 7) Constitution of the WP8 Steering Team in accordance with the First Project Meeting 28-30 March, ISS, Rome, Italy
- (Month 7-12) Working in liaison with the WP8 Steering Team, in which were involved two Focal Points from Albania, Kosovo, Fyrom, Jordan, Tunisia
- (Months 6-11) Development of the questionnaire for the setting priorities regarding zoonoses of interest for all participating in the project countries, under the context of WP8:
  - Design from the WP8 Working Group small internal committee of a draft questionnaire taking into account the available literature and internationally accepted criteria defining the emergence of zoonoses.
  - Release on 29/5 of the proposed questionnaire to all WP8 Steering Team's members as well as to the Project Leader and Coordinator, asking for remarks and comments regarding its content and structure.
  - Integration of all WP8 Steering Team's comments in the questionnaire and finalization of its format
  - Sending on 6/7 the questionnaire to all focal points of the EpiSouth project for completion
  - Collection of data until 30/7
  - Upload on 8/8 of the questionnaire to STWA and ENWA of WP8 in the EpiSouth web site for collecting information distributed (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no.42-Zoonoses priorities questionnaire*)
- (Months 11) Data entry and analysis of the collected "questionnaires of identifying zoonoses of priority"
- (Month 12) Producing a report with the results, listing the selected zoonoses of major interest for the participating countries and describing the selection criteria

### Activities undertaken in relation to other WPs

- (Month 10) Completion of the questionnaire of WP5 –training under the coordination of Dr H.Maltezou
- (Month 11) Response the WP5 communication by our representatives.
- (Month 8-12) Frequent interactive activities in the EpiSouth NWA and STWA area.
- (Month 12) Inclusion of EpiSouth Project and Bulletin links in the Homepage of the H.C.D.C.P. website.

### THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE PROGRAM AND OBJECTIVES FORESEEN AND THOSE ACTUALLY CONDUCTED AND ACHIEVED

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The questionnaire for zoonoses of priority was agreed in Rome (28-30 March 2007). Therefore the HPH and the VPH database questionnaire was under finalization.

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### ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO REACH THE OBJECTIVES IN THE 2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR

- (November 2007) Uploading of the Zoonoses priority list document in ENWA
- (October-November 2007) Preparation of the 2nd SC & 2nd Project Meetings (Athens)
- (December 2007) Conduction of the 2nd SC & 2nd Project Meeting (Athens)
- (December 2007) The 1st Meeting for zoonosis final strategic document preparation was held in the context of the Project Meeting. It was decided that participating countries would have contributed with a 3-5 pages document, comprising information about the epidemiology and the existing strategies/policies/programs for control and prevention of the selected zoonoses of priority in their countries, describing the routes of collaboration between VPH and HPH officials, stating needs/problems in this field and making suggestions for improvement.
- (March 2008) "Selection of zoonoses of priority in the EpiSouth countries: final report on the assessment conducted in July 2007" (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no. 43- EpiSouth Report 4/2008*).
- (January-April 2008) Collection and review of the 3-5 pages contribution documents (processing of their content for incorporation in the WP8 strategic document).
- (October 2007-September 2008) Collaboration and link with existing networks (MED-VET-NET, MZCC etc.), through repeated communications from WP8 Greek Team, where the mission and objectives of the EpiSouth project, as well as the need for exploring a field of combined action were stated. MED VET NET appears not to be available, MZCC is under a re-organisation phase.
- (March-June 2008) Finalisation of the questionnaire for HPH and VPH officials and uploading on the web site (in collaboration with WP2) for on line compilation. On 08/02/08 we uploaded in ENWA the final HPH VPH with a deadline end of February for comment.

- (August-October 2008) on line data collection. After several revisions the online version of the questionnaire was made ready by CINECA in May. We approved it on the 24th of June. On 10th of September 2008 the electronic version was uploaded to be compiled until the 31st of October 2008 (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no. 44*).
- (May 2008) On line compilation of the WP4 Questionnaire.
- (November 2008) On line compilation of the WP7 Questionnaire.
- (January – September 2008) Work with the Steering Team for drafting zoonosis strategic document.

### ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO REACH THE OBJECTIVES IN THE 3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR PLUS EXTENSION

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- (October 2008) participation in the Steering Committee Brussels.
- (November 2008) search for funding of EpiSouth in Greece.
- (December 2008) Multiple contacts with Minister of Health and Social Solidarity as Well with his Deputy in the Euro Med conference Dr P Efstathiou regarding the visibility of EpiSouth which they support.
- (March 2009) evaluation of the Project by the Focal points Greece was delivered to WP3.
- (January March 2008) collaboration with the steering team for the preparation of the Strategic Document for the vertical session in Sofia 29 March - 1 April 2009. An Analysis of the “3-5 pages document” was conducted in order to comprise information about the epidemiology and the existing strategies/policies/programs for control and prevention of the selected zoonoses of priority in their countries, describe the routes of collaboration between VPH and HPH officials, state needs/problems in this field and make suggestions for improvement.
- (January March 2008) preparation for the Project meeting in Sofia 29 March - 1 April 2009 and request for funding from HCDCP which was not accepted.
- (Sofia 29 March - 1 April 2009) Presentations three on the achievements and the strategic document of WP8.
- Further elaboration of the strategic document with all steering team members in the meeting.
- May 2009 contribution to the forum for illegal migration policies in EpiSouth countries: a report for Greece.
- June 2009 : Contribution to the WP5 with one expert trainer provided from Greece, for the training module 2009 in Madrid along with a trainee from HCDCP.
- June 2009: contribution to WP6 of case definition for pandemic influenza A (H1N1) from Greece (ANNEX IV).
- September 2009: contribution to WP6 of epidemiological data from Greece.
- (October 2008 to September 2009) Collaboration and link with existing networks (MED-VET-NET, MZCC etc.), through repeated communications from the part of the WP8 Greek Team,

where the mission and objectives of the EpiSouth project, as well as the need for exploring a field of combined action were stated. MED VET NET appears available, MZCC as well.

- (August 2009 ) Finalisation of the HPH and VPH officials directory in the Public are of EpiSouth website: [http://www.EpiSouth.org/search\\_zoonosis.php](http://www.EpiSouth.org/search_zoonosis.php)
- (August 2009) Uploading of the August 2009 Strategic Document for the Steering Team and vertical sessions focal points attention and contribution. There was considerable feedback.
- (August September 2009) Statigic Document brought to the final size and contents to be presented to the scientific committee on the 30th of September, in close collaboration with all EpiSouth WPs and WP8 steering team members.
- (May 2009 to end September 2009) with WP1 preparation of place, time and Agenda, of the WP8 ST meeting that will be held in Malta, 5-6 November 2009 for all WP8 steering team and vertical sessions focal points.
- Implementation and organization of the WP8 Steering Team Meeting on Zoonoses and the Strategic Document, 5-6 November 2009, in Malta (*for further details see also Table 5. List of documents available on EpiSouth website: no. 45*).
- Participation of Rengina Vorou in the 5<sup>th</sup> EpiSouth Steering Committee Meeting , 12-13 November 2009, Venice, Italy.
- Finalization of the Strategic Document, in close collaboration with the WP8 Steering Team, and subsequently, with the Editorial Board of the EpiSouth.
- Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup> of April to Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April 2010, participation of Kassiani Gkolfinopoulou and Rengina Vorou in the “EpiSouth Steering Committee and Project Meeting and Conference on Communicable Diseases and PH in the Mediterranean and Balkans”. Presentation of the final form of the Strategic Document on Zoonoses and Cross Border emergence.
- Final Call of the four countries which did not contribute to the HPH VPH Directory, to collect the contact details of their Expert Epidemiologists designated in their countries for the surveillance of the five selected zoonoses in the Human and Veterinary Public Health Authorities.

## 3.2 ACTIVITIES RELATED TO OTHER ASSOCIATED BENEFICIARIES

### 3.2.1 MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES DEPT., MINISTRY OF HEALTH , CYPRUS

The Department of Medical and Public Health Services of the Ministry of Health of Cyprus participates in the project as an Associated Partner. Three members of the Unit for Surveillance and Control of Communicable Diseases are actively involved in the project:

- Dr. Olga Kalakouta, Senior Medical Officer
- Chryso Gregoriadou, Senior Health Visitor
- Avgi Hadjilouka, Medical Laboratory Scientist

As well as Yiola Mpargouli, Veterinary Officer, Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

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## ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN THE 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR

The project started in October 2006. Cyprus participants went through the detailed description of the project, sent out by the project coordinators and decided about the procedure (coordination, responsibilities, activities etc.) that was going to be followed, from our site in relation to the project. All administrative obligations were fulfilled and necessary documentation was sent out in November 2006.

Cyprus didn't participate to the 1<sup>st</sup> Steering Committee meeting, not being a leader of any work package, but the project coordinators kept us informed about the proceedings.

Chryso Gregoriadou and Avgi Hadjiloukas participated and presented the Cypriot Network for Surveillance of Communicable Diseases during the 1<sup>st</sup> EPISOUTH meeting that took place in March 2007. The feedback from that meeting was very positive as many issues related to the organization as well as the aims of the whole project were discussed. Following that meeting the work plan for the first year was agreed and Cyprus has participated in all WP and in the Steering Team of WP 8.

Cyprus team collaborated with the Greek team in finalizing the questionnaire for Zoonosis during the end of May-June 2007 and replied the questionnaire end of July 2007.

Beginning of July 2007, following collaboration with the person in charge of the Unit for Surveillance of Communicable Diseases, the WP 5 questionnaire related to training needs was replied.

Since July 2007 the EPISOUTH website has been functioning and Cyprus team is regularly informed about all updates.

In September 2007 Dr. Spyros Georgiou MPH, Senior Medical Officer in charge of Polis Chrysochous Area and Mr Solon Atashies, Environmental Health Inspector attended the first training module in Spain.

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## PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND HOW PROBLEMS WERE RESOLVED

No problems have been encountered during the first year of running the project.

### **The work programme planned for the following period**

Cyprus Team will participate in all planned meetings and specially cooperate in WP8 activities.

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## ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN THE 2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR

In this report the work undertaken by Cypriot participants and the results obtained during the second year of the project are described:

## ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN RELATION TO THE OBJECTIVES, MILESTONES AND DELIVERABLES ACHIEVED, INDICATORS OF ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

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The project continued between October 2007 end September 2008. End of October 2007 and beginning of November 2007 the 1<sup>st</sup> Interim Report was prepared, approved and subsequently submitted to the project coordinators.

The Epidemic Intelligence Questionnaire was duly compiled and submitted on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 2007

Chryso Gregoriadou and Avgi Hadjiloukas participated to the 2<sup>nd</sup> EPISOUTH meeting that took place in Athens 10th-12th December 2007. The feedback from the meeting was very positive as the project seemed to be advancing smoothly and networking among the countries participating was well advanced.

Yiola Mpargouli, Veterinary Officer, joined officially the team in March 2008.

The Zoonoses Strategic document contribution of Cyprus was prepared and submitted in June 2008. The document really assisted in mapping already existing strategies and collaboration of the two Services in the areas of specific zoonoses that were prioritized during a different procedure in the first year of the project.

The Questionnaire for the assessment of countries migration status profile and vaccination access of mobile population was coordinated and completed in collaboration with the Migration Department and the Statistical Service of Cyprus.

Also the questionnaire for constructing the Directory for Human Public Health and Veterinary Public Health contacts for selected zoonotic diseases was compiled in September 2008 and submitted in October 2008.

Between 2-6 June 2008, Drs E. Englezaki and N. Theologos participated to the Madrid training. The training was very interesting and useful for two doctors involved with outbreaks of communicable diseases in the periphery.

The weekly EPI Bulletin is very interesting and useful.

## PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND HOW PROBLEMS WERE RESOLVED

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No problems have been encountered during the second year of running the project

## DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE PROGRAMME AND OBJECTIVES FORESEEN AND THOSE ACTUALLY CONDUCTED AND ACHIEVED

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There were no differences

### **Activities planned for the next period**

Cyprus team will proceed with the planned activities, guided by the project coordinators

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## ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN THE 3RD YEAR PLUS EXTENSION

In this report the work undertaken by Cypriot participants and the results obtained during the third year of the project are described:

### ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN RELATION TO THE OBJECTIVES, MILESTONES AND DELIVERABLES ACHIEVED, INDICATORS OF ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

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The project continued between October 2008 end June 2010. End of October 2008 the 2<sup>nd</sup> Interim Report was prepared, approved and subsequently submitted to the project coordinators.

The WP7-Assessment of countries migration status profile and vaccination access of mobile population was duly replied and submitted on the 30<sup>th</sup> October 2008

EpiSouth WP3 Evaluation questionnaire was replied and submitted on the 4<sup>th</sup> of March 2009. Avgi Hadjiloukas participated to the 3<sup>rd</sup> EPISOUTH meeting that took place in Sofia 30 March-1 April 2009. The feedback from the meeting was very positive as the project seemed to be advancing smoothly and networking between the countries participating was well advanced.

Panayiota Marouchos attended the Madrid training between 15/6/2009 and 21/06/2009

Despite the Influenza A (H1N1) pandemic and the heavy load on the members of the Unit for Surveillance and Control of Communicable Diseases, we have managed to cope with our obligations with EPISOUTH project.

The WP 8 Strategic Document on Zoonoses was reviewed in October 2009 and Avgi Hadjiloukas participated to the WP8 Steering Team meeting in Malta 5-6 November 2009 where the document was discussed. The future steps of the WP 8 were also discussed during that meeting

### PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND HOW PROBLEMS WERE RESOLVED

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No problems have been encountered during the third year of running the project as well as the extension

### DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE PROGRAMME AND OBJECTIVES FORESEEN AND THOSE ACTUALLY CONDUCTED AND ACHIEVED

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There were no differences

### 3.2.2 DEPT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, MINISTRY OF HEALTH, MALTA

#### ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN THE 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR

- Two doctors for the Disease Surveillance Department from the Ministry of Health, the Elderly and Community care, attended the 1<sup>st</sup> EpiSouth meeting which was held in March 2007 in Rome.
- After the meeting it was decided that Malta would have been included in the steering committee of WP6 – “Cross-border epidemic intelligence”.
- A two part questionnaire was filled in July 2007. This involved:
  - Part 1: International Surveillance.
  - Part 2: Cross-border epidemic intelligence.
- In July, a questionnaire about work package 5, regarding training needs for our country, was filled in.
- We were also required to fill in the questionnaire on zoonoses for WP 8.
- In September 2007, two doctors from the department attended the 1st training module in Madrid.

Consultations with other colleagues from different departments, (eg. Veterinary surgeons) had to be done in order to fill in the questionnaires as comprehensively as possible.

We plan to send two representatives to the second project meeting which is going to be held in December 2007 in Athens.

#### ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN THE 2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR

- Participated in the teleconference on epidemic intelligence on 25/11/07.
- A questionnaire on work package 7 was filled in (deadline 29/10/07).
- A questionnaire on work package 6 was filled in (deadline 23/11/07).
- A questionnaire on work package 4 was filled in (deadline 26/02/08).
- A questionnaire on work package 3 was filled in (deadline 29/04/08).
- Participated in a teleconference with WP6 on 08/07/08.
- Two doctors from the Infectious Disease Prevention and Control Unit from the Department of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> project meeting held in Athens from 10-12<sup>th</sup> December 2007.
- Two of the staff of the Infectious Disease Prevention and Control Unit attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> training module in Madrid between the 2-6<sup>th</sup> June 2008.

Consultations with other colleagues from different departments ( including Veterinary surgeons, Immunization Unit, National Office of Statistics, Immigration Services, laboratory staff and medical colleagues ) had to be done in order to fill in the different questionnaires as comprehensively as possible.

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#### ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN THE 3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR PLUS EXTENSION

- In October 2008 a questionnaire for WP7 about migration status profile and vaccination access of migrant population was filled in.
- In January 2009 a questionnaire for WP8, an update on the sentinel surveillance systems for vaccine preventable disease was filled in.
- We were also required to fill in a questionnaire on contacts for HPH VPH for WP 8 in January 2009.
- In February 2009 a set of questions for the focal points was answered as part of WP3 evaluation.
- In March/April 2009, two doctors from the department attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> Project meeting in Sofia.
- A questionnaire from WP3 relating to Workpackages 6,7 and 8 was also filled in.
- Documentation related to the EpiSouth proposal to EC PH was also collated and sent.
- In November 2009, two doctors attended the WP8 meeting re Zoonoses held in Malta and helped in facilitating this meeting.
- Feedback on A(H1N1) information coverage by WP6 surveillance of A(H1N1) pandemic in EpiSouth was given in November 2009.
- In January 2010 the WP4 Public Health Institutions Directory was updated.
- In March 2010 we participated in a WP6 Teleconference.
- In April 2010, 2 doctors attended the EpiSouth Conference and 4<sup>th</sup> EpiSouth Project Meeting in Rome.
- In May 2010, the WP3 Evaluation Tool of EpiSouth – 2<sup>nd</sup> Version and the WP3 Monitoring Tool of EpiSouth – 2<sup>nd</sup> Version were updated.

Consultations with other colleagues from different departments, (eg. Veterinary surgeons) had to be done in order to fill in the questionnaires as comprehensively as possible.

Unfortunately due to pressures of work and lack of staff we were unable to attend the WP6 steering committee meeting in Morocco in November 2008 and no one was able to avail themselves of the training held this year in Spain.

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### 3.2.3 INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH, ROMANIA (IPH/ISPB)

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#### ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN THE 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR

On March 28 – 30<sup>th</sup> two representatives of IPHB (Dr. Adriana Pistol and Dr. Aurora Stanescu) attended the First EPISOUTH Meeting held in Rome. Each participating country presented its potential and its expectations from EPISOUTH Project and the planned activities in all the WPs were presented by the WP leader. The cost for this participation was supported by TAIEX agency.

In accordance with the project training objective, in the last week of June (25 – 29th) the Romanian team was involved in the development of questionnaire for the survey to identify training needs for implementation of WP5 training module by giving opinion regarding the clarity and the usefulness of the questions proposed by the WP leader. Two members of the project team were involved: Dr. Florin Popovici and Dr. Adriana Pistol.

The final form of the questionnaire for training need evaluation was filled in by the previous mentioned specialists in the first week of July (2 – 6th).

In accordance with the second objective of WP5, 2 persons (Dr. Rodica Popoescu and Dr. Lavinia Zota) were proposed and attended the first module of the Training in epidemiology- held in Madrid on September 10 - 14<sup>th</sup>. All the costs of the participation were supported form the project.

At the end of July (23 – 30<sup>th</sup>) the questionnaire for identifying zoonoses of priority (made by WP8 Steering Team) was completed by the IPHB team composed by Dr. Florin Popovici and Dr. Adriana Pistol.

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#### ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN THE 2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR

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##### WP 1: COORDINATION OF THE PROJECT

###### *Activities done by IPHB*

On December 10 – 12<sup>th</sup> three representatives of IPHB (Dr. Adriana Pistol, Dr. Aurora Stanescu and Dr. Roxana Serban) attended the Second EPISOUTH Meeting held in Athens. The Romanian team attended to the parallel sessions of the meeting: WP 6 – Dr. Adriana Pistol; WP 7 – Dr. Aurora Stanescu and WP 8 – Dr. Roxana Serban (working procedures and outputs).

The costs for this participation were supported by the project.

## WP5: TRAINING IN EPIDEMIOLOGY

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### *Activities done by IPHB*

2 persons (Dr. Rodica Popescu and Dr. Radu Cucuiu) were proposed and attended the second module of the Training in epidemiology- held in Madrid on June, 02 - 06<sup>th</sup>. All the costs of the participation were supported by the project.

## WP 7: VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASES AND MIGRANT POPULATION

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### *Activities done by IPHB*

Data and information for the questionnaire *Assessment of countries migration status profile & vaccination access of migrant population* have been collected and will be inserted as soon as the on-line version will be available by the IPHB team (members for this issue is composed by. Dr. Adriana Pistol, Dr. Aurora Stanescu).

## WP 8: EPIDEMIOLOGY AND PREPAREDNESS TO CROSS-BORDER EMERGING ZOO NOTIC INFECTIONS

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### *Activities done by IPHB*

On February 14<sup>th</sup> it was completed and sent to the leader of WP8 the report on zoonoses for Romania. On April 22<sup>th</sup> was completed and sent to the leader of WP8 the questionnaire for five zoonosis (strategic document). The IPHB team was composed by Dr. Roxana Serban (behalf Dr. Florin Popovici) and Dr. Adriana Pistol.

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### ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN THE 3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR PLUS EXTENSION

On March 30<sup>th</sup> – April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 two representatives of IPHB (Dr. Rodica Popescu and Dr. Aurora Stanescu ) attended the Third EPISOUTH Meeting held in Sofia. The Romanian team attended to the parallel sessions of the meeting: WP 6 – Dr. Rodica Popescu; WP 7 – Dr. Aurora Stanescu (working procedures and outputs). The costs for this participation were supported from the project.

On April 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2010 two representatives of IPHB (Dr. Aurora Stanescu and Dr. Lavinia Zota) attended the EPISOUTH Meeting for final evaluation of the project held in Rome. The costs for this participation were supported from the project.

## WP5: TRAINING IN EPIDEMIOLOGY

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### *Activities done by IPHB*

In accordance with the second objective, 2 persons (Dr. Viorica Gheorghiu and Dr. Ionel Iosif) were proposed and attended the third module of the Training in epidemiology- held in Madrid on June, 14 - 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009. All the costs of the participation were supported form the project.

## WP 8: EPIDEMIOLOGY AND PREPAREDNESS TO CROSS-BORDER EMERGING ZOOONOTIC INFECTIONS

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### *Activities done by IPHB:*

In accordance to these objectives on November 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009, Dr. Lavinia Zota attended to the WP 8 Steering Team Meeting held in Malta. The costs for this participation were supported by organiser.

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### 3.2.4 INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH, SLOVENIA(IVZ-RS)

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#### ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN THE 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR

- in March 2007 dr. Alenka Kraigher, MD, head of centre for communicable diseases, and Nadja Koren, MD, researcher, attended the first project meeting. This meeting was not planned in the beginning, but was a very successful meeting, specifically successful from the point of launching the project (meeting other participants and their expectations, presentation of scientific, technical and other components of the project).
- in August 2007 Slovenian team participated to the starting of the investigation about surveillance of zoonoses made by medical and veterinary officials. Results are shown in questionnaire about zoonoses, sent in August to project coordinators. From our point of view the questionnaire brought not just overview of different procedures between different countries, but also pointed out weak spots in our national system.
- In September 2007 major work was done to collaborate in preparing questionnaire for WP7 about vaccination of migratory populations.
- In September 2007 dr. Eva Grilc, head of department for surveillance and Veronika Učakar, MD from department of vaccine preventable diseases, participated in training session in Madrid.
- There were also many other activities and milestones in the project in which Slovenian members were not directly involved, but were participating in order to enhance the networking and the exchange of information (Steering Committee Meeting of Venice, Minutes of Project Meeting in Rome, Contact with European and International resources of interest, Enlargement of EpiSouth partners, Work plan for each year, EpiSouth web page, Planning and development of the questionnaire about zoonoses, Publishing of EpiSouth bulletin)

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#### PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND HOW PROBLEMS WERE RESOLVED

Due to excellent coordination of the project and all activities done, there were no problems noticed by Slovenian participants.

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#### ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN THE 2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR

In this report we describe work carried out by Slovenian participants and the results obtained during the 2nd year of activity (from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2007 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2008) and state in particular:

Activities undertaken in relation to the objectives, milestones and deliverables achieved, indicators of activities and outputs:

- In October 2007 1<sup>st</sup> interim report for EpiSouth is done by Slovenian participating members.
- In November 2007 the continuous work and collaboration was going on in preparing questionnaire for WP7 – Vaccine preventable diseases and migrant population. The participants from IVZ RS Slovenia (Alenka Kraigher, MD and Veronika Učakar, MD) are members of the Steering Committee for the WP7.
- In December 2007 Nadja Koren, MD, Veronika Učakar, MD and Mateja Blaško attended the Second Project Meeting in Athens (10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> December 2007). Meeting was very successful, there was the presentation of the outcomes of the 1<sup>st</sup> year of the project for the WP2-WP8 (done, to be done, results, problems, proposed actions, lessons learned). There was also the Steering team meeting for the WP7, in which Slovenia is more deeply involved. Here the agenda and the working plan for the WP7 were discussed and also the main objectives. In the Parallel session for the WP7 was even more discussion about questionnaire for collecting the important information from the participating countries about outline for the strategic document, integration with other WP and work plan for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year.
- In February 2008 the collection of information was going on for the questionnaire about Institutions partners, the final version of the questionnaire describing the Slovenian Institute for Public Health was uploaded to the EpiSouth web page at the end of this month.
- In April 2008 the collection and gathering the information about selected zoonoses for the questionnaire for WP8 was going on. Regarding collecting this information there was a lot of collaborations with the Slovenian veterinary service. The final version of the questionnaire describing the selected zoonoses in Slovenia was uploaded to the EpiSouth web page at the end of this month. From our point of view the questionnaire brought not just overview of different procedures between different countries, but also pointed out weak spots in our national system.
- In May 2008 the focal points from Slovenia participated in web based survey – internal monitoring tool of the EpiSouth Network, which investigated the overall project and the framework for WP1-WP5.
- In June 2008 Veronika Učakar, MD from Department of vaccine preventable diseases and Zoran Simonović, MD from regional Institute for Public Health Maribor participated in Second Training Module in Madrid.
- In June 2008 we were dealing with the final version of the questionnaire for the WP7 - Vaccine preventable diseases and migrant population. The approval of final version of this questionnaire was also send to the WP7 leader in Bulgaria.
- In August and September 2008 we started to collect and gather the information about vaccine preventable diseases, vaccination and different migrant populations in Slovenia.

We also started to build up the Directory with human public health and veterinary public health contacts for selected zoonotic diseases for Slovenia.

- In October 2008 the 2nd interim report for EpiSouth is done by all Slovenian participating members.
- There were also many other activities and milestones in the project in which Slovenian members were not directly involved, but were important for process (Steering Committee Meetings (Venice), Minutes of Steering Committee Meetings (Venice, Rome), Contact with European and International resources of interest, Enlargement of EpiSouth partners, Work plan for each year, EpiSouth web page, Planning and development of the questionnaire about zoonoses, Publishing of EpiSouth bulletin...)

#### PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND HOW PROBLEMS WERE RESOLVED

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- Due to excellent coordination of the project and all activities done, there were no problems noticed by Slovenian participants.

#### **The work programme planned for the following period:**

- Slovenian members will participate in all planned meetings and specially cooperate in WP7 activities.

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#### ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN THE 3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR PLUS EXTENSION

In this report we describe work carried out by Slovenian participants from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2008 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010 and state in particular activities undertaken in relation to the objectives, milestones, deliverables, and indicators of activities and outputs:

Focal Point for the WP7 Steering Team was appointed and the access to the EpiSouth website (NWA) activated. Alenka Kraigher was in charge of the execution of all the scientific activities concerning EpiSouth for Slovenia, with particular reference to WP7.

Veronika Učakar, Zoran Simonović attended EpiSouth – 3th Project Meeting (30.3.–1.4.2009 Sofia, Bulgaria). Meeting was very successful. The main goal of the meeting was to present the status of the project and future perspectives oriented towards 4 strategic documents (zoonoses, epidemic intelligence, VPD, migrants and training). The discussion was very intensive also regarding invitation of other countries in the future project.

Cross-border epidemic intelligence activities according to the EpiSouth community needs of participating countries were undertaken in 2009 sharing alerts generated by national early warning system. The secure web-platform was very useful environment to allow rapid circulation of information as well as offering a space for discussion.

The final version of the online questionnaire was developed to present a picture of the current situation regarding migration health, with focus on the risk of dissemination of Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPD) in the late September 2008. Disclosure of the strengths and weaknesses of the

current national systems for the prevention and control of communicable diseases among migrant people is the basis for the elaboration of practical guidance in this area.

In order to identify key topics to be discussed more in depth during the Sofia meeting and better direct the attention of the group discussion on issues critical to the project success, we answered the questionnaire in spring 2009.

We made number of accesses to the web page of EpiSouth and also password protected member's area. EpiSouth Electronic Bulletin - EpiSouth Weekly Epi Bulletin (e-WEB) were frequently visited.

In October 2008 the 2nd interim report was prepared referring to the 2nd year of activity (from 1st October 2007 to 30th September 2008).

Three participants Alenka Kraigher, Nuška Čakš and Maja Praprotnik from Slovenija attended the EpiSouth Conference on Communicable Diseases and Public Health in the Mediterranean and Balkans Rome, 21-23 April 2010. Round Table 4 Vaccine Preventable Diseases and Migrants, present challenges in Mediterranean Countries and Balkans was moderated by Alenka Kraigher.

There were also many other activities and milestones in the project in which Slovenian members were not directly involved, but were important for process (Minutes of Steering Committee Meetings, Contact with European and International resources of interest, Enlargement of EpiSouth partners, Work plan for each year, EpiSouth web page, Planning and development of the questionnaire about zoonoses, Publishing of EpiSouth bulletin...)

Due to excellent coordination of the project and all activities done, there were no problems noticed by Slovenian participants. The importance of the EpiSouth project lies in its potential to strengthen human capacity and resources in the area it covers. This is an area which is characterized by particular features, composing a special socio-economic context. We believe that this is very important to prolong collaboration among Mediterranean and Balkan countries in future.

Table 5 - List of Documents Available on EpiSouth Website

No.	Title	WP	EpiSouth Web Site	
			Public	Private
1	Minutes, Agenda and list of Participants – 1 <sup>st</sup> EpiSouth Steering Committee	WP1	Only Agenda	X
2	Minutes, Agenda and list of Participants – 2 <sup>nd</sup> EpiSouth Steering Committee	WP1	Only Agenda	X
3	Minutes, Agenda and list of Participants – 3 <sup>rd</sup> EpiSouth Steering Committee	WP1	Only Agenda	X
4	Minutes, Agenda and list of Participants – 4 <sup>th</sup> EpiSouth Steering Committee	WP1	Only Agenda	X
5	Minutes, Agenda and list of Participants – 5 <sup>th</sup> EpiSouth Steering Committee	WP1	Only Agenda	X
6	Report of the First Project Meeting (Rome, 28-30 March, 2007)	WP1	EpiSouth <a href="#">Report</a> 1/2007	X
7	EpiSouth Project organisation document	WP1		X
8	Report of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> EpiSouth Project Meeting	WP4	EpiSouth <a href="#">Report</a> 2/2008	X
9	Report of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> EpiSouth Project Meeting	WP4	EpiSouth <a href="#">Report</a> 7/2009	X
10	Report of the 4 <sup>th</sup> EpiSouth Project Meeting	WP4	EpiSouth <a href="#">Report</a> 11/2009	X
11	EpiSouth Conference Agenda, Presentations and Photos	WP1	<a href="#">Agenda</a> and <a href="#">Photos</a>	X
12	EpiSouth Collection of Survey Reports, Istisan Report 10/6	WP2	<a href="#">Report</a>	X
13	List of Countries Focal Points	WP1		X
14	Project Work-Plans for 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> year	WP1		X
15	Project's outline	WP1/WP2	<a href="#">Outline</a>	X
16	Project's leaflet	WP1/WP2	<a href="#">Leaflet</a>	X
17	Project's Fact Sheets	WP1/WP2	<a href="#">Fact Sheets</a>	
18	Issues of the electronic bulletin and Press Releases	WP2	<a href="#">Bulletin</a> ; <a href="#">press releases</a>	
19	Poster and presentations	All WPs (see Table 6)	X	
20	Evaluation Plan	WP3		X
21	Meeting Evaluation Report	WP3	In <a href="#">EpiSouth Report</a> 12/2010	X
22	Monitoring Tool of Network Development: results from the questionnaire distributed during the Second Project Meeting (Athens, 10-12 December 2007)	WP3	<a href="#">EpiSouth Report</a> 3/2008	
23	Monitoring Report (October 2006- March 2009)	WP3	<a href="#">EpiSouth Report</a> 8/2009	
24	Final Evaluation Report.	WP3	<a href="#">EpiSouth Report</a> 12/2010	
25	Network Institutions Questionnaire	WP4		X
26	Networking Framework document	WP4		X
27	Report on Training Needs Survey	WP5	<a href="#">EpiSouth Report</a> 6/2008	X
28	Teaching material of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Training Module	WP5	1 <sup>st</sup> <a href="#">Module</a>	X
29	Teaching material of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Training Module	WP5	2 <sup>nd</sup> <a href="#">Module</a>	X
30	Teaching material of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Training Module	WP5	3 <sup>rd</sup> <a href="#">Module</a>	X
31	EpiSouth Strategic Documents	WP5, WP6, WP7, WP8	EpiSouth Report 10/2010 <a href="#">SDs</a>	X

		with the coordinati on of WP4		
32	Questionnaire on <i>countries' needs and expectations</i>	WP6		X
33	EI e-web bulletins	WP6	<a href="#">EI bulletins</a>	X
34	Thematic Notes	WP6	<a href="#">Thematic Notes</a>	X
35	Cross-Border Epidemic Intelligence evaluation: <i>"Results from the questionnaire on countries' needs and expectations"</i>	WP6	<a href="#">EpiSouth Report 5/2008</a>	X
36	Steering team meeting in Marrakech (Agenda and Minutes)	WP6	Only Agenda	X
37	User guide for the EpiSouth cross-border alert (CBA) platform	WP6		X
38	A(H1N1) Informative Notes	WP6	<a href="#">A(H1N1) Notes</a>	
39	On-line questionnaire for countries based assessment on migration status profile & vaccination access of migrant population	WP7		X
40	Report on Pilot Assessment on "Countries migration status profile & vaccination access of migrant population"	WP7		X
41	Assessment of Countries Migration Status Profile and Vaccination Access of Mobile Population	WP7	<a href="#">EpiSouth Report 9/2009</a>	
42	Questionnaire on of zoonoses of priority in the EpiSouth countries			X
43	Report on "Selection of zoonoses of priority in the EpiSouth countries: final report on the assessment conducted in July 2007"	WP8	<a href="#">EpiSouth Report 4/2008</a>	X
44	On-line questionnaire for HPH and VPH officials Directory	WP8		X
45	Steering Team Meeting in Malta (Agenda and Minutes)	WP8	Only Agenda	X

**Table 6 - Presentation and dissemination of EpiSouth activities at International Conferences and Workshops under the coordination and support of WP2**

	WP	Conference	Place and date
1.	WP1	Escaide 2007	Stockholm, 18-20 October 2007
2.	WP1	EuroMed Conference on Health organized by the EU Portuguese Presidency	Brussels, 4-5 December 2007
3.	WP1	SANIT Conference	Rome (Italy), 23-25 June 2008
4.	WP1	EU Open Days	Bruxelles, 6-9 October 2008
5.	WP1	EuroMesco International Conference	Amman, 16-17 October 2008
6.	WP1	EuroMed International Conference on Health	Cairo (Epypt), 16-17 November 2008
7.	WP1	International Meeting on Emerging Diseases and Surveillance	Vienna ( Austria), 13–16 February 2009
8.	WP1	EU-DGSANCO Workshop on Health Programme projects on Generic Preparedness planning and response in health emergencies	Luxembourg, 30 September and 1 October 2009
9.	WP1	Connecting Health Organizations for Regional Disease Surveillance (CHORDS) Workshop organized by the Global Health and Security Initiative	Fondation Mérieux Les Pensières Conference Centre, Annecy (France), 17- 19 March 2010
10.	WP1	20th European Congress on Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ECCMID),	Vienna (Austria), 10-13 April 2010
11.	WP1/WP3/WP6/WP7/WP8	1st East Mediterranean Public Health Network (EMPHNET) and	Amman (Jordan) 19-22 October 2009

		the 4th TEPHINET Regional Scientific Conference	
12.	WP1/WP3/WP5/WP7/WP8	Escaide 2008	Berlin (Germany) 19-21 November 2008
13.	WP6	Journes de veille sanitaire	Paris (France) 29-30 November 2007
14.	WP6	3rd Meeting on Epidemic Intelligence in the EU	Stockholm ( Sweden) 5-6 December 2007
15.	WP6	Meeting on Early Warning for Chemical, Biological and Radio Nuclear Threats	Luxembourg 26-28 February 2008
16.	WP6	XXIII Journes Scientifiques	Paris (France), 28 March 2008
17.	WP6	WHO Workshop on “Early Warning Function under the framework of the International Health Regulations (IHR)”	Copenhagen (Danmark), 16 -18 June 2008
18.	WP6	Reunion Regionale Du Reseau Mati (Maroc, Algerie, Tunis Et Iran) Institut Pasteur de Tunis	Tunis (Tunisia) 27-30 January 2009
19.	WP6	International Meeting on Emerging Diseases and Surveillance - IMED 2009	Vienna (Austria), 13-16 February 2009
20.	WP6	14th International Congress on Infectious Diseases (ICID)	Miami (Florida), 9-12 March 2010
21.	WP7	EUPHA Pre-conference on Migrant Health	Lisbon (Portugal), 5 November 2008
22.	WP7	Escaide 2009	Stockholm, 26-28 October 2009
23.	WP7	VIII National Congress of clinical microbiology and infectology	Plovdiv (Bulgaria) 20-25 April, 2010

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Rome, 28 October 2010

Project Leader

Silvia Declich