

**Open Days 6-9 October 2008  
Brussels, Belgium**

**Health Village: Workshop 07A13  
"Community programmes in the field of health: first results and future  
challenges"**

**Tuesday 7 October at 14.30-16.15**

- 14.30-14.35**      **Opening by the Chair**  
Mr Christophe Bertrand, Head of Unit "Health Programme and Knowledge Management", DG Health and Consumers, European Commission
- 14.35-14.50**      **Results of the Public Health Programme 2003-2007; Challenges of the New Health programme 2008-2013 for the Regions**  
Ms. Donata Meroni, DG Health and Consumers, European Commission
- Presentations by 3 projects co-financed by the Public Health Programme: results, relevance for the Regions, expectations for the future.**
- 14.50-15.05**      **Healthy regions – When Well-being Creates Economic Growth**  
Ms Henriette Hansen, Project Leader  
Lead organisation: South Denmark European Office  
[http://ec.europa.eu/phea/documents/2007\\_5986\\_EN.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/phea/documents/2007_5986_EN.pdf)
- 15.05-15.20**      **ISARE 3 - Health indicators in Europe's regions (Phase 3)**  
Mr. André Ochoa, Project Leader  
Lead organisation: FNORS (Fédération Nationale des Observatoires Régionaux de la Santé)  
[http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph\\_projects/2003/action1/action1\\_2003\\_02\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_projects/2003/action1/action1_2003_02_en.htm)
- 15.20-15.35**      **EPISOUTH - Network for communicable disease control in southern Europe and Mediterranean countries**  
Ms Silvia Declich, Project Leader  
Lead organisation: Istituto superiore di Sanità, Rome, Italy  
[http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph\\_projects/2005/action2/action2\\_2005\\_8\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_projects/2005/action2/action2_2005_8_en.htm)
- 15.35-16.10**      **Discussion, questions by the audience, moderated by the Chair**
- 16.10-16.15**      **Conclusions**

**The workshop will be accompanied by a poster exhibition of successful projects of the Public Health Programme**



## *EpiSouth*

Network for Communicable Disease Control  
in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

Silvia Declich

Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS) Rome, Italy  
(Italian National Institute of Health)

*Open Days 2008*

*Health Village Workshop "Community programmes in the field of health"*

*7 October 2008, Brussels, Belgium*





## *Overview*

Background information about the project

Main project achievements

Conclusions

- Added values
- Best practices
- Future challenges





## ***EpiSouth Project Objective***

Episouth Network aims at creating 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



## ***Funding and duration***

- The project is under a DGSANCO Grant Agreement which states that the project shall run for **3 years from 1 Oct 2006 to 30 Sept 2009**
- We acknowledge also the financial support of EC EuropeAid and DG Enlargement through the TAIEX facility and of the Italian Ministry of Health through the *Epimed Project*

## *Areas of activities (WPs)*

- ④ The project is composed by 8 Work Packages (WPs) which should be considered autonomous in their scope, tasks, topic and membership
- ④ Each WP is led by a Public Health Institution and developed by a WP Steering Team, constituted by the WP Leader and those participating countries which have expressed their special interest for the related WP





## ***Project organisation***

### **• Country Focal Points (CFP)**

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

### **• Project Steering Committee (SC)**

The project is led by a SC, composed by the 6 WP leaders plus representatives of ECDC, EC-DGSanco, WHO-Euro, WHO-Emro and WHO-HQ as observer





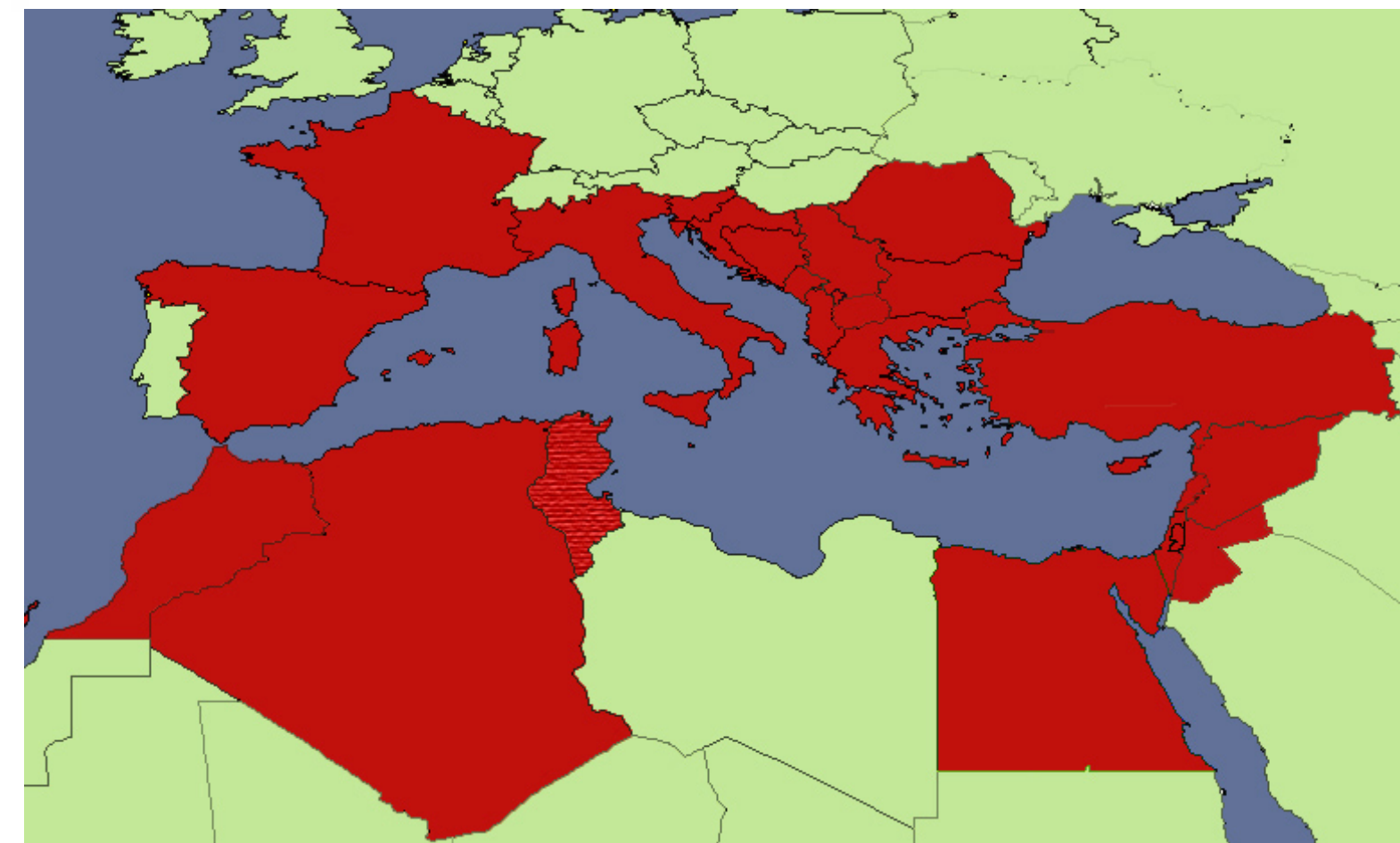
## ***Participant Countries and Organisations***

As per September 2008, the EpiSouth Network is composed by:

- 25 Countries with 60 Focal Points (+Tunisia in progress),
- and 6 Collaborating Institutions (ECDC, EC-DGSanco, WHO-Euro, WHO-Emro, WHO-Lyo/HQ and Italian MOH)





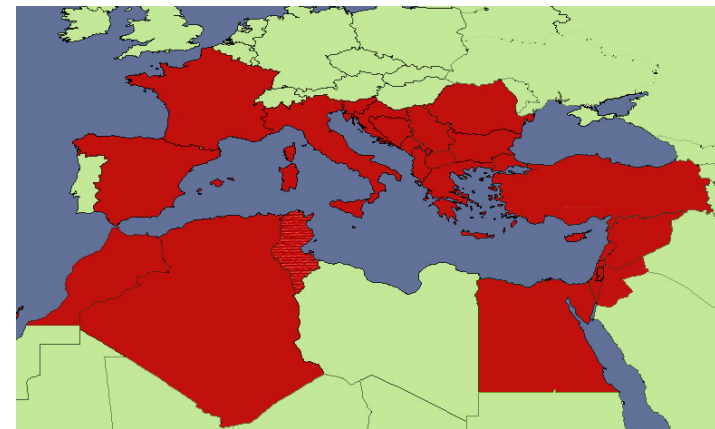
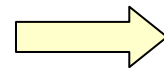
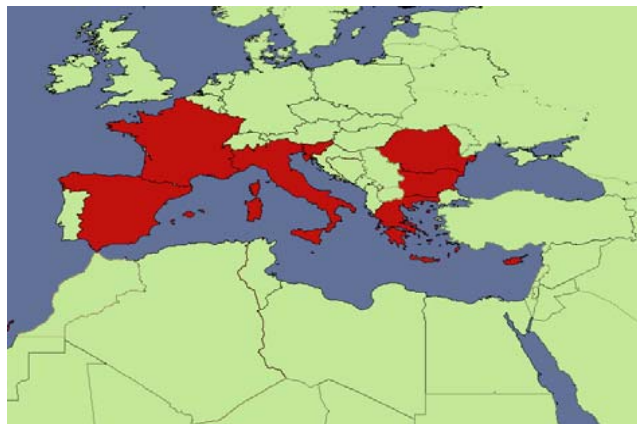


## ***Main project achievements: Enlargement***



- From 9 EU Countries to 25 (EU and non-EU Countries) plus 6 Collaborating Institutions

[https://www.episouth.org/list\\_participating\\_countries.html](https://www.episouth.org/list_participating_countries.html)





## ***Main project achievements: Networking***



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

[https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp1/Report\\_1st\\_Episouth\\_Project\\_Meeting\\_28-30\\_March\\_07.pdf](https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp1/Report_1st_Episouth_Project_Meeting_28-30_March_07.pdf)

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

[https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp4/Meeting\\_Report\\_Atene.pdf](https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp4/Meeting_Report_Atene.pdf)





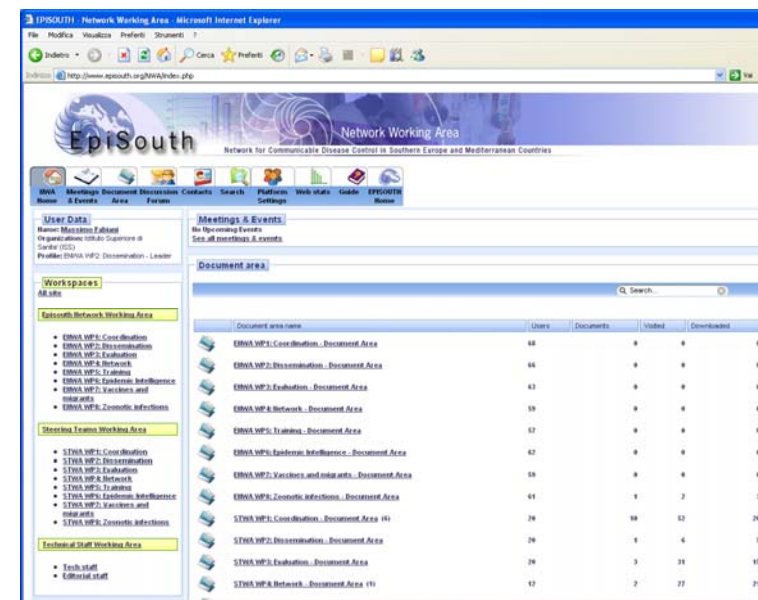
## Main project achievements: **Networking**



A web-based **Network Working Area: a virtualised work environment** where Network participants exchange documents and information in a secure way.

### A controlled-access **suite of tools:**

- Meetings and events management
- Document workflow and storage
- Forum for open discussion
- List of contacts
- Data-entry



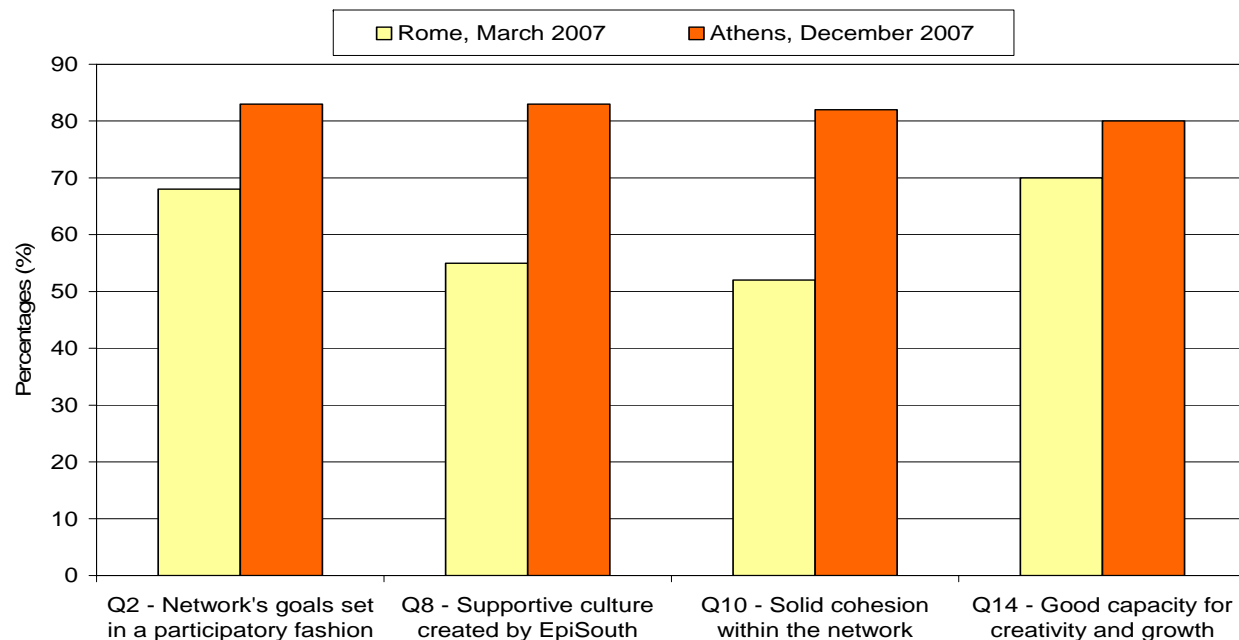
Document area name	Users	Documents	Visited	Downloaded
ERMS WP1: Coordination - Document Area	48	9	9	9
ERMS WP1: Dissemination - Document Area	44	9	9	9
ERMS WP1: Evaluation - Document Area	43	9	9	9
ERMS WP1: Network - Document Area	39	9	9	9
ERMS WP1: Training - Document Area	37	9	9	9
ERMS WP1: Evidence, Inference - Document Area	42	9	9	9
ERMS WP1: Vaccines and immunisation - Document Area	39	9	9	9
ERMS WP1: Zoonotic Infections - Document Area	41	1	2	3
STMS WP1: Coordination - Document Area (1)	24	10	12	24
STMS WP1: Dissemination - Document Area	24	1	4	5
STMS WP1: Evaluation - Document Area	24	3	11	15
STMS WP1: Network - Document Area (1)	12	2	22	21

## Main project achievements: **Monitoring**



- Monitoring of Network Development through questionnaires distributed during the 1st and 2nd Project Meetings

[https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp3/2nd\\_Monitoring\\_of\\_EpiSouth\\_Network\\_Development\\_ATHENS.pdf](https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp3/2nd_Monitoring_of_EpiSouth_Network_Development_ATHENS.pdf)



## ***Main project achievements: Training***



- Training needs assessment for all countries (with ad hoc questionnaire)
- First training module (36 participants plus guests)  
Madrid, 10-14 September 2007  
[https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp5/f\\_t\\_module/](https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp5/f_t_module/)
- Second training module (33 participants plus guests)  
Madrid, 2-6 June 2008  
[https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp5/s\\_t\\_module/](https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp5/s_t_module/)
- Directory of training courses and fellowships (in progress)





# Main project achievements: Cross-border Epidemic Intelligence



• Pilot assessment of existing epidemic intelligence activities in participating countries (with ad hoc questionnaire)  
[https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp6/WP6-survey\\_Report\\_Fin.pdf](https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp6/WP6-survey_Report_Fin.pdf)

• Epidemic Intelligence weekly bulletins and thematic notes

• Website secured section on cross-border epidemic intelligence with alerts originating from partners (in progress)

**INDEX e-WEB n°1**

- A(H5N1) Avian influenza: update of the situation as of 25<sup>th</sup> March 2008
  - Cumulative Number of Confirmed Human Cases of Avian Influenza A(H5N1) reported to WHO
  - Notification of new avian influenza outbreak (date first)
- Yellow fever in Latin America
- Meningitis in Sub-Saharan Africa

Country	2002-2005		2006		2007		2008		Total
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	
Azerbaijan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bangladesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Canada	4	4	2	2	1	1	0	0	7
China	0	0	23	0	0	0	3	3	26
Denmark	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Egypt	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	4
Indonesia	20	13	88	45	42	36	12	11	129
Italy	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	2
Malaysia	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
Nepal	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
Thailand	22	14	3	3	0	0	0	0	25
Turkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vietnam	93	42	0	0	0	0	3	3	138
<b>Total</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>325</b>

**Vietnam**

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

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



***Main project achievements:***  
***Vaccine preventable diseases***  
***and migrant populations***



- Pilot assessment of vaccine-preventable diseases and migrant populations in participating countries (with ad hoc questionnaire)
- On-line questionnaire compilation for the survey on assessment of countries migration status profile and vaccination access of mobile population (in progress)



***Main project achievements:***



***Cross-border emerging zoonoses***

- Assessment and selection of five zoonoses of priority in the Episouth countries (with ad hoc questionnaire)  
[https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp8/WP8Report Public area FINALE REV 9-4-08.pdf](https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp8/WP8Report_Public_area_FINALE_REV_9-4-08.pdf)
- Situation report by country regarding: Brucellosis, Campylobacteriosis, Leishmaniasis, Rabies and West Nile Virus
- On-line questionnaire compilation for the Directory of Human and Veterinary PH officials (in progress)

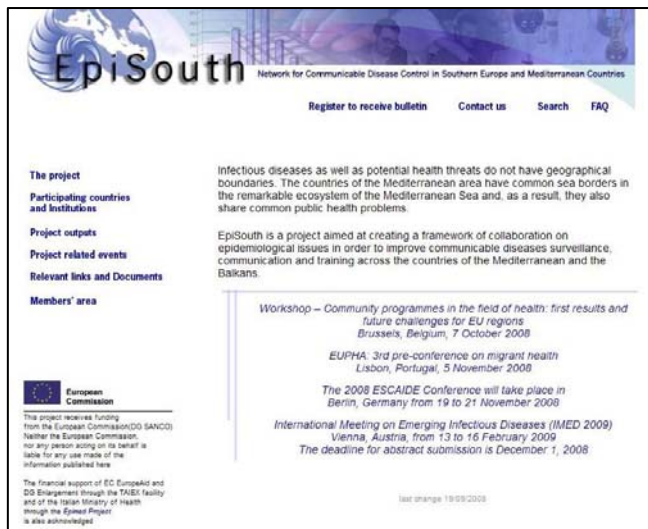


## Main project achievements: **Dissemination**

EpiSouth Web Site [www.episouth.org](http://www.episouth.org)

EpiSouth Quarterly Bulletins

[https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp2/EpiSouth\\_Electronic\\_Bulletin](https://www.episouth.org/outputs/wp2/EpiSouth_Electronic_Bulletin)



**EpiSouth** Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

Register to receive bulletin Contact us Search FAQ

**The project**  
**Participating countries and Institutions**  
**Project outputs**  
**Project related events**  
**Relevant links and Documents**  
**Members' area**

Infectious diseases as well as potential health threats do not have geographical boundaries. The countries of the Mediterranean area have common sea borders in the remarkable ecosystem of the Mediterranean Sea and, as a result, they also share common public health problems.

EpiSouth is a project aimed at creating a framework of collaboration on epidemiological issues in order to improve communicable diseases surveillance, communication and training across the countries of the Mediterranean and the Balkans.

**Workshop – Community programmes in the field of health: first results and future challenges for EU regions**  
 Brussels, Belgium, 7 October 2008

**EUPHA 3rd pre-conference on migrant health**  
 Lisbon, Portugal, 5 November 2008

**The 2008 ESCAIDE Conference will take place in**  
 Berlin, Germany from 19 to 21 November 2008

**International Meeting on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IMED 2009)**  
 Vienna, Austria, from 13 to 16 February 2009  
 The deadline for abstract submission is December 1, 2008

last change 19/09/2008



**EpiSouth Electronic Bulletin**  
 Issue 1 – January 2008

**EpiSouth Documents**  
 This document is the dissemination of the 1st and 2nd EpiSouth quarterly bulletins, available at 28 October 2007.

**EpiSouth Events**  
 The 2nd EpiSouth Meeting for Health Surveillance, Control and Prevention (HSCIP) will be held in Rome, Italy.

**In this issue:**  
 EpiSouth Activities: The project is introduced in 8 week packages.  
 The EpiSouth Network: The EpiSouth Network after one year of activities.  
 Project Topics: Conclusions from the Conference "Health and Migration in the EU: better health for all in an inclusive society" (Rome, 27-28 November 2007).  
 EpiSouth Newsletters: How often the 1st EpiSouth Training Module and poster presented at the ESCAIDE conference.  
 EpiSouth Events: 1st EpiSouth Meeting of EpiSouth.

**EpiSouth Activities**  
 The project "EpiSouth" is aimed at creating a framework of collaboration on epidemiological issues in order to improve communicable disease surveillance, communication and training across Mediterranean countries. The Project is articulated in 8 week Packages (WP).

1. WP1: Co-ordination of the project
2. WP2: Dissemination of the project
3. WP3: Evaluation of the project
4. WP4: Network of public health institutions
5. WP5: Training in field level surveillance
6. WP6: Cross border epidemic intelligence
7. WP7: Vaccine preventable diseases and related surveillance
8. WP8: Epidemiological and surveillance systems to cross border surveillance systems

**The EpiSouth Network**  
 Starting as an EU project, EpiSouth structure is growing in Mediterranean countries from an initial deployment of 10 countries (Italy, Spain, France, Greece, and Bulgaria), EpiSouth now gathers from international organisations and EU member states, Switzerland, and Southern Africa.

**Focus Topic**  
 The Conference Health and Migration in the EU better health for all in an inclusive society (Rome, 27-28 November 2007) was set to provide the scientific basis and political support for the development of important and long overdue efforts into the EU health system.

last issue





## ***Episouth Network Added Values***

- focuses on countries cross-border issues
- succeeds in creating cohesion and concrete collaboration among 26 countries of South Europe, Balkans, North Africa and Middle East
- fills a geographical area with common public health problems (Balkans and Mediterranean Basin) that is not addressed, as a whole, neither by the European Commission nor by WHO



## ***Balkans and Mediterranean basin***

### ➤ European Commission:

- **ECDC(9/26)**: Southern European Union Countries of Mediterranean: Bulgaria, Cyprus France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Romania, Slovenia, Spain
- **European Neighborhood Policy (18/26)**: all EU plus Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia
- **Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (20/26)**: all EU plus Albania, Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey

### ➤ WHO

- **Europe region: WHO-EURO (17/26)**: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Malta, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, FYROM, Turkey
- **Eastern Mediterranean region: WHO-EMRO (7/26)**: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia
- **Africa region: WHO-AFRO (1/26)**: Algeria





## ***Episouth Network Best practices***

- the methodology and approaches adopted have enhanced co-ownership of participant countries
- the presence of international institutions (ECDC, EC, WHO-EURO, WHO-EMRO, WHO-HQ) has allowed sharing views and facilitated interaction





## *Future challenges*

- The health sector, although recognized and included in the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (2005) and in the Joint Declaration of the Paris Summit for the Union of Mediterranean (2008), should be further valorized
- Although migration was added in the Barcelona Declaration (2005) the related health issues are rarely addressed
- Sustainability of the Network after the Episouth project end in 2010





Thank you

