



Room: Klimt Ballroom 2&3 • Upper Level

Sunday, February 6, 2011

08:30–10:30

### Surveillance & Public Health (Oral Presentations)

**Co-Chairs:** Jacques Acar, France  
Louise Boily, Canada

- 15.001 Information management in PREDICT: Digital and field surveillance to detect emerging infectious diseases of wildlife origin and protect human and animal health  
**D. Joly**<sup>1</sup>, T. O'Rourke<sup>1</sup>, J. Palmer<sup>2</sup>, J. Brownstein<sup>3</sup>, A. Sonricker<sup>3</sup>, L. Madoff<sup>4</sup>, P. Rabinowitz<sup>5</sup>, J. Wilson<sup>6</sup>, L. Gunasekara<sup>7</sup>, T. Goldstein<sup>8</sup>, C. Kreuder Johnson<sup>8</sup>, N. Wolfe<sup>7</sup>, P. Daszak<sup>9</sup>, W. Karesh<sup>9</sup>, J. Fair<sup>7</sup>, S. Morse<sup>9</sup>, J. Mazet<sup>8</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Nanaimo, BC (Canada), <sup>2</sup>Moshi (Tanzania, United Republic of), <sup>3</sup>Boston, MA (USA), <sup>4</sup>Brookline, MA (USA), <sup>5</sup>New Haven, CT (USA), <sup>6</sup>Seattle, WA (USA), <sup>7</sup>San Francisco, CA (USA), <sup>8</sup>Davis, CA (USA), <sup>9</sup>New York, NY (USA)
- 15.002 Electronic health market used to predict the spread of dengue  
**C. Franco**<sup>1</sup>, T. K. Sell<sup>1</sup>, A. T. Y. Ho<sup>2</sup>, P. Polgreen<sup>2</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Baltimore, MD (USA), <sup>2</sup>Iowa City, IA (USA)
- 15.003 EpiSouth Plus Project: the new challenge of the EpiSouth Network for enhancing the control of public health threats and other risks in the Mediterranean region and Balkans  
M. Dente<sup>1</sup>, M. Bejaoui<sup>2</sup>, **M. Fabiani**<sup>1</sup>, V. Alfonsi<sup>1</sup>, D. Lausevic<sup>3</sup>, G. Salamina<sup>4</sup>, K. Victoir<sup>5</sup>, H. Kalaycioglu<sup>6</sup>, F. Simon Soria<sup>7</sup>, C. Martin de Pando<sup>7</sup>, D. Hannoun<sup>8</sup>, P. Barboza<sup>9</sup>, F. Belghiti<sup>10</sup>, A. Leventhal<sup>11</sup>, F. Riccardo<sup>1</sup>, P. Nabeth<sup>12</sup>, S. Declich<sup>1</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Rome (Italy), <sup>2</sup>Tunis (Tunisia), <sup>3</sup>Podgorica (Montenegro), <sup>4</sup>Turin (Italy), <sup>5</sup>Paris (France), <sup>6</sup>Ankara (Turkey), <sup>7</sup>Madrid (Spain), <sup>8</sup>Algiers (Algeria), <sup>9</sup>St Maurice (France), <sup>10</sup>Saint Maurice Cedex (France), <sup>11</sup>Jerusalem (Israel), <sup>12</sup>Lyon (France)
- 15.004 Comprehensive analysis of OIE world animal health data as a means to identify global disease trends  
**U. Sperling**<sup>1</sup>, U. Kihm<sup>1</sup>, J. W. Smith<sup>2</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Berne (Switzerland), <sup>2</sup>Washington, DC (USA)
- 15.005 Cholera outbreak in Haiti, 2010 – Using a gravity model to explain spatial dynamics  
A. Tuite<sup>1</sup>, J. Tien<sup>2</sup>, D. J. Earn<sup>3</sup>, M. Eisenberg<sup>2</sup>, **D. Fisman**<sup>1</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Toronto (Canada), <sup>2</sup>Columbus, OH (USA), <sup>3</sup>Hamilton (Canada)
- 15.006 A method for quantifying transmission of Stage III zoonoses  
**J. Pulliam**<sup>1</sup>, S. Blumberg<sup>2</sup>, J. O. Lloyd-Smith<sup>2</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Bethesda, MD (USA), <sup>2</sup>Los Angeles, CA (USA)
- 15.007 Laboratory-acquired human cowpox infection in the US: Case investigation  
**A. McCollum**, C. Austin, J. Nawrocki, J. Howland, J. Pryde, A. Vaid, D. Holmes, R. Weil, Y. Li, K. Wilkins, H. Zhao, S. Smith, K. Karem, M. Reynolds, I. Damon  
Atlanta, GA (USA)
- 15.009 Recurring transmission of norovirus on a passenger aircraft  
**C. Thornley**<sup>1</sup>, J. Rapana<sup>1</sup>, G. Greening<sup>2</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Auckland (New Zealand), <sup>2</sup>Porirua (New Zealand)



## ***EpiSouth Plus Project:***

*The new challenge of the EpiSouth network for enhancing the control of public health threats and other risks in the Mediterranean region and South-East Europe*

Dente MG<sup>1</sup>, Bejaoui M<sup>2</sup>, **Fabiani M<sup>1</sup>**, Alfonsi V<sup>1</sup>, Lausevic D<sup>3</sup>, Salamina G<sup>4</sup>, Victoir K<sup>5</sup>, Kalaydioglu H<sup>6</sup>, Simon Soria F<sup>7</sup>, Martin de Pando C<sup>7</sup>, Hannoun D<sup>8</sup>, Barboza P<sup>9</sup>, Ait-Belghiti F<sup>9</sup>, Leventhal F<sup>10</sup>, Riccardo F<sup>1</sup>, Nabeth P<sup>11</sup>, and Declich S<sup>1</sup> on behalf of the EpiSouth Network

<sup>1</sup>Italian National Institute of Health-ISS, Rome, Italy; <sup>2</sup>Ministry of Health, Tunis, Tunisia; <sup>3</sup>Institute of Public Health, Podgorica, Montenegro; <sup>4</sup>Local Health Unit, Turin, Italy; <sup>5</sup>Institute Pasteur, Paris, France; <sup>6</sup>Refik Saydam National Hygiene Center, Ankara, Turkey; <sup>7</sup>Carlos III Health Institute–ISCIII, Madrid, Spain; <sup>8</sup>National Institute of Public Health, Alger, Algeria; <sup>9</sup>Institute for Public Health Surveillance–InVS, Saint Maurice Cedex, France; <sup>10</sup>Middle East Consortium on Infectious Disease Surveillance-MECIDS; <sup>11</sup>WHO-LYO Department of Epidemic and Pandemic Alert and Response, International Health Regulations Coordination, Lyon, France.

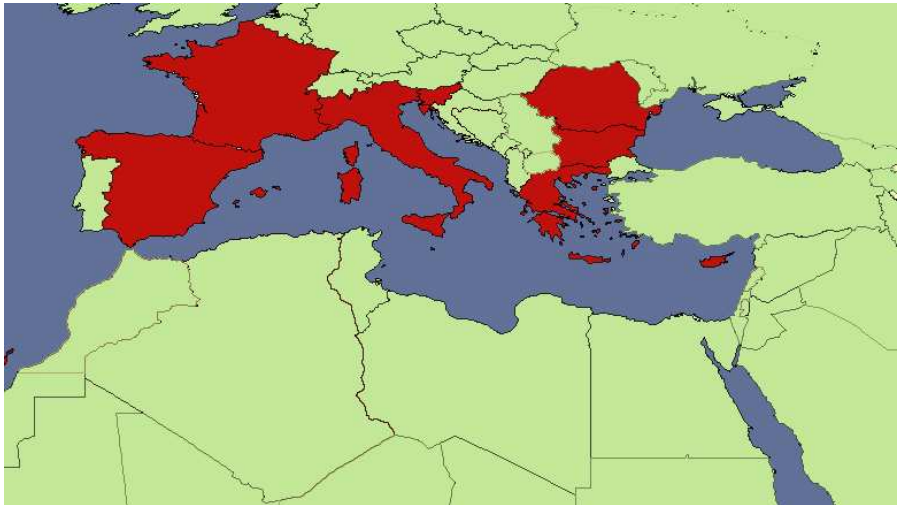
*International Meeting on Emerging Diseases and Surveillance (IMED 2011), Vienna, Austria, 4-7 February 2011*



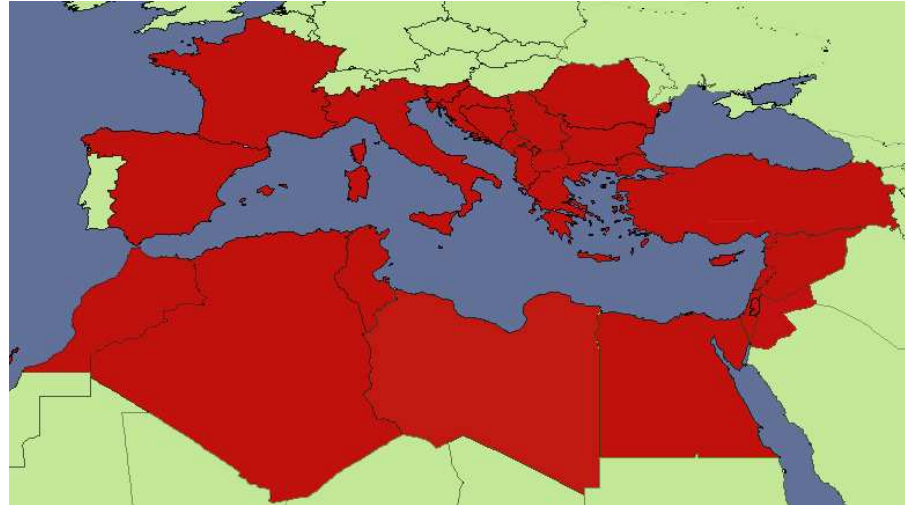
## Background

- The EpiSouth network was established in 2006
- The network activities in 2006-2010 were funded by the EU DG-SANCO (EpiSouth Project) with the support of the Italian Ministry of Health (EpiMed Project)
- From the initial involvement of 9 EU-countries, the network was enlarged to include also 18 non-EU-countries
- A new phase of the network activities called “**EpiSouth Plus**” started in October 2010 with co-funding by the EU DG-SANCO and EU DG-EuropeAid together with National Public Health Institutes and Ministries of Health

## Growth of the EpiSouth Network



9 EU countries at the Project starting  
(October 2006)



27 countries as per December 2010 (9  
EU countries, 17 non-EU countries and  
1 acceding country)



## **EpiSouth Activities (2006-2010)**

The network worked in the past four years to enhance communicable diseases surveillance in the Mediterranean region and South-East Europe

The network activities have focused on:

- Cross-border epidemic intelligence
- Vaccine preventable diseases and migrants
- Cross-border emerging zoonoses
- Training in field/applied epidemiology

More details are available at [www@episouth.org](http://www@episouth.org)





## Lessons Learnt (2006-2010)

- The approach based on countries expectations and regional needs has facilitated interest in participation
- The methodology adopted has enhanced co-ownership of participant countries
- The presence of international institutions (ECDC, EC, WHO-EURO, WHO-EMRO, WHO-HQ) has allowed sharing views while avoiding overlapping
- The web-based Network Working Area has provided a permanent communication tool and doc repository



## Added Values (2006-2010)

- Raised awareness on regional and countries cross-border issues
- Filled a geographical area with common public health problems that is not addressed, as a whole, neither by the European Union nor by WHO
- Succeeded in creating trust, cohesion and concrete collaboration among PH officers of 26 countries in the Mediterranean region and South-East Europe



## **EpiSouth Plus (2010-2013)**

**Start:** 15 October 2010

**Duration:** 30 months

**Funding:**

- EU DG-SANCO (EAHC)
- EU DG-EuropeAid (Instrument for Stability)
- EU Member States
- Non-EU countries
- Italian Ministry of Health
- ECDC





## EU Partners in EpiSouth Plus

1. ITALY
  - Institute of Health, Rome;
  - Local Health Unit, Turin;
  - General Hospital, Padua;
  - National Institute of Infectious Diseases, Rome;
  - CINECA, Bologna;
2. FRANCE
  - Institute Pasteur, Paris;
  - Institut de Veille Sanitaire, Saint Maurice Cedex;
3. SPAIN (Istituto de Salud Carlos III, Madrid);
4. BULGARIA (National Center of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases, Sofia);
5. CROATIA (Institute of Public Health) **as acceding country**
6. CYPRUS (Ministry of Health, Nicosia);
7. GREECE (Hellenic Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, Athens);
8. MALTA (Ministry of Health, Valletta);
9. ROMANIA (Institute of PH, Bucharest);
10. SLOVENIA (Institute of Public Health, Ljubljana);



## Non-EU Partners in EpiSouth Plus

1. ALBANIA, Tirana (Institute of Public Health);
2. ALGERIA, Alger (National Institute of Public Health);
3. BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA (Ministry of Civil Affairs, Sarajevo; Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Banja Luka, Republic of Srpska; Public Health Institute, Mostar, Federation of B&H);
4. EGYPT, Cairo (Ministry of Health and Population);
5. FYROM–Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Skopje (Institute for Health Protection; Clinic of Infectious Diseases);
6. ISRAEL (Center for Disease Control, Tel Hashomer; Ministry of Health, Jerusalem);
7. JORDAN, Amman (Ministry of Health);
8. KOSOVO UNSCR 1244, Prishtina (National Institute of Public Health);
9. LEBANON, Beirut (Ministry of Public Health);
10. LIBYA, Tripoli (Infectious Diseases Department Tripoli Central Hospital)
11. MONTENEGRO, Podgorica (Institute of Public Health);
12. MOROCCO, Rabat (Ministry of Health);
13. PALESTINE, Ramallah (Ministry of Health);
14. SERBIA, Belgrade (Institute of Public Health);
15. SYRIA, Damascus (Ministry of Health);
16. TUNISIA, Tunis (Ministry of Health);
17. TURKEY, Ankara (Ministry of Health; Refik Saydam National Hygiene Center)



## **EpiSouth Plus (2010-2013)**

### **General Objective**

To increase the health security in the Mediterranean area and South-East Europe by enhancing and strengthening the preparedness to common health threats and bio-security risks at national and regional levels in the countries of EpiSouth Network.



## **EpiSouth Plus Project organisation**

- General Assembly (GA)
- Country Focal Points (CFP)
- WP Steering Team (WP-ST)
- WP co-leaders
- Project Steering Committee (SC)
- Advisory Board (AB)



## **Areas of activities (Work Packages)**

Apart from the three horizontal WPs (i.e., coordination, dissemination and evaluation), the project is articulated in four core WPs.

- WP4: Mediterranean regional laboratories network
- WP5: Generic preparedness plan and risk management procedures
- WP6: Early warning system and cross-border epidemic intelligence
- WP7: Data and info collection and assessments for IHR implementation





## **WP4 - Specific Objective**

### **Establishment of a mediterranean regional laboratories network:**

A network of regional laboratories (including P4 Lab) will be established in order to facilitate common threats detection in the countries involved.

**WP leaders:** *French Institute Pasteur & Refik Saydam National Hygiene Center, Ministry of Health of Turkey*



## **WP5 - Specific Objective**

**Promotion of common procedures in interoperable generic preparedness and risk management for the countries involved in the project:**

Specific capacity building measures will address the need of interoperability and intersectoral collaboration of countries' preparedness plans to fit the requirements of the IHR and to ensure multi-country harmonic and prompt response.

**WP leaders:** *Spanish Instituto de Salud Carlos III & Institut National de Santé Publique of Algeria*



## **WP6 - Specific Objective**

**To enhance mediterranean early warning systems (EWS) allowing alerts and epidemic intelligence information sharing among EpiSouth countries and developing inter-operability with other European early warning platforms:**

Participating countries will share alerts generated by their national EWS with the EpiSouth EWS platform and inter-operability with EPIS will be developed.

**WP leaders:** *French Institut de Veille Sanitaire & MECIDS (Middle-East Consortium for Infectious Diseases Surveillance), Israel, Palestine and Jordan*



## **WP7 - Specific Objective**

**Production of a strategic document with guidelines based on assessments and surveys aimed at facilitating IHR implementation:**

In order to support the implementation of IHR, specific surveys and assessments will be conducted among the EpiSouth countries to describe how national plans and legislations can interact/interfere with IHR requirements.

**WP leaders:** *Italian National institute of Health and WHO-LYO*



## Conclusions

- The project promotes knowledge, resource and information sharing, and development of international trust
- The reinforcement of relations of trust in the region is an objective and an instrument in the scope of project's implementation
- The large number of participating countries makes EpiSouth the biggest inter-country collaborative effort for health threats control in the mediterranean region



## Acknowledgements

This project is co-funded by the European Union DG SANCO/EAHC and EuropeAid together with the involved national partner Institutions.

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