



The 2007
**European Scientific Conference on
Applied Infectious Disease Epidemiology
(ESCAIDE)**

sponsored by **ECDC** (*European Centre for Disease Control and Prevention*)

and jointly organised by :

ECDC

EPIET (*European Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training*)

EAN (*EPIET Alumni Network*)

TEPHINET EUROPE (*Training Programs in Epidemiology and Public Health Intervention NETWORK*)

will take place in **Stockholm** from **18-20 October, 2007**

AIMS

The conference will aim at: (a) strengthening and expanding the networks in applied infectious disease epidemiology (b) sharing scientific knowledge and experience in this area in Europe and beyond and (c) providing a dedicated platform for EPIET/FETP (field epidemiology training programme) fellows to present their work.

AUDIENCE

The target audience for the conference includes epidemiologists, microbiologists, clinicians and public, veterinary and environmental health experts with a professional and scientific interest in applied infectious disease epidemiology. In addition, the conference aims at bringing together members and staff of the National institutes of Public Health, Dedicated Surveillance Networks (DSNs) and EPIET-FETP fellows and alumni.

TOPICS

Disease outbreaks & surveillance, antimicrobial resistance, health care associated infections, vaccine preventable diseases, HIV/STI, tuberculosis, food borne diseases, respiratory diseases, modeling in communicable diseases, economic evaluation, zoonoses, environmental health, international health and influenza, methods for microbial identification and typing.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Johan Giesecke, ECDC (chair)
Andrea Ammon, ECDC
Arnold Bosman, ECDC/EPIET
Davide Manisero, ECDC
Jean-Claude Desenclos, ECDC Advisory Forum

Annika Linde, EPIET Executive Board
Susan Hahné, EPIET Alumni Network
Carole Desmoulins, EPIET
Marta Valenciano, EPIET
Luca Busani, TEPHINET
Panayotis T. Tassios, University of Athens



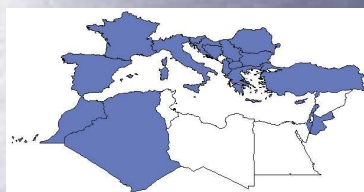
EpiSouth: creation of a network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

Silvia Declich (1), MG Dente (1), M Fabiani (1), R Gnesotto (2), G Putoto (2), F Simon Soria (3), P Barboza (4), M Kojouharova (5), R Vorou (6), for the EpiSouth Network

¹ Italian National Institute of Health (ISS), National Centre for Epidemiology, Surveillance and Health Promotion, Rome, Italy; ² Padua Teaching Hospital, Training and International Projects Department, Padua, Italy; ³ Carlos III Health Institute (ISCIII), National Epidemiology Centre Madrid, Spain; ⁴ French Institute for Public Health Surveillance (InVS), Department of International and Tropical Diseases, Saint Maurice Cedex, France; ⁵ National Center of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases (NCIPD), Department of Epidemiology and Surveillance of Communicable Diseases, Sofia, Bulgaria; ⁶ Hellenic Center for Diseases Control and Prevention (HCDCP), Office for Zoonoses and Foodborne Diseases, Athens, Greece.

BACKGROUND

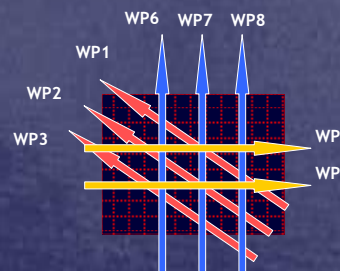
The Mediterranean region shares common public health problems. In 2005, several European Public Health Institutes decided to elaborate a framework of collaboration on epidemiological issues for improving communicable diseases surveillance and control, communication and training in the Mediterranean and the Balkans. This initiative led to the establishment by the end of 2006 of the EpiSouth Project, co-funded by EU and supported by Italian MOH (EpiMed Project).



The EpiSouth Network

METHODS

EpiSouth is composed by 8 WorkPackages (WP), lead by several Public Health Institutes. The main partner (ISS, Italy) coordinates the operational framework and data dissemination. Three vertical WPs, "Cross-border epidemic intelligence" (InVS, France), "Vaccines and migrants" (NCIPD, Bulgaria) and "Cross-border emerging zoonoses" (HCDCP, Greece), compose the technical basis. Two horizontal WPs, "Network" (Padua, Italy) and "Training" (ISCIII, Spain), provide tools in order to match with vertical WPs. The project is evaluated through a dedicated WP. All participant Countries jointly collaborate to the project through WP Steering Teams.



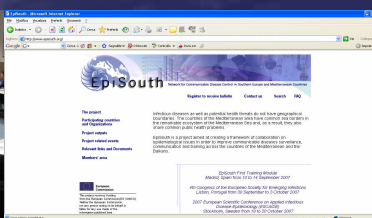
Work Package interrelations

RESULTS

In March 2007, 22 countries (South Europe, Balkans, North Africa and Middle-East), WHO and EU met to elaborate their new partnership. Each country designated national Focal Points to become part of the EpiSouth Network. First outcomes, including website, training module, cross-border epidemic procedures, vaccine-preventable disease and migrant populations survey, and disease listing priorities for emerging zoonoses, are in part already available.



First EpiSouth Meeting – Rome March 2007



EpiSouth Website



First EpiSouth Training – Madrid September 2007

CONCLUSIONS

EpiSouth is a unique project covering all sides of the Mediterranean. An effective collaboration will give a clearer picture of the peculiar context in this region and will identify significant gaps in public health. Moreover, network and communication will allow for a timely and coordinated response to health threats and to contain the spread of infectious diseases.

CONTACTS:

episouth@iss.it
www.episouth.org