

EXECUTIVE AGENCY FOR HEALTH AND CONSUMERS

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News & Events

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The EpiSouth Network includes 27 countries (9 EU and 17 non-EU, plus one EU candidate country). It is therefore the biggest inter-country collaborative effort of its kind in the region. With the approval of a new project phase (EpiSouth-Plus) in October 2010, the network now focuses on increasing health security in the Mediterranean Area and South-East Europe by enhancing and strengthening preparedness to common health threats and bio-security risks at national and regional levels in the countries of the EpiSouth Network.

The Ist EpiSouth-Plus Project Meeting pd , organized by the Italian National Institute of Health (ISS), was held in Rome from 5-7 December at the Italian Ministry of Health. Its aim was to present the current status of the project's activities and to discuss future developments and strategies.

Over 100 participants discussed:

- opportunities and challenges for coordinated action at regional level,
- integration between laboratory and epidemiological surveillance,
- early warning systems and epidemic intelligence,
- WHO guidance for the coordination of surveillance at points of entry in the framework of IHR 2005, and
- organization of a table top simulation exercise in the EpiSouth region.

Finally, parallel sessions were held to allow the work package steering teams to meet and discuss their specific plans of action for the last year of the project's life.

EpiSouth Plus is co-financed by the EU (EAHC/ DG SANCO and DG DEVCO/EuropeAid for an amount of 3.9 million Euro together with the involved Public Health Institutes and Ministries of Health. The financial support of the Italian Ministry of Health and ECDC is also acknowledged.

For more information, please contact:

The EpiSouth Dissemination Team Tel: +39 06 49904009;

Fax: +39 06 49904267; E-mail: episouth@iss.it

Links and documents

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