

PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate release

EPISOUTH PLUS

The 2nd Steering Committee Meeting and the Advisory Board Meeting was held in Brussels (Belgium) on 29-30 May 2012.

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 this kind in the region. Since October 2010, with the approval of a new project phase (EpiSouth-Plus), the network 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 [2nd Steering Committee Meeting](#) of the EpiSouth Plus project was held in Brussels on 29-30 May in order to discuss the critical issues arisen during the first 18-months of the project's implementation and plan future activities.

At the same time, the members of the Project's Steering Committee have met the members of the Project's [Advisory Board](#) in order to present the results achieved until now, get advise on present challenges and opportunities, and discuss the collaboration framework with the European Commission, International Organizations and Networks.

EpiSouth Plus is co-financed by the EU DG-EAHC/SANCO and 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.

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The EpiSouth-Plus Project is led by the Italian National Institute of Health (ISS) and counseled by an Advisory Board composed by EC, ECDC, WHO and other international experts

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