

PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate release

EPISOUTH PLUS

The WP6 Steering Team Meeting was held in Istanbul (Turkey) on 4-5 June 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, 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](#).

[Work Package 6 \(WP6\)](#), co-led by the Institut de Veille Sanitaire (France) and the Middle East Consortium on Infectious Disease Surveillance (Israel, Palestine and Jordan), aims at enhancing Mediterranean Early Warning Systems (EW), allowing alerts and epidemic intelligence information sharing among [EpiSouth countries](#) and developing interoperability with other EW platforms (including the European EW and Response System (EWRS) as forecast by the current EU legislation).

The [WP6 Steering Team Meeting](#) was held in Istanbul on 4-5 June 2012. During the meeting, members of the Steering Team and guests from the European Commission, ECDC and WHO discussed about the WP6 achieved results and future activities, with a particular focus on the development of the new EPIS-EpiSouth alert platform and reporting alerts guidelines.

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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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