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EPISOUTH

Website:

<http://www.episouthnetwork.org/>

Health threats do not respect political borders: EPISOUTH and EPISOUTH PLUS were aimed at increasing the health security in the Mediterranean Area and Balkans by enhancing the preparedness to the threats which can affect the health security and bio-security risks at national/regional levels in the framework of the IHR implementation and by the detecting health threats which may affect the EpiSouth region.

The EpiSouth Plus used new strategic lines of activities relying on the Network of 27 EU and non-EU countries established by the EpiSouth project. This project strengthens the countries' capacity to cope with health threats through concerted and coordinated actions in accordance with generic preparedness plans based also on strategic approaches which can facilitate sharing of: information, alerts and national procedures between EU and non-EU countries of Mediterranean area. The projects led to the Regional Laboratory Network that established with selected laboratories to support the priority diagnostic needs and to facilitate interaction with public health institutions and officials based on national reference laboratories and the Institut

Pasteur Network. As well as the attention in training on communicable disease epidemiology, the projects aimed to capacity building in generic preparedness and risk management, also through the organization of two workshop with capacity building sessions, aimed also at personnel working at local level.

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Action plan on **S**cience in **S**ociety related issues in **E**pidemics and **T**otal pandemics
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