The EpiSouth Network Electronic Bulletin

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**EpiSouth Activities**

The first Steering Team Meeting of WP6 (Cross-Border Epidemic Intelligence) took place in Budva, Montenegro on 5-6 July 2011 in order to discuss about information sharing and legal frameworks, and define standard operating procedures.

**Agenda**

The first Steering Team Meeting of WP7 (Facilitating IHR Implementation) took place in Rome on 20-21 July 2011. Participants included the WP7 Steering Team and representatives of all the Work Packages of the project.

**Agenda**

**The EpiSouth Network**

Starting as an EU project, the EpiSouth Network struggled to develop its Mediterranean vocation. From an initial involvement of 5 countries (Italy, Spain, France, Greece, and Bulgaria), it finally includes ALL the Mediterranean countries (27 countries from Southern Europe, Balkans, Middle East, and Northern Africa) and partners from collaborating institutions.

The EpiSouth Project has been closed in June 2010 but the network activities are continuing in 2010-2013 through the EU-funded Project called “EpiSouth Plus”.

**Participating Countries and Institutions**

**Focus Topic**

A report was published on the experience of the local authorities partnership in the Mediterranean programme (MED-PACT) between 2007 and 2010.

This report was drafted in a way that captures the macro-elements and key learning insights from the entire execution period. Aspects analysed include planning vs. concrete achievements, co-leadership, language skills, internal governance, and others.

This is an interesting example of evaluating a complex Mediterranean network with many similarities with EpiSouth.

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The contents of this bulletin are the sole responsibility of the EpiSouth Dissemination Team, co-led by the Italian National Institute of Health and the Institute of Public Health of Montenegro, and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the EU.

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