

EU INITIATIVE ON HEALTH SECURITY

Objective

To set up a regional workforce responsible for the prevention and control of challenges posed by communicable diseases and enhancing regional cooperation to tackle cross-border health security threats in EU candidate and potential candidate countries and European Neighbourhood Policy partner countries.

Implementation

2020-2025

Partners

Southern Neighbourhood (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine¹, and Tunisia), Eastern Neighbourhood (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine) and EU Enlargement countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo², Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey)

Funding

9 000 000 EUR funded by the Commission's Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR)

¹ This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.

² This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence

Main activities

Stronger partner field epidemiology workforce development through the Mediterranean and Black Sea Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training (MediPIET)

- ❖ Three cohorts of field epidemiologists will be trained to carry out essential public health functions for prevention and control of communicable diseases in partner countries
- ❖ Strengthening of the MediPIET Network and ensuring sustainability of the training programme in the regions

Countries' capacities to assess, detect, respond and prevent threats from communicable diseases, as well as enhanced regional cooperation

- ❖ Assessment of partner countries public health emergencies preparedness and short term sectorial ECDC mission to advise partner countries on specific public Health emergency preparedness activities
- ❖ Advanced courses on Epidemic Intelligence and Risk Assessment
- ❖ Scenario-based workshops and regional simulation exercises to test national and cross-border emergency response plans with their following revision based on lessons learnt

Integration into ECDC systems, knowledge sharing and networking

- ❖ Partner countries integration into ECDC network for Threat Detection, Preparedness and Response
- ❖ Partner countries participation in ECDC thematic events based on the specific interests of each partner country
- ❖ Establish and pilot a Regional Health Security Network to ensure a platform for timely exchange of information and coordinated response to health emergencies
- ❖ Exchange of experts within diseases specific networks