

# **Mediterranean Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training as an approach to addressing international health risks in the Mediterranean Region**

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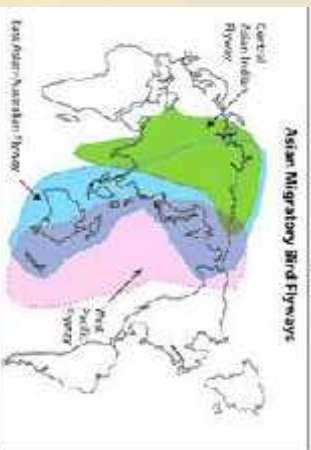
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# Background



- **Mediterranean region** - different countries, common health problems!



From Jan. 2014 to Nov. 2016, 13 strains of Avian Influenza have been identified in 77 countries and 13 strains have been detected. Avian influenza has killed both domestic and wild birds and has led to the destruction of hundreds of millions of domestic birds.

**AVIAN INFLUENZA (A/H7N9) VIRUS**

**ZIKA VIRUS**

For symptoms and to identify cases, use the following criteria: acute onset of fever, rash, joint pain, muscle pain, conjunctivitis, headache, and malaise. Symptoms usually begin 3-14 days after exposure to the virus.

**TRANSMISSION**

- Mosquitoes (Aedes species)
- Sexual contact
- Blood transfusion
- Breastfeeding

**PREVENTION**

- Use mosquito net
- Use repellent
- Avoid mosquito bites
- Use condoms
- Avoid blood transfusion
- Avoid breastfeeding



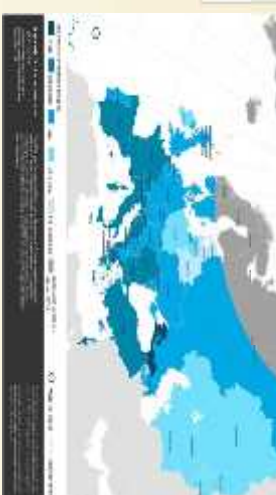
Serbia: Man dies from West Nile virus

Green points record observations in 12 first-of-their-kind reports

West Nile virus

West Nile virus

West Nile virus





## Background (2)



- **MediPIET – Mediterranean Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training - 2014-2017**

FUNDED BY  
THE EUROPEAN  
UNION



CERN  
**Centres  
of Excellence**  
An initiative of the European Union

Source: <http://medipiet.eu/the-project/>

PROJECT  
IMPLEMENTED  
BY:



**FIAPP**  
COOPERACION ESPAÑOLA



Instituto de Salud Carlos III

SCIENTIFIC  
LEADERSHIP  
OF:







# Background (3)



- **MediPIET family – 23 countries**



**Partner countries**  
Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Georgia, Jordan, Kosovo\*, Lebanon, Libya, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Morocco, Palestine, Serbia, Tunisia, and Ukraine.

**EU countries**  
Spain, France and Greece

**Observer countries**  
Turkey and Israel

[1] This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence



# Background (4)



## MediPIET aim:

- Consolidate a competent workforce
  - with the necessary competence
  - essential public health functions.

## Specific goals:

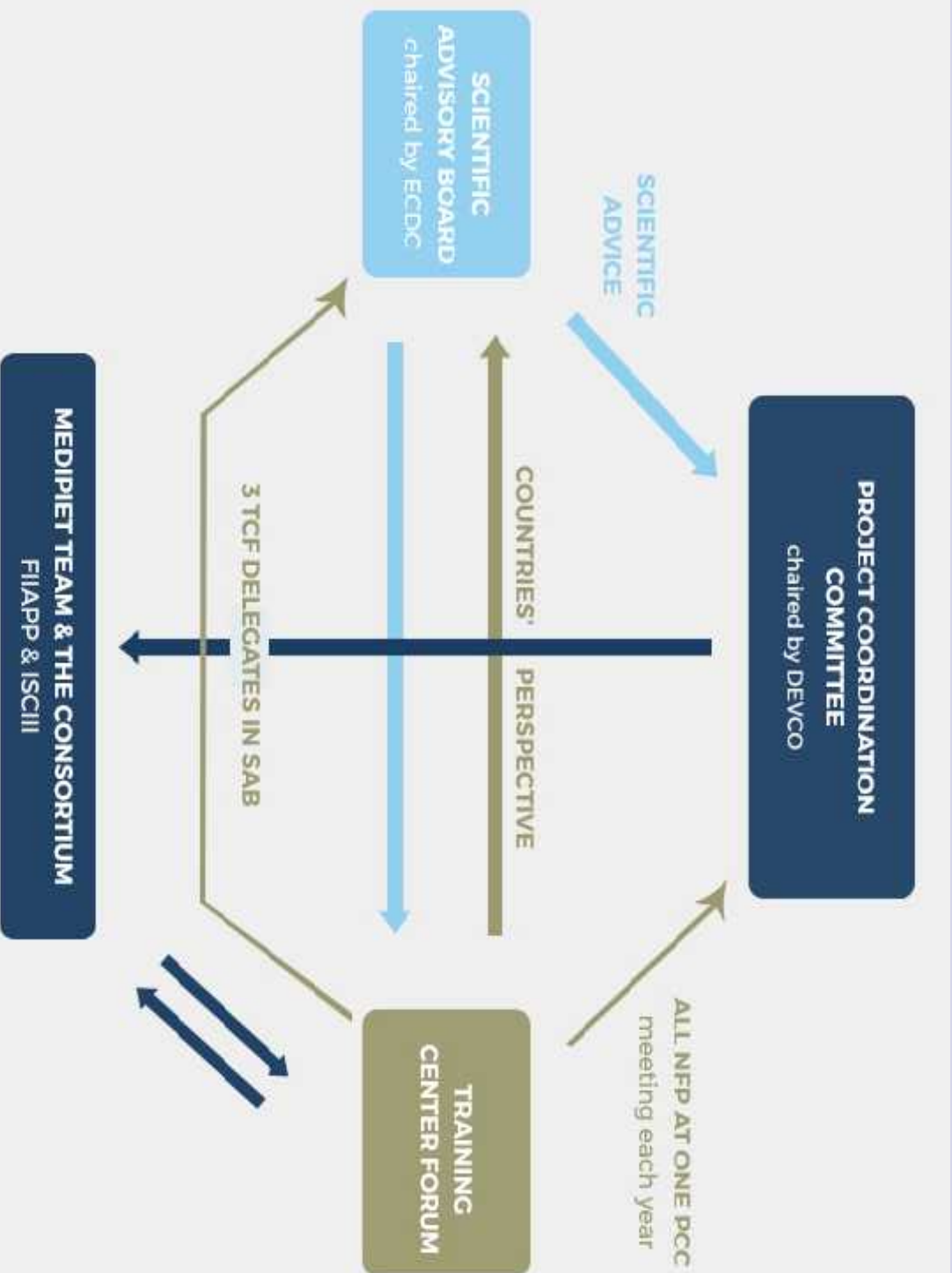
- Training national trainers and supervisors.
- Training a regional cadre of field epidemiologists competent in intervention epidemiology.
- Disseminating experience, knowledge and skills.
- Fostering country commitment/ownership and regional networking
- Establishing the basis of a long-term regional training programme



# MediPIET Programme managing



**MediPIET**  
The International Programme on  
Cholera and Other Acute Diarrhoeal Infections





# Methods

- A review of the results of the three-year implementation of the MediPIET program





# Methods



## MediPIET 2-year 'learning-by-doing' programme

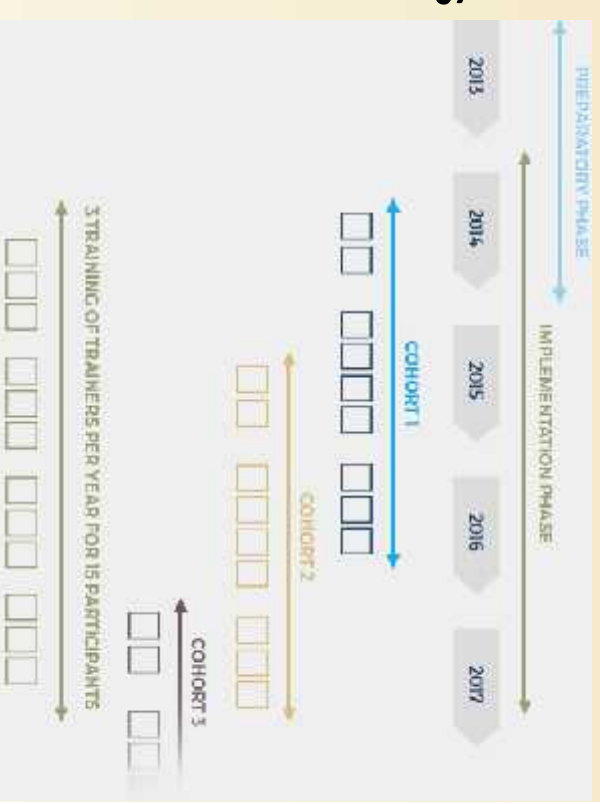
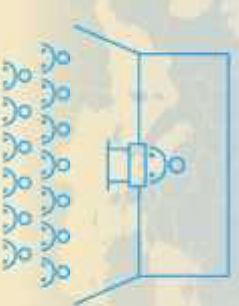
- course trains individuals, through practical work
- supports sustainable training infrastructures, and
- enhance the overall capacities in the Mediterranean basin.

## MediPIET Curriculum

- 2-years competency-based “on job fellowship training”
  - ✓ 10 weeks of didactic modules,
  - ✓ 92 weeks of in-country projects and
  - ✓ 4 weeks of international assignment.

## Modules for fellows/external participants

- ❖ Introductory course
- ❖ Review modules (2),
- ❖ Diseases-oriented modules (2)
- ❖ Methods-oriented modules (2)
- ❖ Humanitarian crisis & Mass gathering
- ❖ CBRN Module







# Results



## Trainings of trainers (ToT) Modules (6)

- Public health professionals in position to become trainers/facilitators
- Building a national cadre of competent professionals and implement cascade training.

## 18 Modules in three years

- 30-40 participants – fellows and external participants
- 10 experts (observers, educators, supervisors, scientific coordinators)
- In total more than 700 participants.

## Started process of:

- Establishment of sustainable training infrastructures
- Regional network of trainers and supervisors
- Provision of training materials in these countries
- “Cascade trainings”





## Results (2)

### Training sites/centers establishment

- 24 candidates covered in both Cohorts as fellows,
- under the supervision of supervisors (x2), and
- scientific coordinators (4).

- **The first Cohort (2014-2016)**

- completed course and graduated in time of the Second Annual Scientific Conference (ASC) in November 2016.



- **The second Cohort (2015-2017)**

- finished in November 2017, at the Third ASC Conference



# Annual Scientific Conferences - ASC



More than 70 abstracts,  
more than 20 countries-  
participants



More than 80 abstracts,  
more than 20 countries-  
participants

**EMPHNET - MediPIET Joint Conference Day: success of a mutual collaboration!**



190 participants,  
180 received abstracts,  
130 selected,  
nearly 30 participating  
countries



# Conclusions

## MediPIET Project (2014-2017):

- Strengthens the country's capacities
- Creates sustainable network of experts and institution
- Established a comprehensive training infrastructure.



## Extension of a two years:

- chance to the member states/partners
  - more secure and reliable funding
  - more appropriate way of building sustainability







# Recommendations

## In the future MediPIET

- Should emphasize the need of deepening of collaboration with other international networks/ organizations/ institutions
- Find satisfactory funds to ensure sustainability of the project and build the future for MediPIET.



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION**

