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Project

**KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFER OF BEST
PRACTICE ON BIO-SAFETY/BIO-SECURITY/BIO-RISK
MANAGEMENT**

LEAD PARTNER

ICIS - “Insubria Center on International Security”
of the University of Insubria, Italy

The **project** is implemented within the framework of the **European Union (EU) Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence (CoE) Initiative** jointly implemented by the European Commission’s Joint Research Centre (JRC) and the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), under the aegis of European Commission’s Directorate General for Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid (DG DEVCO) and the European External Action Service (EEAS). This initiative aims to facilitate regional cooperation and to enhance CBRN policies and capabilities.

The **STRATEGIC GOAL** of this project is to **promote sustainable knowledge development on bio-safety, bio-security and bio-risk management and transfer of best practice** through the model “*train the trainers*”. In a first instance, selected National Experts (NEs) will be trained on bio-security, bio-safety and bio-risk management systems as well as on training methodology. Consequently, qualified and selected NEs will train National Participants (NPs), who will then become trainers at local level.

An e-learning platform will provide long distance learning materials and support the training of NEs and NPs.

GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE includes four regions:

1. **South East Europe, the Caucasus, Moldova and Ukraine** (Albania, Armenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, FYROM, Georgia, Moldova Montenegro, Serbia, Ukraine)
2. **South East Asia** (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam)
3. **North Africa** (Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Lybia)
4. **African Atlantic Façade** (Gabon, Mauritania, Marocco, Senegal, Equatorial Guinea)

EXPECTED RESULTS:

1. To establish, document, implement and maintain a bio-risk management system in accordance with the requirements of the **Laboratory bio-risk management standard (ISO 15190 CWA 15793)**. The scope of this laboratory bio-risk management system is to set requirements necessary for the control risks associated with the handling or storage and disposal of biological agents and toxins in laboratories and facilities.
2. To provide and reinforce the **sharing and transfer of best practices** on bio-safety/bio-security management.
3. To develop a **sustainable training system** applicable to a broad range of countries and governmental structures.
4. To improve regional **inter-agency cooperation** and harmonization with international bio-safety/bio-security standards.

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MAIN ACTIVITIES:

The project will develop a common model of training on specific bio-related issues through a **holistic and multidisciplinary approach** that will be provided by partner organizations. The main activities related to the training, to be carried out in parallel in the 4 areas, consist of:

- 1) **Analysis of the local situation** conducted through the identification of local experts, levels and standards on bio-safety, bio-security, bio-risk management and teaching methods;
- 2) **Identification and selection of National Experts (NEs)** from countries within the regions;
- 3) **Organisation and implementation of regional training**, through the organisation of e-learning phases and intensive courses addressed to NEs. The training areas are:
 - Teaching and Assessment methods for bio-risk management training
 - Legal, ethical, environmental aspects
 - Laboratory Biorisk Management
 - Accreditation, implementation and the CWA Standards
- 4) **Evaluation of training results**, selection of NEs who will become trainers of National Participants and selection of National Participants;
- 5) **Organisation and implementation of local training** through the organisation of e-learning phases and intensive courses addressed to National Participants (NPs);
- 6) **Evaluation of training results.**

The project will also contribute to strengthen regional and international collaboration and cooperation as well as knowledge sharing. The project will also sustain and enhance networking and awareness-raising on bio-related issues among the areas.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: A minimum of 15 members of NEs and 75 NPs for each region, for a total of approx 360 persons trained.

CONSORTIUM: the project consortium has a high and international profile. The members of the Consortium are national and international organizations, research institutes, professional associations whose expertise in bio-related issues is renowned worldwide. The partners are:

- Sacco University Hospital (Sacco, Italy)
- VERTIC (UK)
- European Biosafety Association (EBSA, Belgium)
- Georgian State Agricultural University (AUG, Georgia)
- Science and Technology Center in Ukraine (STCU, IO)
- Tropical Infectious Diseases Research and Education Centre at University of Malaysia (TIDREC, Malaysia)
- Institut Pasteur de Tunis (IPT, Tunisia)
- France Expertise International (FEI, France)
- Hellenic Pasteur Institute (HPI, Greece)
- Institut Pasteur in Algeria (IPA, Algeria)
- International Science and Technology Center (ISTC, IO)
- National Institute of Public Health and the Environment (RIVM, the Netherlands)
- Pathogen and Animal Toxin Act Bureau, Department of Medical Sciences, Ministry of Public Health of Thailand (PATAAC, Thailand)
- Centre National de l'Energie, des sciences et des Techniques Nucléaires (CNESTEN, Morocco)

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE: English

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: January 2013 - December 2014 (2 years)

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