Enhancement of health security by supporting broad capacity development of health workforce

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Background
The risk posed by global threats to the human health is significantly increasing. In order to enhance health security, countries need to build capacity to identify internationally emerging health risks. The mitigation of risk in the bio field, whether natural or man-made, falls within the scope of the EU Centres of Excellence Initiative for Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Risk Mitigation (CBRN CoE).

Objectives: Development of a new sustainable training programme for national CBRN teams, focused on bio field.

Methodology
The specific objectives of developed programme:

1. Train national trainers and supervisors in intervention epidemiology, provide support to cascade training down to local levels and establish network of experts;
2. Train experts competent to carry out essential public health functions for prevention and control of communicable diseases;
3. Disseminate experience, knowledge and skills on pedagogy and methodologies related to practical “on-the-job training” among experts and countries;
4. Foster country commitment/ownership and extensive networking to share practices and experiences as essential conditions for sustainability of the programme.

Results
Programme developed in close cooperation of all strategic partners established the main building blocks of the proposed capacity development infrastructure as follows:

1. Competency based training curriculum,
2. Comprehensive guide for scientific and administrative coordination of the programme,
3. Key training materials.

Conclusions
Developed programme is contributing to the overall objective of enhancing global health security by supporting capacity building for prevention and control of natural or man-made health threats posed by communicable diseases. Cascading process fully supported by various ICT-tools will allow broad capacity development at the regional, national and sub-
national levels. It is enough flexible and will complement already existing training programmes.

**Key messages:**
- Health security in the Mediterranean region should be enhanced by supporting capacity development for prevention and control of natural or man-made threats to health posed by communicable diseases
- Cascading process fully supported by ICT-tools will allow broad capacity development at the regional, national and sub-national levels. It is enough flexible to complement already existing programmes