



EUMEDIS

JORDAN – DEAD SEA

Improving Public Health in the age of Internet

WORKSHOP 3

RECOMMENDATIONS

2005-04-19

European Commission - MDP

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- Important results were achieved by the EUMEDIS Health Cluster
 - - EUMEDIS Health Community has been created
 - - Innovative technological tools are tested and installed
 - - Pilot Clinical applications are working
 - - Distance learning tools are developed by majority of projects
 - - Web sites are operational

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□ Timing and progress in projects are different

- EMISPHER was completed in December 31st 2004 (the project was scheduled for 2-years duration only)
- EUMED CANCER will be completed in July 2005
- PARADIGMA in September 2005
- EMPHIS in February 2006
- BURNET in June 2006

□ Whereas, it is time to consider how to consolidate present and future results without waiting for the official end of all projects

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□ According to all the projects, there are several opportunities to consolidate and extend the achievements :

- - Strong human and professional relationships within the consortia
- - Experience of joining different institutions (research, hospitals, universities, industry, informatics) among the partners
- - Strong feeling that the experience should not be dispersed
- - Involvement in most MEDA countries of public/governmental institutions
- - Plans in most MEDA countries of creating/strengthening informatics networks and of encouraging a wider use of ICT
- - Plans by some MEDA countries of establishing virtual universities for improving distance learning

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- In this context, a major initiative has appeared since February 2004 and was already politically supported, at MOH level, by some MEDA countries: the Virtual Euro-Mediterranean Hospital (VEMH).
- 2 Health Projects (EMISHER, EMPHIS) were involved from the beginning in the preparatory work and in the implementation of the initiatives towards the VEMH
- The Algerian government agreed playing the coordination role in the implementation of the future VEMH initiative
- This can be seen as a natural outcome of the EUMEDIS Health Cluster experience where the best practices can be integrated and enhanced
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- A policy for bridging the present phase, based on individual Health Projects, and future bilateral approaches, has to be identified by all involved actors.
- This will avoid dispersion of the already allocated investments, of the achieved results and outcomes
- This will allow completing the pilot phase and focusing on medical rather than on technological issues, as shown by the success of some advanced training initiatives.

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- In order to bridge the present to a more advanced implementation phase, operational actions are to be considered.
 - - national tight coordination in MEDA countries with the aim of identifying synergies, avoiding duplications, identifying new partners,
 - - establishment of international EUMED communities by medical topics giving continuity and improvement to the identified best practices (distance learning, medical imaging, genetics, public health/infectious diseases management, medical follow-up of chronic diseases, surgical advanced techniques). This will make easier identifying the local needs and improving the delivered medical services.
 - - linking the existing websites up to implementing a common e-Health Eu-Med Portal
 - - to assure the continuity of the present websites as information/management exchange tools of the created Health communities and to transfer them to MEDA countries.

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- The participants to the workshop accept their respective responsibilities in addressing the sustainability issues.
- In the meantime, they express their wishes and make the plea to discuss the bridging policies with the office in charge within the European Commission (Cairo delegation) near after the ongoing first EUMEDIS Conference.

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