Role of Regional Health Organisations in [Re-] Emerging Infectious Diseases

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2nd International Conference on (re-)emerging infectious diseases

African Union Conference Center, 13 March 2019, Addis Ababa

Conflict of interest

Nothing to disclose

What is an EU agency?

- De-centralised body for specific technical area

- Providing EU institutions and countries with specialised knowledge

- With a certain degree of independence

- Own budget

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

3 April 2018

- An agency of the European Union, located in Stockholm, Sweden
- Established in 2005
- 280 employees; 27 EU nationalities are represented
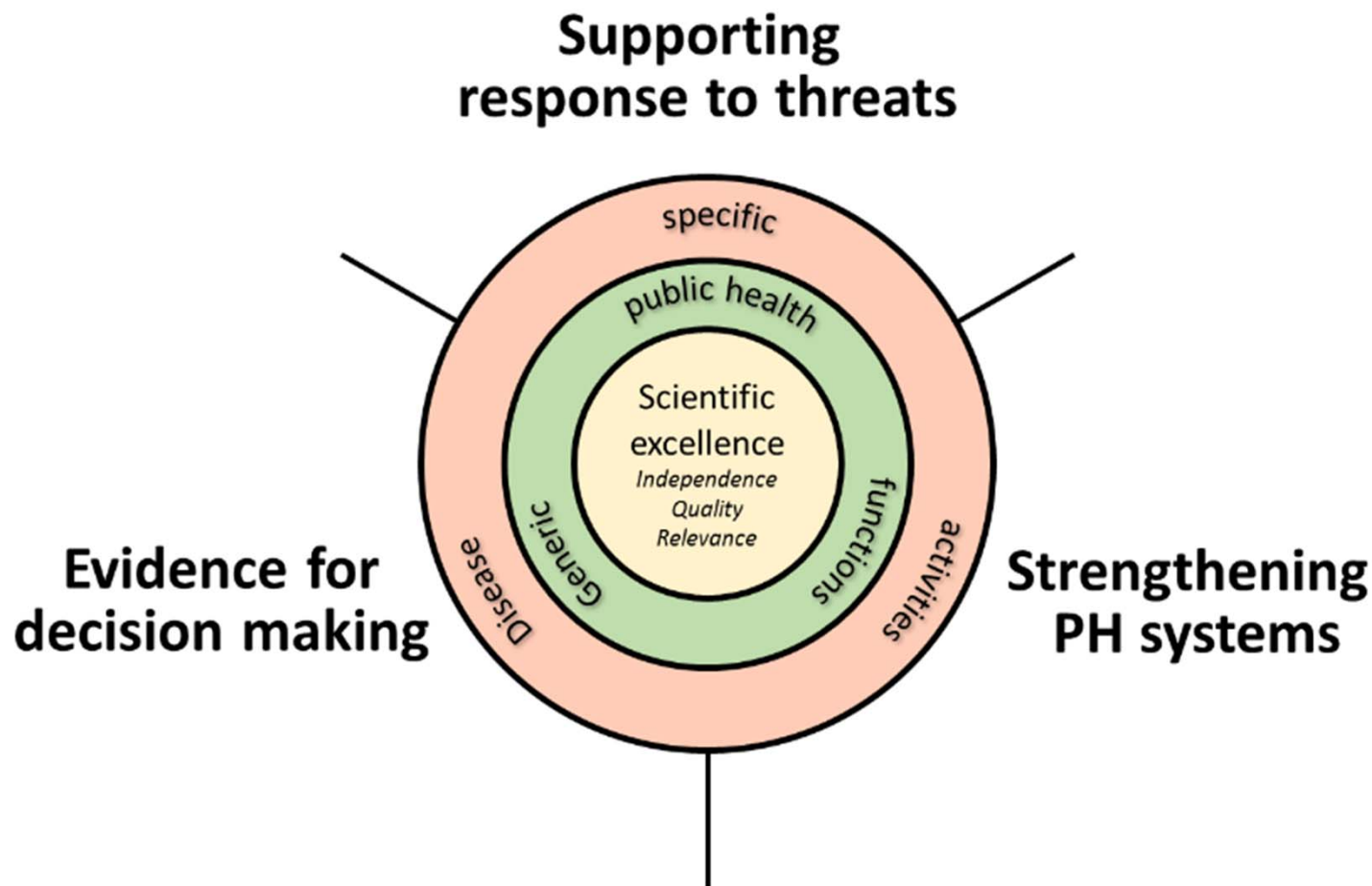
39%

61%

male
female
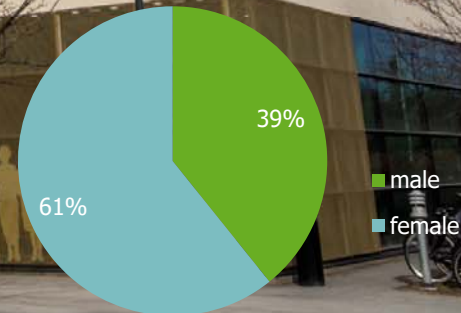
ECDC's mission and vision

"ECDC's mission is to identify, assess and communicate current and emerging threats to human health posed by infectious diseases."

ECDC is a strong and trusted partner enabling and supporting the Member States and the European Commission in protecting everyone in the EU equitably from communicable diseases.

ECDC vision & strategic work areas

Supporting response to threats

specific

public health

Scientific excellence
Independence
Quality
Relevance

Generic

Disease

functions

activities

Evidence for decision making
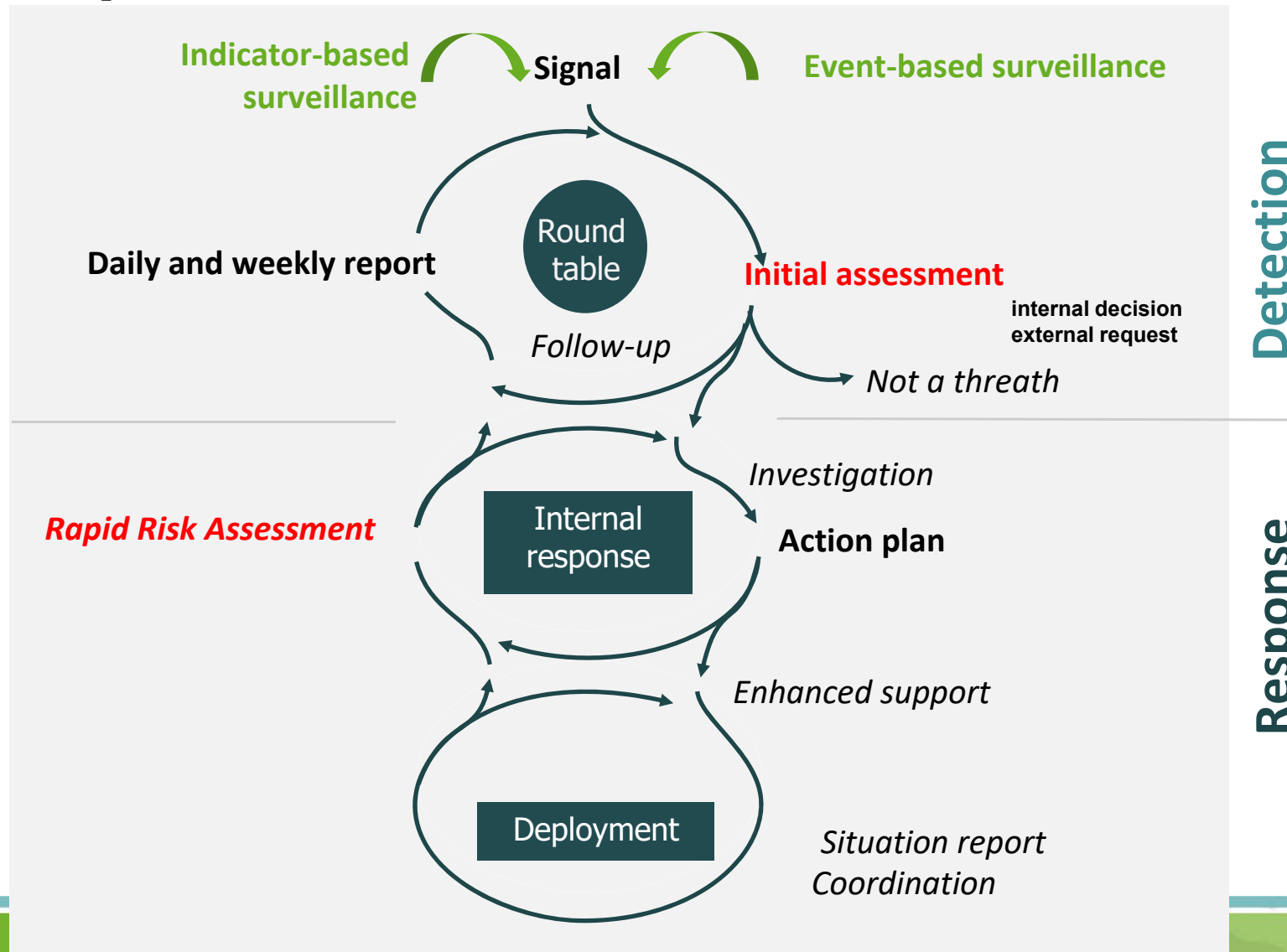
Strengthening PH systems

Core functions of ECDC

- Disease surveillance

- Epidemic intelligence

- Risk assessment

- Scientific advice and guidance

- Response support

- Preparedness and capacity
   strengthening

- Training

- Communication

- Interactions w/ external stakeholders

The two pillars of surveillance

The daily ECDC 'Round Table'

Every working day at 11:30, a meeting of ECDC experts from across all the different sections of the organisation reviews and assesses threats, official alerts and epidemic intelligence across the EU and the world.

ECDC Emergency Operation Centre's Response activities

Provide technical and logistics support to PHE teams and PHE activities as well as to ECDC teams deployed in the field
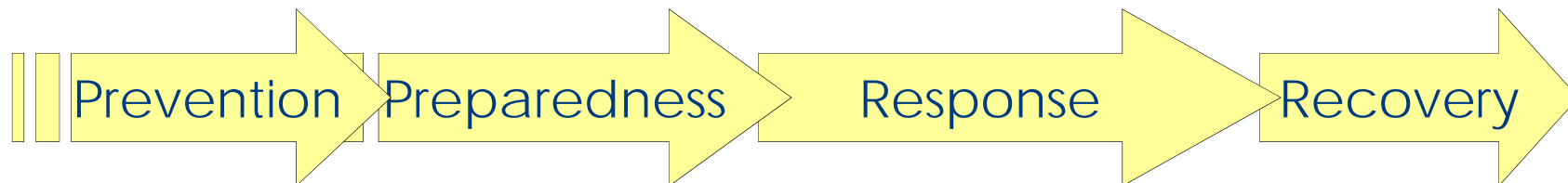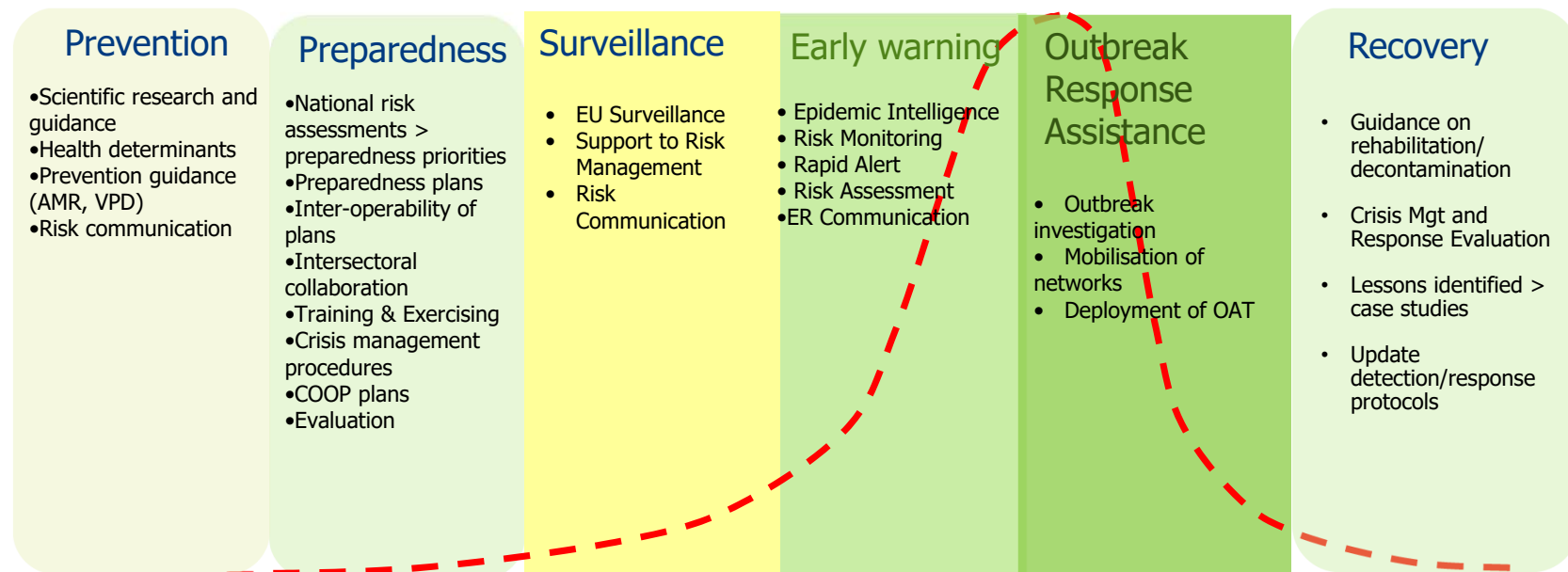
PHE
- 2018, Ebola – PHE level 1
- 2017, Plague – PHE level 1
- 2016, Zika – PHE level 1
- 2014, Ebola – PHE level 1&2
- 2013, H7N9 Flu – PHE level 1
- 2011, E-coli – PHE level 1
- 2009, H1N1 Flu – PHE level 1&2
- 2007, Tuberculosis – PHE level 1

Missions
- 2018, DRC – Ebola
- 2017, Madagascar – Plague
- 2016, Angola – Yellow fever
- 2015, Guinea – Ebola
- 2013, Madera – Dengue
- 2010, Haiti – Cholera

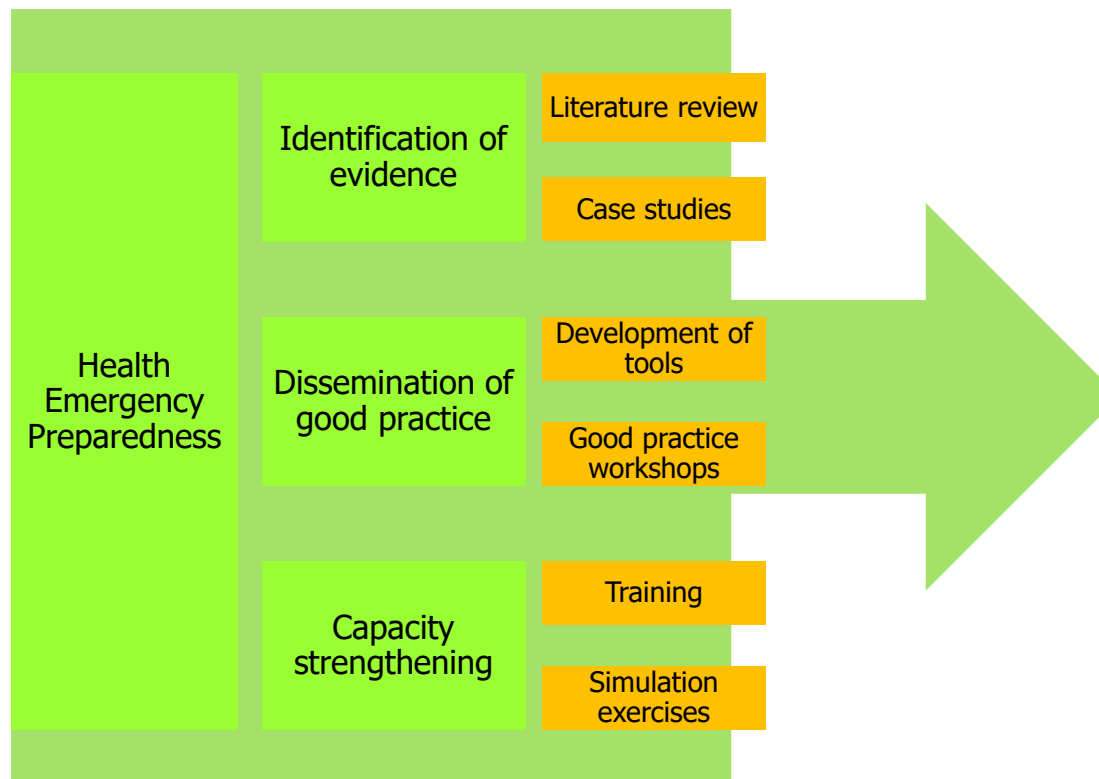# ECDC contribution to EU health security

Prevention

- Scientific research and guidance
- Health determinants
- Prevention guidance (AMR, VPD)
- Risk communication

Preparedness

- National risk assessments > preparedness priorities
- Preparedness plans
- Inter-operability of plans
- Intersectoral collaboration
- Training & Exercising
- Crisis management procedures
- COOP plans
- Evaluation

Surveillance

- EU Surveillance
- Support to Risk Management
- Risk Communication

Early warning

- Epidemic Intelligence
- Risk Monitoring
- Rapid Alert
- Risk Assessment
- ER Communication

Outbreak Response Assistance

- Outbreak investigation
- Mobilisation of networks
- Deployment of OAT

Recovery

- Guidance on rehabilitation/decontamination
- Crisis Mgt and Response Evaluation
- Lessons identified > case studies
- Update detection/response protocols

Prevention → Preparedness → Response → Recovery

ECDC Preparedness and Response work

Key principles

a) Activities should seek to **add value** and address gaps that may exist at the Union and MS level;

b) Activities should be **complementary** to those of the Commission and EU Member States;

c) Preparedness and response are **core public health functions** at ECDC and work in synergy with disease programmes;

d) The **interoperability** of preparedness planning between countries and sectors is a point of emphasis for preparedness support work.

e) **Partnership** with health and non-health international organisations is critical to ensure that preparedness plans address cross-sectoral dimensions.
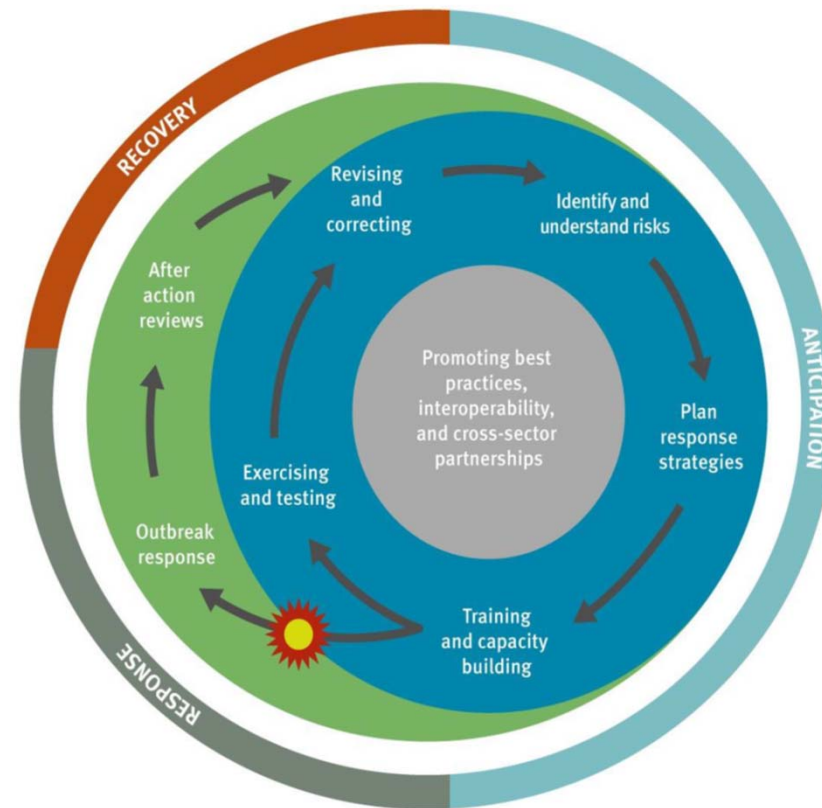
ECDC Country Preparedness Support

ECDC Simulation Exercise Programme

- Annual regional ECDC designed tabletop exercise on a hot topic

    - 2017 – Avian influenza; 2018 – Emergence of hypervirulent AMR strain of bacteria in a healthcare setting

    - 80+ participants from 13 countries (EU member states, EU enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy countries) as well as international organisations at each event

    - Aim to raise awareness and practice the coordinated response to a cross-border threat

- Ad hoc support (on request) to the design and development of exercises planned by others both internally and external to ECDC

- Delivery of an internal exercise programme to support ECDCs response activities

- Coordination of ECDCs participation in externally developed exercises

- Workshops where scenarios are used to drive discussion (eg Romanian presidency AMR conference, Biorisk course)

Training

- **ECDC** experts to participate in 24/7 duties
- **EPIET/EUPHEM** two day hands-on exercise once a year, one week of RRA
- **ESCMIID** - training on EI and RA methodology at ECDC summer schools
- **EU MS** – recent visit from Germany
- **Non-EU MS** (with international relations) – group trainings – Israel, Morocco
- **WHO** – joint EI and RA trainings
- **ECDC visitors**, over ten presentations per year to visiting groups of students and professionals

ECDC Scientific advice and guidance

Disease Surveillance	• 52 communicable diseases • TESSy data access
Scientific advice	• Expert Opinions • Systematic Reviews • Public Health Guidance
Member State Support	• Direct MS support in specific disease areas per request
Public Health Microbiology	• EuLabCap to access public health vulnerabilities in microbiology
Networking	• ESCAIDE (annual scientific conference in the field of communicable disease)

Disease-specific programmes (DPs)

1. Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare-associated Infections (ARHAI)

2. Emerging and Vector-borne Diseases (EVD)

3. Food- and Waterborne Diseases and Zoonoses (FWD)

4. HIV, STI and viral Hepatitis (HSH)

5. Influenza and other respiratory viruses (IRV)

6. Tuberculosis (TB)

7. Vaccine-preventable Diseases (VPD)

ECDC's strategic partners contribute to health security

Collaboration between three EU agencies on surveillance and analysis of data in a One Health Perspective

Joint Interagency Antimicrobial Consumption and Resistance Analysis report (JIACRA)

First JIACRA report published in January 2015
Second JIACRA report published in July 2017
Third JIACRA report will be published in December 2020

ECDC Partnership outside the EU

EU ENLARGEMENT COUNTRIES
- **Assess existing capabilities and progress,**
- **Initiate the implementation of technical collaboration action plans with ECDC,**
- **Progressive involvement in ECDC activities, systems and networks,**
- **Participation in ECDC technical discussions as observers**
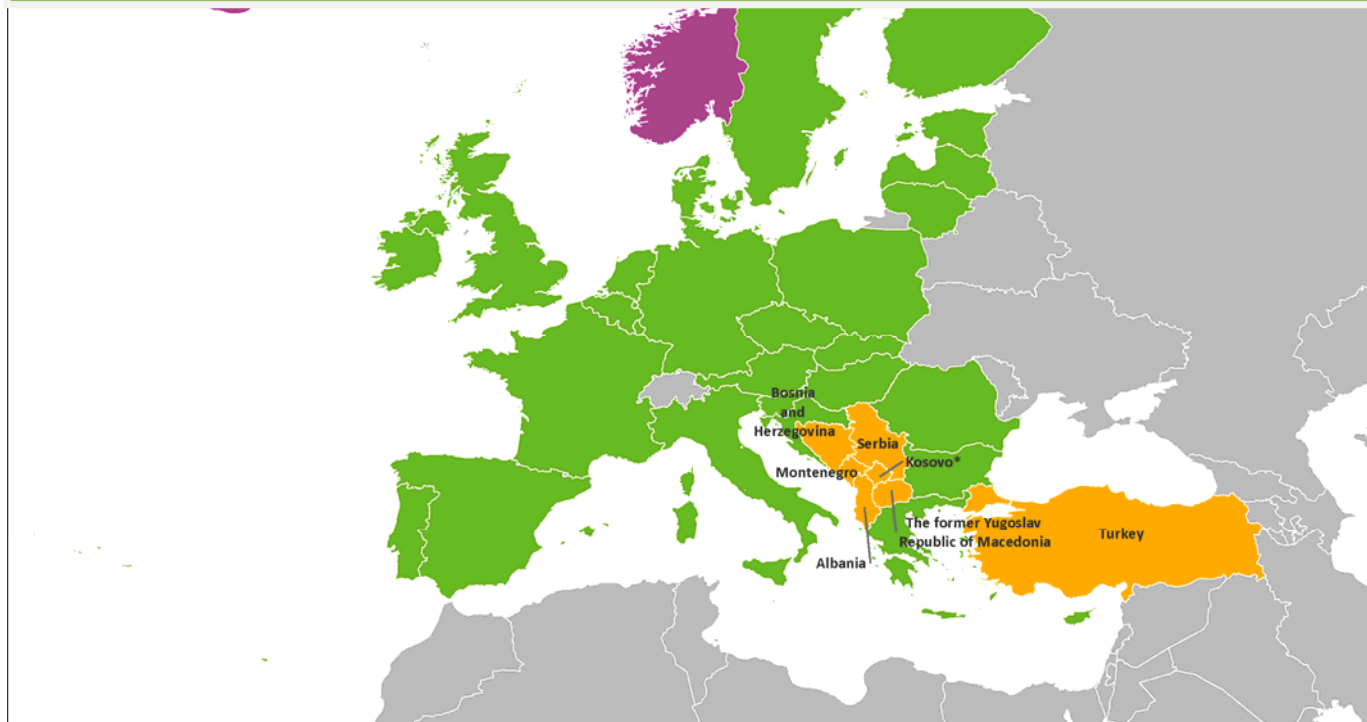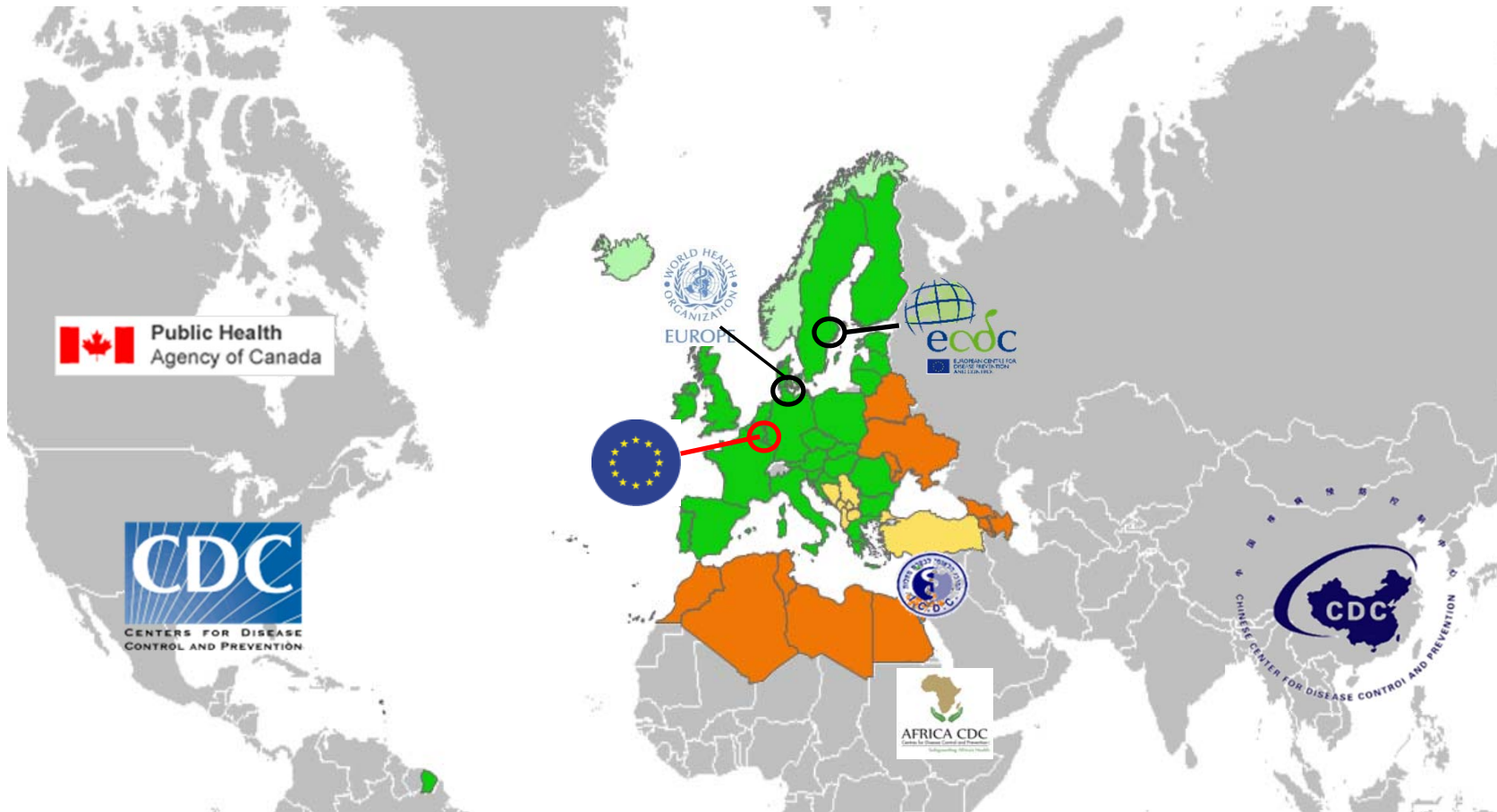
ECDC Partnership outside the EU

European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) partner countries
- **Develop sustainable <u>procedures, tools, and contacts</u> for technical cooperation with ENP partner countries,**
- **Support an approximation of EU standards ,**
- **Support efficient and timely technical cooperation between EU and ENP experts**
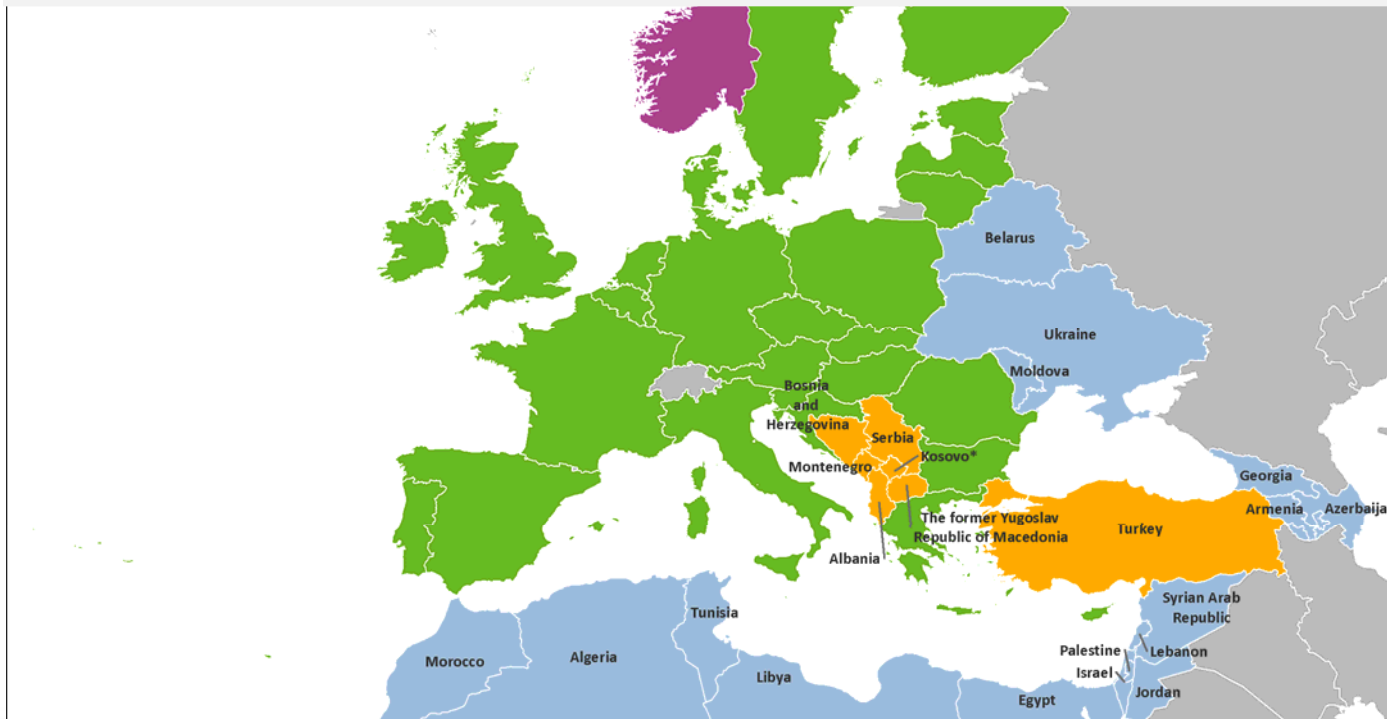
Working with European and international strategic partners

Thank you
ecdc.europa.eu