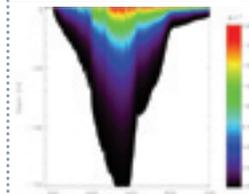
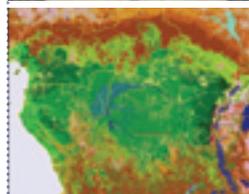


Our work ranges from detecting and measuring genetically modified organisms (GMO) in food and feed to developing nuclear forensics technology for combating illicit trafficking of nuclear material and to using satellite technologies for monitoring land use and emergency situations such as forest fires and floods. Our activities also involve the definition of food safety standards, research into new energy technologies and evaluating policy options, for instance related to climate change.



To realise its objectives and to deliver high-quality results, the JRC depends on lasting partnership arrangements with external entities. This collaboration is called for by the very nature of much of the JRC's work: harmonisation and validation of methods and measurements and establishment of common standards. It also responds to European policy makers' and Member States' increasing demands to establish common scientific reference systems. The JRC works with numerous partner organisations in institutional networks, indirect actions and through collaboration agreements. Beyond Europe, the JRC is seeking to strengthen also its international co-operation.

The JRC also plays an important role in providing scientific and technological support for EU enlargement and integration. It actively supports new Member States, candidate and potential candidate countries with the take-up of the body of EU law.

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JRC

JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE
European Commission



Robust science
for policy making

The Joint Research Centre is a Directorate-General of the European Commission. Its mission is to provide customer-driven scientific and technical support for the conception, development, implementation and monitoring of European Union policies. As a service of the European Commission, the JRC functions as a reference centre of science and technology for the Union. Close to the policy-making process, it serves the common interest of the Member States, while being independent of special interests, whether private or national.

Our goal is to deliver robust and fit-for-purpose scientific-technical support to policy makers based on a strong anticipation function, strategic dialogues with customers and stakeholders and an appropriate research base.

WHO WE ARE

The JRC has seven scientific institutes, located at five different sites in Belgium, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain, with a wide range of laboratories and unique research facilities. Through numerous collaborations, access to many facilities is granted to scientists from partner organisations.

The JRC employs around 2750 staff coming from throughout the EU, and its budget comprises € 330 million annually, coming from the EU's research budget, the 7th Framework Programme. Further income is generated through the JRC's participation in indirect actions, additional work for Commission services and contract work for third parties, such as regional authorities and industry.



- Scientific/technical and techno-economic modelling in support of the Common Agricultural Policy, environmental, energy and transport policies and the Lisbon Agenda
- Technology assessment and foresight in support of various sector policies (biotechnology, information society, energy)
- Safety and/or performance testing in support of energy, environment and security policies
- Risk assessment in support of the Chemicals Legislation, energy security and the Seveso directive
- Development of reference materials, validation and harmonisation of measurement methods in support of the internal market, environmental protection, food safety, consumer protection
- Technical, statistical and web-based intelligence methods in support of anti-fraud measures under various policies, internal and external security and civilian crisis management
- Spatial analysis techniques for environmental monitoring
- Basic and applied research supporting the above horizontal competences

Institute for Reference Materials and Measurements (IRMM) – Geel, Belgium:

The IRMM produces and distributes reference materials for quality assurance of testing laboratories, develops and validates methods of analysis, organises measurement evaluation programmes, and provides reference measurements and training, in order to support a common and reliable European measurement system.

Institute for Energy (IE) – Petten, the Netherlands:

The IE provides scientific and technical support for community policies related to energy. It focuses in particular on the security of energy supply, and sustainable and safe energy production.

Institute for Transuranium Elements (ITU) – Karlsruhe, Germany:

The ITU provides the scientific foundation for the protection of the European citizen against risks associated with the handling and storage of highly radioactive elements.

Institute for the Protection and Security of the Citizen (IPSC) – Ispra, Italy:

The work of the IPSC focuses on the protection of citizens against economic and technological risk, and

includes research on global security and stability, border management, transport safety and security, nuclear safeguards, and activities regarding the detection of fraud and econometric and statistical analysis.

Institute for Health and Consumer Protection (IHCP) – Ispra, Italy:

Research at IHCP concerns several areas related to consumer protection and health such as chemicals and risk assessment, alternatives to animal testing, genetically modified organisms in food and feed, and human exposure to health stressors through the environment and consumer products.

Institute for Environment and Sustainability (IES) – Ispra, Italy:

The IES is at the forefront of providing high quality research-based support for the development and implementation of European environment policies. Pivotal fields of activity include climate change, natural hazards, air quality and transport, sustainable use of natural resources, and environmental monitoring and information systems.

Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTS) – Seville, Spain:

The IPTS supports the formulation of EU policies by responding to policy challenges that have a socio-economic as well as a scientific/technological dimension. IPTS provides its customers with forward looking techno-economic analysis, applying a broad range of expert-based and quantitative methodologies.

Directorate-General and Directorates Programmes and Stakeholder Relations and Resource Management – Brussels, Belgium and Ispra, Italy:

The Corporate services (CS) set out policy direction and manage corporate affairs.

Ispra Site Management (ISM) – Ispra, Italy:

The task of ISM is to make the Ispra site, which after Brussels and Luxembourg is the third largest site of the Commission, a safe, secure and attractive working environment.

The main customers of the JRC are the policy-making Directorates General of the European Commission. Depending on the subject matter, the JRC's scientific-technical support covers the complete policy cycle or parts of it: the JRC anticipates policy needs, assesses policy options and their impacts, and monitors and contributes to the implementation of policies. It also provides operational support in certain cases, for example in anticipating environmental disasters, providing assistance to managing crises and assessing any consequential damage and their impact on human life and/or the environment. The ultimate beneficiaries are the EU Member States.

Main areas of policy support:

- Chemicals legislation
- European Research Area (ERA)
- Internal market: financial services, system of common standards
- Safe and secure energy supply: energy efficiency; renewable energies; nuclear energy
- Sustainable transport
- Information Society: competitiveness, innovation and inclusion
- Common Agricultural policy: rural development, sustainable agriculture
- Maritime Policy: fisheries, ecological state of the European seas
- Environmental policies (support to various legislative acts such as on fuels, soils, water, forests, air quality, Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe (INSPIRE))
- Climate change: Kyoto protocol and post-Kyoto policy options
- Health and consumer protection: food and feed safety and quality, cosmetics directives
- Internal and Global Security: fight against terrorism, nuclear non-proliferation

