

# *EEA and JRC cooperation within the Environment and health field*

*Information Day of the  
European Commission's  
Joint Research Centre*

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# Outline

- EEA tasks
- EEA and JRC on the European R&D field
- JRC – EEA Work programme
- Cooperation in the field of Environment and health
- Two examples
  - EEA assessment and reporting (Institute for Environment and Sustainability)
  - “Cocktail effect” (Institute for Health and Consumer Protection)
- Conclusions
- Some sources



# What is the EEA mandate?

- To help the Community and member countries make informed decisions about improving the environment, integrating environmental considerations into economic policies and moving towards sustainability
- To coordinate the European environment information and observation network (Eionet)



# The EEA is...

- An independent information provider
  - An analyst and assessor
  - Building bridges between science and policy
  - Dependent upon strong networks to carry out its work
- ...to support policy processes and inform the public

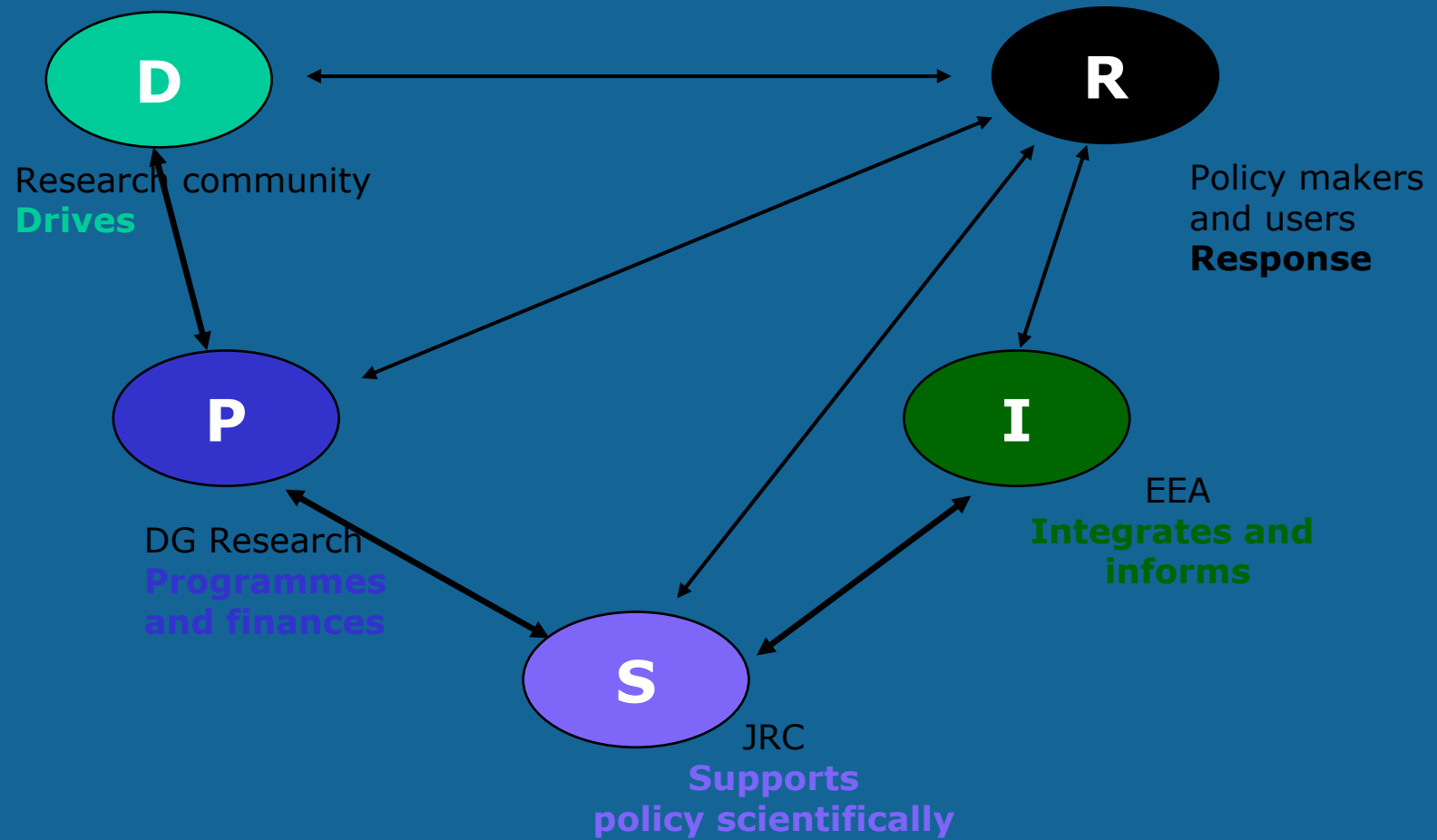


# EEA is not

- A research institute
- A risk assessor of chemical, biological or physical stressors
- A regulator



## Environment and Sustainability R&D – the field



# *Environment and sustainability R&D*

## **Drives:**

Academies, universities, European Science Foundation, COST, European Research Council

## **Programmes/finances:**

Dg Research

## **Supports policy scientifically:**

Joint Research Centre

## **Integrates and informs:**

EEA

## **Responses:**

European Parliament, DG Environment, DG SANCO and other users



# JRC – EEA Work programme 2007

- 33 work packages
- EEA will be a customer in 17
- Strong collaboration in 13 work packages



# EEA thematic areas

- Providing an information system
- Climate change and energy
- Nature and biodiversity
- Water and agriculture
- EEA in the wider world
- Sustainable consumption, production and waste
- Land use and landscapes
- Scenarios
- Integrated assessments and supporting sustainable development



# Environment and health

- Environmental burden of disease (EEA/JRC/WHO)
- Environment and health 2006
- Contribution to EEA state of environment report (Belgrade report 2007)
- Epaedia – interactive EEA website
- Climate change, ecosystems, infectious diseases (ECDC, WHO, JRC, EEA)
- Contribution to “Global Report on the Health Status in the European Union”





EEA Report | No 10/2005

# Environment and health

ISSN 1725-9177



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
**Joint Research Centre**

European Environment Agency



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# Cocktail effect – multiexposure - interactions

## Components

Multiple exposure

Biomarkers

Interactions

Multicausality – environmental epidemiology

## Priority diseases

Respiratory disease/asthma  
Neurological disorders  
Endocrine disrupters  
Childhood cancer

Risk assessment / risk management models

Synthesis



# Cocktail effect – 6<sup>th</sup> Environmental Action Programme

- Outline of a research programme (Swedish EPA and Karolinska Institute, Sweden). Platform conference 2002, attended by Commissioner for Environment, Margot Wallstrom
- Several applications to DG Research together with the Joint Research Centre, IHCP
- Expression of interest to FP6
- The “cocktail effect” included in FP6 first call
- Failure in establishment of a “network of excellence”
- JRC IHCP organized a pre-workshop in connection with a International Society for Exposure Analysis conference, September 2003
- JRC IHCP started experimental research in the area of risk assessment of mixtures
- EEA was invited in DG Environment’s SCALE process TWG research needs
- The EEA was invited in the preparation of DG Research second call of FP6, Integrated project
- Several consortia are established and financed by DG Research covering parts of the “cocktail effect challenge” (INTARESE, NoMiracle, Manageexposure, CREDO)



# EEA/JRC challenges for Framework programme 7



## Some challenges

- Evidence – public perception – State of the art - early warning
- Multi-stakeholder perspective (together with the the “full chain approach”)
- Combined exposures
- Multi-causality - look at more stressors and combinations
- Early exposure – late effects
- Expand the causal chain, including driving forces and effectiveness of policies
- Integrated risk assessment models (combined environment and human health risk assessment)
- Europe in a global context and Europe’s impact on developing countries



# Eco-innovation indicator development

1. European innovation scoreboard (developed by IPSC for DG Enterprise)
2. Eco-innovation indicators (EEA, EUROSTAT)
3. Measuring eco-innovation (DG Research)



# Conclusions

- EEA is one of JRC customer
- Strong collaborative partnership means scientific support to EEA, leading to
- Better assessments, policy support and reporting; and
- improved possibilities to influence the research agenda



## Some sources

- EEA state of the Environment reporting 1995-2005 <http://www.eea.europa.eu>
- EEA and Joint Research Centre, 2005: Environment and health. EEA Report No 10/2005. ISSN 1725-9177
- Epaedia <http://www.eea.europa.eu>

