

# Joint Research Centre (JRC)



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*Brussels - Belgium and Ispra - Italy*

<http://www.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

## The Mission of the Joint Research Centre

... is to provide customer-driven scientific and technical support for the conception, development, implementation and monitoring of EU 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.



## 7 Institutes in 5 Member States

**IRMM** - *Geel, Belgium*

Institute for Reference Materials and Measurements

**ITU** - *Karlsruhe, Germany*

Institute for Transuranium Elements

**IE** - *Petten, The Netherlands – Ispra, Italy*

Institute for Energy

**IPSC** - *Ispra, Italy*

Institute for the Protection and Security of the Citizen

**IES** - *Ispra, Italy*

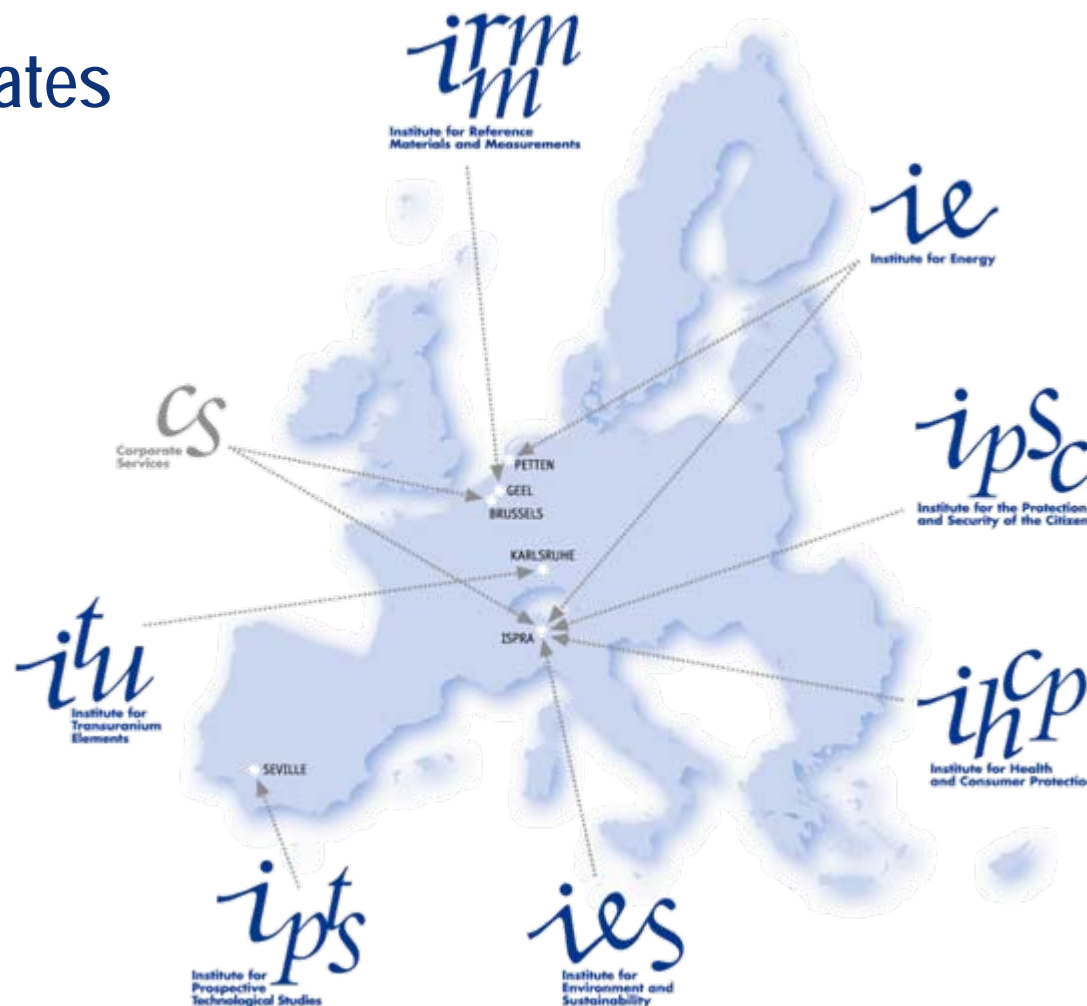
Institute for Environment and Sustainability

**IHCP** - *Ispra, Italy*

Institute for Health and Consumer Protection

**IPTS** - *Seville, Spain*

Institute for Prospective Technological Studies



~ 2750 staff

~ 330 M€/y budget (+ 40 M€/y competitive income)

## Research centre

700 specialised scientific core staff  
~430 PhDs/PostDocs students,  
55 nationalities,  
~600 peer-reviewed  
publications/year  
~450 policy support reports/year

## Cooperation

works with over 1000 public and  
private research organisations,  
institutions and expert groups in  
more than 250 networks

## Infrastructure

JRC builds and maintains its own  
general infrastructure, and 31  
specialised research facilities and  
48 scientific databases

## Quality management

The Quality management at JRC is  
based on ISO9001  
(8 Directorates already certified), 12  
ISO 17001 accredited laboratories

- **JRC being a research centre -> wanting to contribute to raise interest in pupils for S&T**
- **Limited resources -> how?**
- **Visits of school classes since 1985 – can we do more?**
- **An exemplary collaboration between the JRC and the**
  - ***Ufficio Scolastico Regionale per la Lombardia*** (Lombardy Regional Schools Authority – LRSA)
  - ***Ministero dell’Istruzione dell’Università e della Ricerca - MIUR*** (Ministry of Education, University and Research)
- **Know our target: teachers; pupils**

## ...and linking to other initiatives

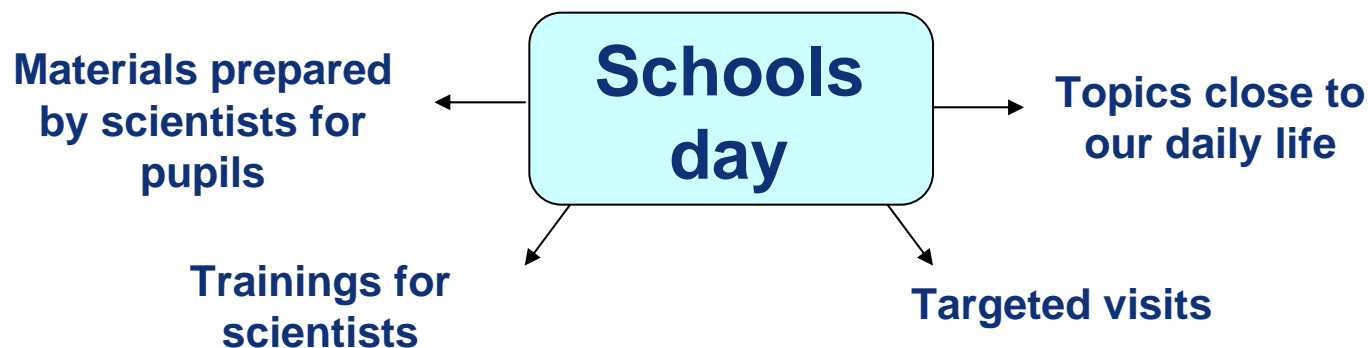
From 2001 to 2005 the JRC participates in the annual

# European Science Week

European Science Week: showing rather than telling young Europeans how S&T can have a very real and rewarding effect on their daily lives.

As a focal point for national science week initiatives, and with more activities in more cities around Europe than ever, the aim of this initiative is to show that there is more to science than lab coats and formulas: it can also be a lot of fun.

## In 2004, the JRC Ispra launched its first



A programme was established for each schools on the basis of their needs

26 schools with a total of 1,150 pupils and teachers visited JRC laboratories and participated in conferences

140 volunteers came forward to help organise this event



- **2005: reaching out to the multipliers: teachers**

*I professori incontrano gli scienziati*

Professors meet scientists



- **2006: conference for pupils**

The JRC and the Camera di commercio di Varese organised a workshop:

*Ricerca anch'io: la parola agli studenti*

My research: students speaking



## 2007

- **Conference USRL**

*La scuola e la ricerca scientifica in Europa. Opportunità e strumenti*  
School and Scientific Research in Europe: opportunities and instruments

- **Open Day 2007**

24 schools participated to the competition:

*Comunicare e promuovere la scienza:  
il JRC visto dai ragazzi*

Communicating Science: JRC seen by young people

- **The shadowing initiative**

5 students shadow 5 scientists for one day



## 2008

- **European Schools Science Symposium - ESSS**

150 students from European schools presenting 60 scientific pieces of work.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bkcplr57hAg&NR=1>

- **2008 Schools Day:**

repetition of a successful concept (due to high demand):

25 Italian schools; 1,100 children 9 → 17 years old; 200 JRC volunteers



## 2009

- **Biggest ever Open day & celebrating 50 years of the JRC**

8,128 people visited JRC-Ispra

Italian schools participation: Primary schools: 1,146 pupils;  
Secondary schools: 751 students; High schools: 963 students



- **Award Competition in Italy**

214 schools participated

***Scienza e creatività in classe***

Science and creativity in the classroom



## 2010

- **2010 Schools Day:**

repetition of a successful concept (due to high demand):  
23 schools; 944 students; tailored programme matching  
each class' needs; 150 JRC volunteers

- **JRC hosted the second**

*Premio per la fisica “VALERIO FILIPPINI”*

Physics prize

- **Visit of students from the European School  
in Varese**

100 pupils, 10 years old from 10 nationalities



## ...the recipe for success...

- Find a strong partner in the schools environment
- Constant feedback loops
- Train scientists to present
- Raise interest for scientists to participate
- Fun atmosphere for all
- Create scientist role model to follow

# Joint Research Centre (JRC)

*Robust science for policy making*

Web: [www.jrc.ec.europa.eu](http://www.jrc.ec.europa.eu)

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