

Brussels, Monday 12th - Tuesday 13th, February 2007

DG Joint Research Centre - IPTS

Information Society Unit

Mission

Building a European Information Society is a key ambition of the renewed Lisbon Objectives and is currently framed by the i2010 policy initiative. Within this policy framework, the role of the JRC is to support the overall formulation and implementation of appropriate Information Society strategies, policies, regulations and actions contributing to a competitive, innovative and inclusive European Information Society.

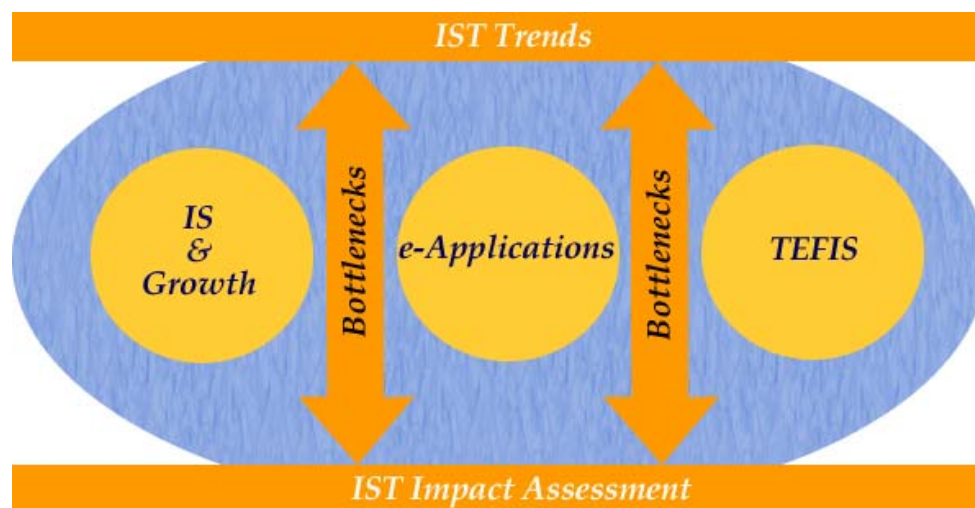
The work of the IS unit of the JRC will focus on supporting the three main pillars of the i2010 initiative:

- i. Research to support the completion of a Single European Information Space in a global competitive dimension;
- ii. Research to support the competitiveness of the European R&D system in Information Society Technologies as part of the European knowledge society;
- iii. Research to support policies that apply Information Society Technologies to increase inclusion, enhance better public services and raise the overall quality of life.

The IS unit will complement technology push approaches to the development of the European Information Society with socio-economic impact and demand analysis. Its work has three axes:

- i. **Problem and policy driven:** What can IST do for the broader socio-economic challenges of the EU (Lisbon goals)?
- ii. **Prospective:** How to develop Europe into a knowledge society? What are the mid to long term R&D strategies needs with regard to European innovation in ICT and what are emerging ICT driven areas Europe should be active in?
- iii. **Scientific:** Understanding how technical inventions/artefacts in ICT become successful innovation/societal realities.

Research is carried according to the requests of the relevant DGs or the EP and in collaboration with international experts who participate in workshops, perform report reviews, contribute with contracted research, and/or collaborate in a research consortium on a joint IST project.





Three areas of work

IS&Growth: Information Society, Competitiveness and Growth.

This action will support the formulation of EU policies with regard to a competitive and innovative Information Society. It will focus on the integrated analysis of key factors in the deployment, access and use of Information Society Technologies. From that, best practices will be deduced in order to support the development of future strategies. The action will develop models that assess the impact of the Information Society on growth, competitiveness and cohesion. It will pay special attention to the take up of the Information Society in the New Member States and Accession Countries. It will also analyse from a global perspective the competitiveness of the European R&D system and Europe's industrial position in the field.

e-Applications: e-Applications for the Information Society

This action will support the formulation of policies for the development of the Information Society in the areas of governance, health, business, learning and social inclusion. Research will focus on how the application of Information Society Technologies by private and public institutions can contribute to create public value in a knowledge based society, encompassing its socially inclusive, democratic, economic and governance dimensions. These include the provision of public services such as education, health and social care, public administration and democratic processes. The action will also support the development of a coherent European e-learning strategy. The identification of best practices, combined with scenario exercises, will contribute to the design of future e-services.

TEFIS: Techno-economic foresight for the Information Society

This action will focus on emerging trends (up to a 15 year time horizon) in Information Society Technologies by executing integrated techno-economic foresight analyses (scenarios, road mapping and demand analysis). It will contribute, as part of the ERA objectives and the conclusions of Vienna Council on R&D in ICT (Austrian Presidency conference on European ICT-Research and Innovation Policy - i2010; March 2006), to establish a common European foresight platform on future scenarios and applications. It will specifically address the way digital technologies will affect identity and identity policies.

Unit web link

<http://www.jrc.es>