

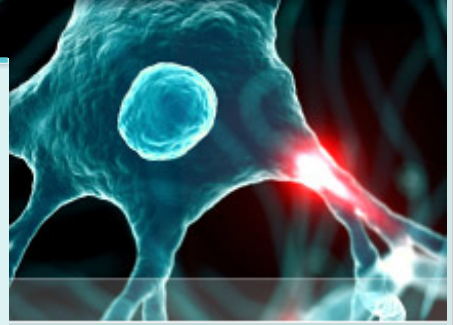


## Joint Research Centre (JRC) - Newsletter

The European Commission's science and knowledge service

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## News

### Emerging pollutants: a growing concern for our oceans

The majority of chemicals on a combined list of more than 2700 potential marine contaminants are what's known as 'emerging pollutants': substances that have the potential to enter the environment and cause adverse ecological and human health effects, but are still largely unregulated.

[Read more...](#)



### Teaming up to prepare for emergencies: JRC data helps international community

The JRC joins forces with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to assess similarities in emergency preparedness and response across sectors, identify lessons learned and set out good practices for the nuclear sector.

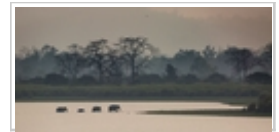
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### Conserving our biodiversity: priorities for well-connected protected areas

The JRC has measured progress and shortfalls in the connectivity of protected areas in countries across the world, identifying the main priorities to sustain or improve connectivity in each country.

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### Are we circular yet? Focus on critical raw materials in circular economy

Critical raw materials are not used to their full extent as part of the circular economy and there are several improvement opportunities to reuse and recycle these materials.

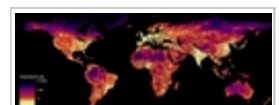
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### How far to the nearest city? Global map of travel time to cities published

A team of researchers have mapped urban accessibility worldwide to support global and local decision-making on development and environmental policies.

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### Saving lives on our roads: ensuring 112 emergency auto-call technology works



The JRC and the GSA have released guidelines to ensure that automatic 112 call devices (eCall) meet compatibility and performance requirements ahead of their compulsory installation in all new cars and vans from the end of March 2018.

[Read more...](#)



## Save the date: high level conference on smart specialisation

*3 - 4 May 2018 — Sofia (Bulgaria)*

### **Smart Specialisation and Technology Transfer as Innovation Drivers for Regional Growth**

Under the auspices of the Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU, this high level conference will bring together policymakers, scientists, businesses, regional authorities and universities to consider the opportunities and challenges for Europe, notably South-east Europe and including the Western Balkans, in research, development, education, employment and innovation and in particular, the process of skills creation, knowledge and technology.

It will serve as a platform to discuss and commit to place-based innovation as a priority. After setting the scene and presenting the innovation landscape in Europe, participants will engage in a debate on good practices and key success factors to inspire countries, regions and stakeholders willing to reap the potential of smart specialisation, technology transfer and digital transformation.

The draft agenda and registration will soon be available. **For more info please contact [JRC-InnovGrowth-Conf@ec.europa.eu](mailto:JRC-InnovGrowth-Conf@ec.europa.eu)**



## Events

*23 February 2018 — Brussels (BE)*

### **First Annual JRC Alumni Network Event**

This event will bring together alumni from all JRC sites and leading JRC experts in Brussels. There will be scientific discussions, workshops and a poster session where alumni will have the chance to present their current projects, followed by an awards ceremony and reception.

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*24 April 2018 — Sofia (Bulgaria)*

### **Biodiver-City: Enhancing urban biodiversity and ecosystem services to make cities more resilient**

This conference aims to deliver a set of key messages and principles on how cities can contribute to regional, national and European biodiversity policy, goals and targets.

[Read more...](#)

*11 - 12 June 2018 — Ispra (Italy)*

### **2nd Symposium on Management of Future Motorway and Urban Traffic Systems (MFTS2018)**

This event will explore how to address challenges of current and future traffic management, how connectivity and automation can support an enhanced traffic management in the future and options for a future enhanced traffic management: centralised vs. decentralised.

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*11 - 15 June 2018 — Ranco (Italy)*

### **The Tenth Summer School on Sensitivity Analysis of Model Output (SAMO 2018)**



This summer school will elucidate the techniques used in Global Sensitivity Analysis. The programme will start from the first principles and will guide the students through the full range of recommended practices with exercises and application examples.

[Read more...](#)



## Sign up for new JRC open online course

*1 March 2018 — Online*

### New JRC course on monitoring smart specialisation

In March the JRC will launch a Massive Online Open Course (MOOC) exploring how to build effective monitoring systems to help regions meet their long-term research and innovation goals.

The course is open to anyone interested in monitoring knowledge-based regional development, and in particular monitoring Smart Specialisation Strategies. Whilst it is designed with EU regions and member states specifically in mind, the principles and ideas discussed should be of relevance to a broader audience.

The MOOC will answer key questions related to monitoring RIS3, addressing conceptual, policy and empirical aspects.

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## Publications

### JRC Services

Our handbook for national, regional and local authorities explains why and how to engage with the European Commission's science and knowledge service. The publication explores how the JRC can inform policymaking in a number of areas, from economy and education to sustainability and transport.

[Read more...](#)



### Science for the AU-EU Partnership - Building knowledge for sustainable development

People, planet, prosperity and peace are four priorities shared by Africa and Europe, and areas where opportunities for beneficial cooperation abound. This report presents the key findings of the past three decades of collaborative work between the JRC and many organisations and institutions across Africa.

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