BIG DATA FOR SCIENCE AND POLICY
Ispra, 1-2 September 2016
Room 01 Amphitheatre

Draft Agenda

The aim of the event is to bring together the colleagues working on different aspects of research and policy support related to Big Data in order to exchange experiences, identify current and potential challenges of Big Data across the scientific domains we cover and contribute to the formulation of a JRC strategy on Big Data tailored to the emerging needs.

The goal is to stimulate discussion and exchange of views. Presentations should be short and focused on key messages to be further discussed with the audience. This is not intended to be a scientific conference; it should be seen as a rather informal forum of discussion.

Thursday, 1st September

The objective of this first day is to outline the current work of DG JRC on Big Data for policy and to learn from the experience of other organizations.

13:30-13:40 Opening
Vladimir Sucha,
Director General DG JRC, EC

13:40-14:00 Big Data for policy in DG JRC - Scene setter
Where we are and where we want to get
What we learned from the Big Data pilot project
P. Christidis, JRC C.6
Armin Burger JRC I.3

14:00-14:20 EC policy and Big Data, EPSC perspective
The Economic Potential of Big Data
The Big Data Revolution and How Europe Can Lead
L. Vinhas de Sousa, EPSC
E. Giovannini, EPSC

14:20-14:45 Discussions

14:45-15:15 Coffee break
15:15-17:00  How Big Data can help policy makers

The session will present the DG JRC experience in Big Data for policy support in the areas of digital economy, financial development, territorial development, innovation, infrastructures and address the following questions:
- Which is the current contribution of DG JRC to specific policy areas through Big Data process and infrastructures?
- What role can we see in the future for the JRC?
- Which are the identified gaps?
- What can we do better? How?

Discussants:
The overall trends in Digital Economy  A. Annoni, JRC B.6
Data for policy D. Vlad-Calcic, CNECT
Outlook for data/big data in financial applications F. Campolongo, JRC B.1
Text mining applications for policy support JRC L3
Big Data in EUROSTAT M. Skaliotis, EUROSTAT
Territorial development C. Lavalle JRC B.3

Discussion and Q&A

17:00-18:00  Experiences from other organizations

Towards a Magna Carta for Data  B. O'Sullivan, Insight
Theoretical and methodological challenges of using mobile phone data: Use cases from Estonia  R. Ahas, U. Tartu
Experiences from New Zealand  Evelyn Wareham, Statistics NZ
Anna McDowell, Statistics NZ
Frances Krsinich, Statistics NZ

18:00-18:30  Walk from Room 01 Amphitheatre to Atriums 100 and 101

18:30-20.30  Joint meal with Art-Science Summer School and EU-AU-IIASA Evidence and Policy.
The objective of this second day is to discuss options on how to make the work of the JRC on Big Data more relevant from both the scientific and policy perspective.

09:00-10:45 Panel discussion: Big data technologies and tools
- How far have we advanced in Big Data applications?
- Which are the assets of the JRC?
- How can the tools developed be shared across JRC?
- The main challenges and how to overcome them

The chair will address a question to each discussant to kick off the discussion. Panel members can optionally use short presentations (up to 5 slides) to summarize their views. This will be followed by a discussion with all participants.

Discussants:
- Day-time population mapping: Filipe Silva JRC B.3
- Applications of data from BlaBla Cars: Max Craglia JRC B.6
- Developing the TEMA big data platform: Elena Paffumi JRC C.4
- Using Tableau for Big Data visualisation: N. Mayer, T. Ojala JRC C.4
- Technology Innovation Monitoring: Geraldine Joanny JRC I.3
- JRC activities on Complex networks: Peter Benczur JRC B.1

10:45 – 11:15 Coffee break

11:15 – 13:15 Panel discussion: DG JRC new horizons and challenges
- How do we expect the world of Big Data to evolve?
- What is the future of Big Data in the DG JRC's scientific and policy support work?
- In which areas should DG JRC develop policy relevant Big Data applications?
- Do we have the right skills and tools?

The chair will address a question to each discussant to kick off the discussion. Panel members can optionally use short presentations (up to 5 slides) to summarize their views. This will be followed by a discussion with all participants.

Discussants:
- IT Sharing and Reuse Framework for public administrations in Europe: Szabolcs Szekacs, DIGIT
- Better data, for better studies for better policies: Nuno Crato JRC I.1
- Sentiment analysis on financial news: Michela Nardo JRC B.1
- Bioinformatics: M. Petrillo, A. Puertas JRC F
- Big data for migration: needs, state of the art and possibilities: F. Natale, M. Vespe JRC E.6
- Copyright and IP aspects of text and data mining: Jean Paul Triaille: JRC I.4
- Big Data with and for Society: Sven Schade GROW
13.15 – 14.00 Lunch

14:00- 16:00 Forum discussion: How best manage Big Data for effective policy development?  

Introductory comments:  

Chair: David Mair,  
Head of Unit DG JRC, EC  
Vladimir Sucha,  
Director General DG JRC EC

Open discussion structured around main questions:  

- The JRC strategy on Big Data and its link to the work-programme  
- The role of Knowledge Management and Community of Practice  
- Tools and methods  
- Internal/ external collaboration and partnerships  
- Where do we need to invest more?

Conclusions and steps forward  

Chair: Maive Rute,  
Deputy Director-General  
DG JRC, EC

16.00- 16.30 Coffee