**Acronym:** JRC  
**Full Name:** Joint Research Centre  
**Website:** [http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/jrc/index.cfm?id=10](http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/jrc/index.cfm?id=10)  
**Established:** 1957  
**Location:** Brussels  
**Areas of expertise:** Humanitarian aid and reconstruction in case of a disaster  
**Main Partners and Collaborations:** European Soil Bureau Network (ESBN), Institute for Environment and Sustainability, Telecommunications Advanced Networks for GMES Operations – TANGO, The Hydrogen Storage Research Training Network, EUROCHAMP - Integration of European Simulation Chambers for Investigating Atmospheric Processes

**Short Description:**
The Joint Research Centre is a research based policy support organisation and an integral part of the European Commission. The JRC is providing the scientific advice and technical know-how to support a wide range of EU policies. Our status as a Commission service, which guarantees our independence from private or national interests, is crucial for pursuing our mission. The mission of the JRC 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. Our mission 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.

**Main activities:**
JRC work ranges from detecting and measuring genetically modified organisms (GMO) in food and feed to developing nuclear forensics technology for combating illicit trafficking of nuclear material and to using satellite technologies for monitoring land use and emergency situations such as forest fires and floods. Our activities also involve the definition of food safety standards, research into new energy technologies and evaluating policy options, for instance related to climate change.

**Contact:**
European Commission - Joint Research Centre  
Internal & external communication Unit, SDME 10/78, B-1049 Brussels  
Head of Unit: Ulla ENGELMANN  
Tel: +32.2.2957624  
Fax: +32.2.2996322  
Email: jrc-info@ec.europa.eu