Regional Conference of the Regional Association VI on the Future role of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services: Leadership and Management

# EU Research Infrastructure and collaboration of the academic and public sector

Jutta Thielen-del Pozo & Fabio Taucer Joint Research Centre

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### Operating at the Science – Policy interface IN PRACTICE

- The Joint Research Centre is the science and knowledge service of the European Commission, with the mission to support EU policies with independent evidence throughout the whole policy cycle.
- For evidence to be relevant for policy and decision makers as a basis for best decisions, it must also be validated, robust and up to date



### Achieving the right balance

State of the art

- evidence
- research
- data & data infrastructure
- Modelling & Algorithms
- Underlying business model



- Cost model & Investment
- Disruption to operations and existing infrastructures
- Uncertainty in success





### JRC Collaborative Doctoral Partnership (CDP)

**Strategic collaborations** with Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to cosupervise a new generation of doctoral students with a specific focus on the **science-policy interface** at JRC.

- To strengthen the collaboration between the JRC and higher education institutions in key scientific areas.
- To train a new generation of doctoral graduates in science and technology with a focus on the science-policy interface,
- To co-develop, co-host and co-supervise doctoral studies between higher education institutions and the JRC.



### Win – Win Scheme

- Higher Education Institutions gain a better understanding of research needs throughout the policy cycle.
- JRC obtains innovative research input and exchange of information with leading academic institutions in the field.
- PhD students have the unique opportunity of gaining experience in higher education, research institutions and policy making.
- Attracting talent





## Collaborative Doctoral Partnership (CDP) workflow



- Strategic fields
- Evaluation and selection by Scientific Committee and Units responsible of thematic field
- Definition collaboration topics and PhD project/s.
- Negotiation and signature of CDP agreement

- PhD student is coselected
- PhD student is co-supervised and co-hosted by JRC and HEI supervisors



### Scalable scheme...



This project will evaluate how erosion, deposition. The chemical industry is a crucial sector for The main goal of the PhD project is to carry out and sediment transport affect the stocks of reaching sustainability targets. This sector poses research in the area of robust statistics and carbon, nitrogen, and phosphorus in agricultural several challenges due to the quantity of different machine learning, with a focus on the soils for Europe. For this purpose, it uses the chemicals and chemical processes existing. mathematical methodologies and applications, in latest state-of-the-art land surface and ecosystem Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) it is a useful tool for the area of fraud and disinformation detection. models that include erosion processes and the addressing environmental sustainability and will work on and evaluate various approaches for European high-resolution erosion, land cover, assisting in decision-making. On the other side, it fraud or disinformation detection, in collaboration and management data provided by the Joint requires an extensive amount of data to cover the with other members of the Text and Data Mining Research Centre. chemical sector. The project will explore the LCA Unit. Particular attention will be devoted to the current coverage of chemicals, possible methods robustness of the methods that will be developed. for selecting proxies when LCA and estimation i.e., their ability to resist to the presence of techniques for impacts of missing chemicals. outliers in the data. More specifically, during the initial part of the project I will be working on the

robustification of certain co-clustering techniques.

- Flexibility of topics
- Flexibility in investment
- Time efficient
- Attracting talent for later jobs
- Bringing new ideas into operations



### European Strategy for RIs (ESFRI)

- Support a coherent and strategy-led approach to policy-making on RIs in Europe
- Better use and development of RIs, at EU and international level
- Overcome the limits due to fragmentation of individual policies
- Provide Europe with the most up-to-date RIs
- Respond to the rapidly evolving Science frontiers

ESFRI's delegates are nominated by the Research Ministers of the Member and Associate Countries, and include a representative of the Commission.

DATA, COMPUTING & DIGITAL RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES ENERGY ENVIRONMENT HEALTH & FOOD PHYSICAL SCIENCES & ENGINEERING SOCIAL & CULTURAL INNOVATION





### **ESFRI** Roadmap (Environment)

#### ENVIRONMENT / PROJECT



DANUBIUS-RI International Centre for Advanced Studies on River-Sea Systems

#### ENVIRONMENT / LANDMARK



European Multidisciplinary Seafloor and water-column Observatory

#### ENVIRONMENT / PROJECT



#### ENVIRONMENT / PROJECT



eLTER RI Integrated European Long-Term Ecosystem, critical zone and socioecological system Research Infrastructure

#### EPOS ERIC European Plate Observing System

ENVIRONMENT / LANDMARK

#### ENVIRONMENT / LANDMARK



EURO-ARGO ERIC European contribution to the international Argo Programme

#### ENVIRONMENT / LANDMARK



#### ENVIRONMENT / LANDMARK



EISCAT\_3D Next generation European Incoherent Scatter radar system

11 Research Infrastructures in the field of Environment

#### ENVIRONMENT / LANDMARK

IAGOS In-service Aircraft for a Global Observing System

#### ENVIRONMENT / LANDMARK

ICOS ERIC Integrated Carbon Observation System

#### ENVIRONMENT / LANDMARK



#### Transnational Access to ESFRI RIs



Atmospheric Observatory Tower at JRC Ispra site (Italy)



### Landscape of JRC Research Infrastructures

JRC hosts **39 physical research infrastructures** with a potential of opening to external users

(out of a total of 56 facilities)

17 are currently opening up



- European Reference Laboratory for Air Pollution (ERLAP) JRC has the legal obligation to organise quality assurance programmes with the MS competent authorities for air pollution measurements.
- **EC Atmospheric Observatory** (100 m tower at JRC Ispra Site) carries out optical and physical characterisation of aerosols, measures gaseous air pollutants and as well GHG.

The GHG part is part of **European Research Infrastructure Consortium** infrastructure on **Integrated Carbon Observation System** (ICOS-ERIC). The aerosol part to become an ERIC research infrastructure soon, the latest next year.



### Rationale

Opening access to JRC Research Infrastructures is part of the JRC Strategy 2030

#### Benefits to users and the ERA

- Fair and transparent method for allocating access
- Make JRC RIs available to external users in view of the limited resources in Europe
- Provide training and capacity building
- Bridge the gap between science and Industry
- Dissemination of knowledge, foster collaboration in Europe

#### **Benefits to the JRC**

- Expand JRC networking capabilities
- Enter into new key areas of research
- Maintain JRC scientific excellence
- Raise the value and visibility of JRC Ris
- Widen data and research base



### **Framework for Access**

#### Based on the Charter of Access to RIs of DG RTD

Principles and guidelines when defining Access policies for RIs

#### **Access Modes**

- Relevance-driven
  - Peer-review selection following a call for proposals: Scientific implementation, collaboration and access to new users, strategic relevance to the JRC, strategic importance for Europe
  - Mainly targeted to academia and research institutions, as well as to **SMEs**
  - Users charged the additional costs; nuclear RIs free of charge Users pay for consumables
  - Open dissemination after an 18 month embargo period
- Market-driven
  - Selection by the JRC
  - Mainly targeted to industry
  - Users charged the full costs
  - Data not disseminated via open schemes

#### Open to

- ✓ EU Member States
- ✓ Countries associated to Horizon Europe

### JRC Projects ICOS and ACTRIS



The JRC actively contributes to **ICOS** and **ACTRIS** with the **EC Atmospheric Observatory**:

ICOS and ACTRIS research infrastructures (currently and soon, respectively) under ERIC

- provide standardised, high-quality and long-term observations
- facilitate research and innovation

regarding the carbon cycle (greenhouse gases) and short-lived climate forcers + air pollutants, respectively.

Both RIs are key partners to the **WMO Global Atmosphere Watch (GAW)** programme (essential climate variables)

The JRC is also responsible for QA/QC activities for aerosol in-situ measurements in ACTRIS.



### Conclusion

- Oxygenising administration and policy through research
- Balancing innovation, underpinning in house research and support for optimal operations
- Leveraging on synergies as a medium-long term strategy



