**Concept and Agenda**

**Joint Research Centre info day**

**Thematic event to foster cooperation with Slovenian stakeholders,   
focusing on public health and food quality & safety**

**Ljubljana, 12-13 November 2015**

*Joint event of the European Commission's Joint Research Centre   
and the Slovenian Ministry for Education, Science and Sport*

Public health and the safety and quality of our nutrition go hand in hand. Food and healthcare are among the focal areas identified in Slovenia's Smart Specialisation Strategy, and therefore represent important growth opportunities. This joint event will be an opportunity for researchers, policy-makers and Slovenian industry to forge partnerships, increase cooperation, and foster research and innovation capabilities.

To achieve the highest level of protection of human health and increase the competitiveness of the sector, keeping pace with policy demands and emerging risks is crucial, including in the areas of food, consumer products, chemicals and public health, harmonisation and standardisation along with the promotion of healthy lifestyles and living conditions. The JRC provides scientific and technical support to the EU and Member States in the interest of the health of European citizens, and is a natural interlocutor for government agencies, research institutes, and the private sector involved in public health and food safety and quality.

The event also presents an opportunity to deepen contacts between JRC Institutes and scientists with counterparts in Slovenian research organisations, strengthening existing cooperation and identifying new areas of common interest. To this end, the event will be preceded by a scientist pairing-scheme visiting a number of research institutes in Ljubljana.

The **Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (JRC)** is the Commission's in-house science service, providing EU policies with independent, evidence-based scientific and technical support throughout the whole policy cycle. Working in close cooperation with policy Directorates-General, the JRC addresses key societal challenges while stimulating innovation through developing new methods, tools and standards, and sharing its know-how with the Member States, the scientific community and international partners.

The **Slovenian Ministry for Education, Science and Sport (MESS)** is the JRC's natural counterpart in the Slovenian Government. Its Science Directorate is responsible for the formulation of the Slovenian Science and Research Policy and houses the Slovenian Member of the Board of Governors and National Contact Point (NCP) for the JRC, which act as intermediary and operational contact points between the JRC and the stakeholders from the scientific community, industry and public authorities in Slovenia, including other ministries responsible for the Slovenia's Smart Specialisation Strategy and its involvement in the EU's Macro-regional strategies.

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| **12 November 2015** | |
| **13:00-14:30** | ***L U N C H***  ***(Restaurant Cubo)*** |
| **14:30-15:30**  **STATE SECRETARY**  **WELCOMEs**  **JRC DELEGATION** | ***Venue: MESS***   * **Welcome by Tomaž Boh,** State Secretary,Ministryof Education, Science and Sport * **Welcome by Peter Volasko,** JRC Board of Governors * **Presentation of opportunities to work and collaborate with the JRC, Krzysztof Maruszewski**, Director, JRC Institute for Health and Consumer Protection RC delegation |
| **16:00-18:00**  **JRC delegation visits Institutes** | **JRS delegation visits respective research institutes Institute Jožef Stefan (IJS) and National Institute of Biology (NIB)** |
| **19:30-21:30** | ***D i n n e r (hosted by IJS)*** |
| **13 November 2015**  **Venue: MESS and Institute Jožef Stefan** | |
|  | ***Venue: MESS*** |
| **9:00-9:45**  **JRC DELEGATION**  **MEETS MINISTER** | * **Maja Makovec Brenčič**, Slovenian Ministerfor Education, Science and Sport * **Elke Anklam**, Director, JRC Institute for Reference Materials and Measurements * **Krzysztof Maruszewski**, Director, JRC Institute for Health and Consumer Protection * **Mirjam Bon Klanjšček,** Chairwoman of the Committee on Education, Science, Sport and Youth – Slovenian Parliament) * **Member of the European Parliament** (Slovenian, ITRE or STOA)*(tbc)* |
| **OPEN FOR PUBLIC**  **10:00-11:30**  **Thematic  session I** | ***Venue: IJS***  Moderator: Romana Jordan, IJS  **Food Quality & Safety**  **(food safety, food quality, food adulteration and detection and prevention of food fraud, quality of food control, labelling of nanomaterials in food and consumer products)**   * **Welcome by Jadran Lenarčič,** Director, Jožef Stefan Institute * **Introduction by Elke Anklam,** Director, JRC Institute for Reference Materials and Measurements   Topics: Food safety including the role of the European Union Reference Laboratories (EURLs), food quality, food adulteration and detection and prevention of food fraud, importance of quality of food control (accreditation, proficiency tests, reference materials).   * **Address by Tamara Lah,** Director, National Institute of Biology * **Franz Ulbert,** Standards for Food Bioscience, JRC Institute for Reference Materials and Measurements * **Milena Horvat,** Jožef Stefan Institute * **Peter Dovč,** University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty *(tbc)* * **Jana Žel,** Head of GMO Activity, Department of Biotechnology and Systems Biology, National Institute of Biology * **Jana Ramuš,** Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia (Food sector)   *Discussion with the audience* |
| **11:30-11:45** | **WelCome Coffee** |
| **11:45-13:15**  **Thematic  session II** | **Public health**  Moderator: Romana Jordan, IJS  **(health data, breast cancer, new paradigm in toxicology incl. avoidance of animal testing, innovative nanomedical devices)**   * **Introduction byKrzysztof Maruszewski,** Director, JRC Institute for Health and Consumer Protection   Topics: Health data, new paradigm in toxicology incl. avoidance of animal testing, European initiative on breast cancer, European initiative supporting innovative nanomedical devices.   * **Ciaran Nichol,** Cancer and other health related research, JRC Institute for Health and Consumer Protection * **Donata Lerda,** Brest Cancer Quality Assurance, JRC Institute for Health and Consumer Protection * **Metka Filipič,** Head of Department of Genetic Toxicology and Cancer Biology, National Institute of Biology * **Dušan Turk and Matjaž Gams,** Jožef Stefan Institute * **Janez Žgajnar,** Clinical Director,Slovenian Oncology institute *(tbc)* * **Branka Mušič,** Director,Nanotesla*(tbc)*   *Discussion with the audience* |
| **13:15-14:30** | **NetworKing lunch** |
| **14:30-16:00**  **Horizontal  session** | **Smart Specialisation – Stairway to Excellence – Macro-regional Strategies**  Moderator: Ulla Engelmann, JRC   * **Aleš Gnamuš**, Smart Specialisation, JRC Institute for Prospective Technological Studies * **Peter Wostner,** Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy,Introduction of the new Slovenian Smart Specialisation Strategy * **Miroslav Vesković,** JRC support to EU Macro-regional strategies, Joint Research Centre *(tbc)* * **Andreja Jerina,** National Coordinator for EU Macro-regional Strategies, Ministry of Foreign Affairs * **Marko Bohar,** Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia   *Discussion with the audience* |
| **16:00-16:30** | **CLOSING REMARKS**   * **Jadran Lenarčič,** Director, Jožef Stefan Institute * **Krzysztof Maruszewski**, Director, JRC Institute for Health and Consumer Protection * **Ulla Engelmann,** Head of International, Interinstitutional and Stakeholder Relations, JRC * **Ministry of Education, Science and Sport** *(tbc)* |