

Enlargement and Integration

- The JRC is playing an important role in providing scientific and technological support for the European Union (EU) enlargement and integration process.
- In the frame of its mission the Joint Research Centre (JRC) has been running since 1999 the **Enlargement and Integration Action**, an Initiative dedicated to providing scientific and technical support to countries on the road towards EU membership, New Member States and Associated Countries.
- The aim of the Initiative is to support the transfer of the EU legal framework (acquis communautaire) to national legislation and facilitates scientific and technical exchange.
- Within this Initiative, the JRC offers altogether 40 temporary positions for experts from research organisations, public administration bodies, national enforcement laboratories and scientists from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, FYR of Macedonia, Iceland, Israel, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland and Turkey.
- E&IA Activities (workshops, training courses and studies) are planned in specialised areas for Scientific & Technical support to EU policies, which correspond to well-established JRC core competencies and to the priorities identified together with the target countries.
- The workshops are set up to allow competent organisations in the new Member States, Candidate Countries, Potential Candidate Countries, FP7 Associated Countries, and on an ad-hoc basis European Neighbourhood Policy Countries and Russia to study the scientific and technical methods and techniques underpinning EU policy implementation.
- The E&IA 2013 review is on-going we are still collecting the information and reports. As for 2012 the slide shows the main figures.
- Concerning the geographical location is important to organise the activities, when possible, in the Target Countries. The graphic shown the increasing in participation in this case.
- Every year the JRC organises several Study Visits at its Institutes for Delegations of Enlargement and Integration Target Countries. The participants represent scientific organisation and national policy making bodies
- The objective of these visits is to strengthening the cooperation between JRC and the Enlargement countries. The priority topics for the visits are identified with the Enlargement NCPs during the annual Meeting.

- For 2014 more than 50 workshops and advanced trainings have been approved in the fields of Food security, Smart Grids, Eco-Innovation, Nuclear Safety and Security, Agriculture, Climate change, renewable energies and energy efficiency, and health.
- Up-coming events. (Just in case someone ask for more details): At the end of January (tbc) a workshop on hydropower energy, organised together with TUBITAK and the support of the Norwegian SINTEF Energy SA. The objective of this workshop is to exchange experiences and ambitions on national and European level for the use of hydro power for balancing other renewables. Emphasis will be put on 1) New large-scale hydro projects, 2) Optimization of reservoir handling in high-RES systems, 3) Political, regulatory and environmental challenges for increased use of hydro as balancing source.