Tomorrow's Healthy Society – Research Priorities for Foods and Diets

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Joint Research Centre
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Outline

- Brief introduction to the JRC
- What is Foresight?
- JRC Foresight study on Food & Health
JRC - The European Commission’s in-house science service

Mission:
To provide EU policies with independent, evidence-based scientific and technical support throughout the whole policy cycle.

Quick Facts:
• Established in 1957
• 7 institutes in 5 countries
• 3 023 scientific, technical and administrative personnel
• 2013 Budget: €386 million
What is foresight?
Foresight ...

➢ assumes that there are numerous possible futures

➢ gathers anticipatory intelligence from a wide range of knowledge sources in a systematic way

➢ enhances future thinking beyond established pathways and links it to today’s decision making
JRC Foresight study

Tomorrow’s healthy society – research priorities for foods and diets

Foresight and Behavioural Insights Unit
Institute for Health and Consumer Protection IHCP
Institute for Reference Materials and Measurements IRMM
JRC Foresight study: Tomorrow’s healthy society – research priorities for food and diets

Objectives

• Identify research priorities that support the provision and consumption of foods and diets for health
• Support the implementation of Horizon 2020

The study was carried out on request of DG RTD.
Implementation

- Time horizon 2050
- Focus on the EU and EU consumers
- Scenario-based foresight approach
  - Scenarios are used to highlight possible futures, they do not predict the future or suggest a preferred future.
  - They are stories (creative combination of data, facts and hypotheses) which explore how the future could look like under the influence of a strengthening or weakening of a combination of driving forces.
  - Scenarios can be used to highlight challenges and opportunities to inform today’s decisions.
Healthy new world

Me, myself and I

Individualistic society

Eat to live

Heal the world

Strong community spirit

Importance to common goods, rights & social justice
Healthy new world
Heal the world
Eat to live
Me, myself & I
Towards healthier eating: integrated policy making
- Improve the evidence base for adoption of healthier dietary behaviours
- Developing a scientific framework for a systems approach to food and nutrition policies
- Provide a framework to design, monitor and evaluate policies

Food, nutrients and health: cross-interactions and emerging risks
- Deepening the understanding of human nutrition: facing the complexity
- Anticipation of emerging risks

Making individualised diets a reality
- Data needs: creation and management of necessary data for enabling individualised diets
- Analysing feasibility and impacts of individualised, healthy diets

Shaping and coping with the 2050 food system
- Understanding the social role of food
- Towards a sustainable food system producing safe, affordable and healthy dietary components
- Supporting technologies to meet societal needs

Multi-disciplinary Systems Approach
More on Food&Health foresight:

Report available on JRC website

Joint Research Centre (JRC)

www.jrc.ec.europa.eu

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THANK YOU!

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