

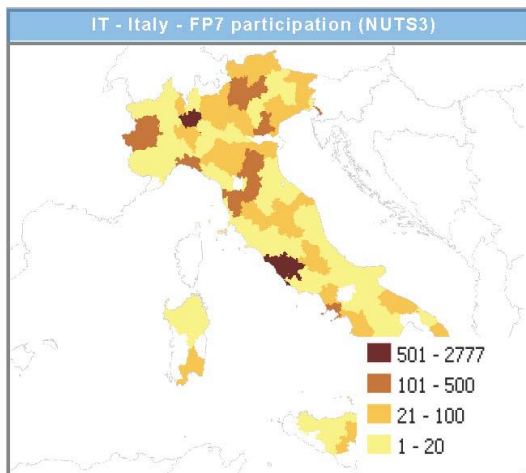


# HORIZON 2020

## ITALY



Over the last decade, the Italian economy has been oriented towards non-research intensive activities and the R&D intensity increased moderately reaching 1.27% of GDP in 2009, with equal contributions from public and private sector. Despite an increase in the R&D intensity of existing sectors, the levels of R&D investment remain largely under those of main industrial competitors. This indicates a trend towards a specialisation in lower technology intensive products. The relative low level of investment of the private sector in R&D and innovation is largely due to the fact that the Italian economy is also characterised by a large number of SMEs and micro firms (notably in traditional sectors), as well as large regional discrepancies.



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A new governmental structure has been created to coordinate national R&D activities and links with R&D stakeholders and several measures implemented to address some of these challenges, such as grants for industrial research and simplification of the IPR support system. Country's competitiveness would further gain from improving the performance of the higher education system, as well as a better response to the need for skills by the economy.

<b>Innovation Union Scoreboard position</b>	16 out of 27
<b>R&amp;D intensity target</b>	1.53%
<b>Number of eligible proposals</b>	21.193 in response to 294 FP7 calls for proposals
<b>Number of applicants</b>	38.512 (12.28% of EU-27)
<b>Success rate (EU-27 =21,5%)</b>	18.4 %
<b>Rank in number of participants signed contracts (EU-27):</b>	4
<b>Rank in budget share (EU-27)</b>	4
<b>Top collaborative links</b>	DE, UK, FR, ES, NL
<b>Total Population &amp; EU 27 Population Share</b>	60626442 (12.1% of EU-27)