



Federal Ministry
for Economic Affairs
and Energy



Italy's National Plan Industria 4.0

Stefano Firpo

Director General for Industrial Policy,
Competitiveness and SMEs

Italian Ministry of Economic Development





Industria 4.0: key principles

The principles of the National Plan stem from the peculiarities of the Italian industrial sector, deeply based on **SMEs** and with few large corporate players, and a significant role in R&D for **universities** and **research centres**.

Government guidelines:

- Operate on all **enabling factors: investments, R&D&I, skills, infrastructure**
- Sustain investments in innovation and new machinery in a logic of **technological and sectoral neutrality** (focus on manufacturing but also in all Made in Italy strategic sectors: agri-food, bioeconomy, pharma and biotech, sustainability etc.)
- Strengthen the integration of Italian SMEs into national and **global value chains**
- **Steer existing instruments** to promote technological leap and productivity
- **Coordinate key stakeholders** without acting as a controller or decision maker



Industria 4.0: main goals

- Stimulate **private investments in I4.0 technology drivers**: a >10 bn € increase in 2017/18
- Increase private expenditure in **Research & Development & Innovation**: + 11 bn € between 2017 and 2020
- Expand **open innovation** relationships between mature companies and high-tech startups and SMEs: +2,6 bn € early stage investments over the '17-'20 period
- Network **coverage at 100 Mbps** of all major Italian industrial districts by 2020
- Spreading **I4.0 skills**: 200,000 academic students (1,400 PhD), 3,000 managers qualified on I4.0 topics, and a twofold increase of I4.0 students in vocational training

Industria 4.0: key measures

Hyper-Depreciation

A 250% depreciation rate for investments in I4.0 technologies in 2017/18

Super-Depreciation

1-year extension of the Super-Depreciation at 140% for all investments, both tangible and intangible (when related to I4.0 technologies)

Tax credit on R&D

A 50% credit on incremental R&D investment, up to a ceiling of 20 € m per year

Finance in support of VCs and startups

30% income tax break for equity investments in innovative startups and SMEs





Industria 4.0: other policies

Investments in skills and tech transfer:

- **Digital Innovation Hubs**

Contact points between companies, research centers and public – private investors

Goals: create awareness on I4.0 opportunities, support companies in digital maturity assessment and networking

- **Competence Centers**

Few and selected, involving leading universities and large private players

Focused on facilitating SMEs I4.0 transformational projects in all domains and providing technological solution, testbeds, training

