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*Ministero
dello Sviluppo Economico*



*Ministero dell'Istruzione,
dell'Università e della Ricerca*

National Operational Programme "Research and Competitiveness" 2007-2013





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“Research and Competitiveness” NOP 2007-2013

Overall objective:

- To improve the capacity to produce and exploit high-quality research and innovation to trigger a permanent and sustainable development of Convergence Regions (Calabria, Campania, Puglia, Sicilia).





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“Research and Competitiveness” NOP 2007-2013

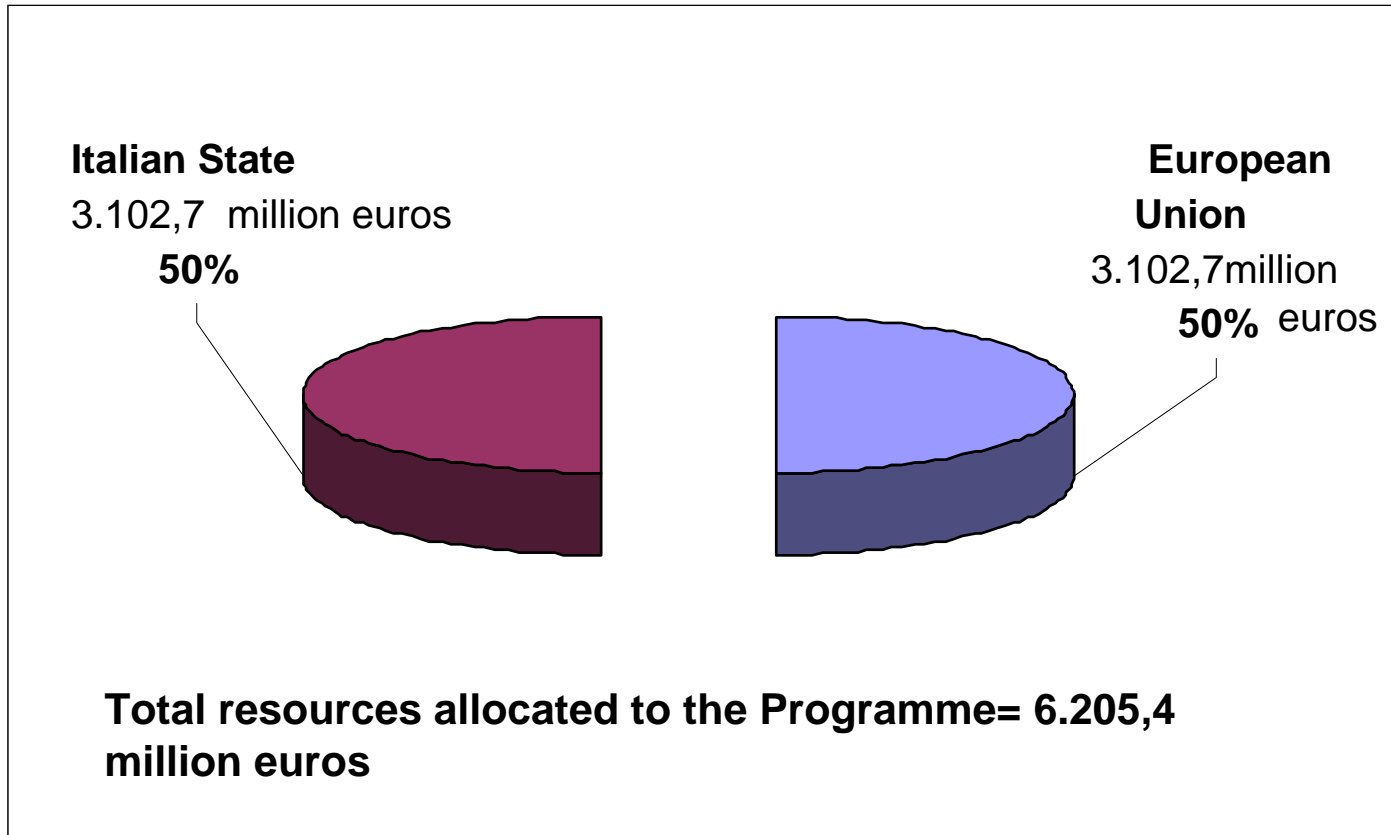
- **Mission:** to support a closer alignment of the competitiveness of Convergence Regions with regional and “System Nation’s” policies
- **Strategy:** integration with all development policies regarding research and innovation
- **Governance:** improve Regions’ tuning process triggered in previous programmings





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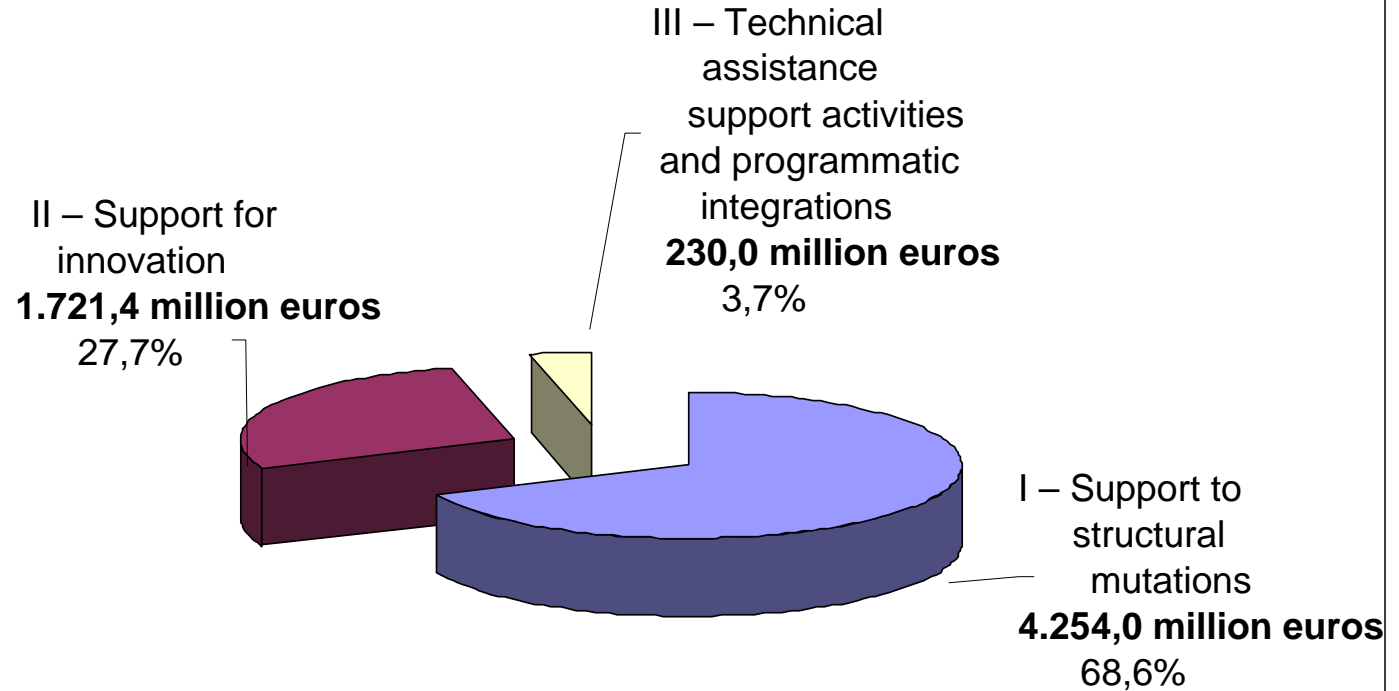
Financial resources of “Research and Competitiveness” NOP





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Action sectors of “Research and Competitiveness” NOP



Total resources allocated to the Programme= 6.205,4 million euros





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Breakdown by Action Sectors (Priority Axis), Specific and Operational Objectives

AXIS I - SUPPORT TO STRUCTURAL MUTATIONS	AXIS II - SUPPORT FOR INNOVATION
Specific Objective: To support structural mutations and improve research and technological capacity leading to knowledge-based economy	Specific Objective: To strengthen innovation for competitiveness development
OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES	OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES
Research and technology areas triggering processes Of change in productive system and creating new sectors	To strengthen productive system
Technological-productive areas for the system's competitiveness	To improve the economy market of capitals
Networks to strengthen research and technology capacity of Convergence Regions	Integrated actions for sustainable development and dissemination of Information Society
Consolidation and improvement of research and technology facilities and equipment	
Inter-regional cooperation between stakeholders of research and productive sector	
AXIS III - TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT ACTIVITIES	
Specific Objective: to increase the quality level of NOP action and related impact	
OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES	
Improvement of actions' efficiency, efficacy and quality, as well as of related monitoring, evaluation and auditing activities	
Increase of the strategic and communication capacity of the NOP	
Programmatic integrations to attain system impacts	



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Axis I – Support to structural mutations

AXIS I - SUPPORT TO STRUCTURAL MUTATIONS	
Specific objective: to support structural mutations and improve research and technology capacity leading to knowledge-based economy	
OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS
Research and technology areas triggering processes of change in productive system and creating new sectors	Research and technology areas of strategic value
	Actions supporting industrial research
Technological-productive areas for system's competitiveness	Industrial innovation projects and related actions
	Innovation projects to enhance specific capacities of Convergence Regions
Networks to strengthen research and technology capacity of Convergence Regions	High-technology centres and related networks
	Public-private laboratories and related networks
Consolidation and improvement of research and technology facilities and equipment	Enhancement of facilities
Inter-regional cooperation between key-actors of research and productive sectors	Inter-regional cooperation among stakeholders of research and productive sectors



Axis I – Support to structural mutations

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Specific Objective I.1 – To support structural mutations and improve research and technology capacity leading to knowledge-based economy

Operational Objective	Actions
<p><i>I.1 Research and technology areas triggering processes of change in productive system and creating new sectors</i></p>	<p>Integrated activities of fundamental research, industry research and experimental development related to research-technology areas of strategic value (materials; transport, shipbuilding industry and advanced logistics; aerospace; advanced manufacturing systems; agricultural and food system; ITC; energy saving; health) as provided by the National Research Programme¹ and with active contribution of the main qualified public and private stakeholders.</p> <p>Actions to support industrial research, implemented in cooperation with Regions, integrated research activities</p>
<p><i>I.2 Technological-productive areas for system's competitiveness</i></p>	<p>Industrial innovation projects and related actions within the 5 technological fields envisaged by "Industria 2015" (energy efficiency; sustainable mobility; new technologies for a better quality-life; new technologies for Made-in-Italy industry; innovative technologies for cultural products and activities). Initiatives can be developed by a plurality of subjects and can include research, experimental development and productive investment activities of material and intangible nature</p> <p>Innovation projects to enhance specific capabilities of Convergence Regions, to be implemented through the transfer of project philosophy and methodology of national PII to the technological areas that most satisfy the specific tendency of the involved 4 regions.</p>



Axis I – Support to structural mutations

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<p><i>I.3 Networks to strengthen research and technology capacity of Convergence Regions</i></p>	<p>High-technology centres and related networks to promote local concentration of scientific and productive specialisations by involving subjects from both demand and supply sides (integrated projects of frontier research, enhancement of laboratories and human capital, spin-off, catalyse investment from outside sources, build new high-tech enterprises).</p> <p>Public-private laboratories and related networks to attain research-technology objectives of both mid- and long-term by jointly involving universities, enterprises and public bodies operating in the research field. The development of PPLs is made possible by research equipment and resources and related multi-regional networking through the adoption of the action model promoted within FP7 in relation to European Technology Platforms.</p>
<p><i>I.4 Consolidation and improvement of research and technology facilities and equipment</i></p>	<p>Enhancement of facilities regarding public (PRBs and Universities) and private Research Centres in the 4 Convergence regions, in compliance with similar ROP measures and through a coordinated employ of action instruments available.</p>
<p><i>I.5 Inter-regional cooperation between key-actors of research and productive sectors</i></p>	<p>Inter-regional cooperation among stakeholders of research and productive sectors. Complementary activities in line with actions envisaged by the Objective “European Territorial Cooperation” and with other instruments of the main Community policies (FP7, CIP etc.). In particular: a) inter-regional projects of cooperation between Universities, Research Bodies and further scientific institutions dealing with topics of emerging interest for the involved Regions; b) cooperation projects between national research organisations and international excellence centres; c) projects aimed to develop the cooperation between enterprises and technology centres; d) international productive networks and cluster projects.</p>



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Axis II – Support for Innovation

AXIS II – SUPPORT FOR INNOVATION	
Specific Objective: to strengthen innovation for competitiveness development	
OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS
To strengthen productive system	Activities aimed to competitively realign the productive system
To improve the economy market of capitals	Improvement of SMEs capitalisation and access to financing
Integrated actions for sustainable development and dissemination of IT society	Integrated research and competitiveness activities for sustainable development
	Integrated research and competitiveness activities for Information Society



Axis II – Support for Innovation

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<i>Specific Objective II.1 – To strengthen innovation for competitiveness development</i>	
Operational Objective	Actions
<i>II.1 To strengthen the productive system</i>	Activities aimed to competitively realign the productive system , by: a) supporting complex projects for sectoral requalification enhancing both the implementation of research and innovation programmes and productive investments to boost enterprise-chains and/or the competitive re-alignment of initial specialisations in terms of product/market; b) catalysing high-tech investments able to produce a territorial feedback impact; c) adopting new technologies for the requalification and re-industrialisation of lagging-behind sectors. Such activities are defined through negotiated programming instruments and proper re-industrialisation programmes for crisis areas. The financing of a second category of actions by means of the same instruments already used in the past programming period (PIA Innovation, PIA Networking, Law no. 46/82, start-ups, technological centres) is allowed only for the first two years after the approval of the programme.
<i>II.2 To improve the economy market of capitals</i>	Capitalisation of SMEs and access to finance to support risk capital funds and mezzanine financing, regarding development programmes for: the consolidation of enterprises' financial structure; seed and start-up high-tech initiatives to be supported as for the early stage and expansion steps; initiatives for the consolidation of small-medium companies (SMEs) increasing their competitiveness level in abroad markets. Promotion of activities to mitigate the credit risk, of the technological rating as for the procedures used by financial operators to choose projects, scouting, tutoring and training activities to increase the labour demand.



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Axis II – Support for innovation

<p><i>II.3</i></p> <p><i>Integrated actions for sustainable development and dissemination of IT society</i></p>	<p>Integrated research actions for sustainable development– actions to finance R&T and technology transfer projects especially related to industry sectors and possible equipment modernisation of involved centres.</p>
	<p>Integrated competitiveness action for sustainable development– enhancement of competitiveness level of enterprise systems and re-qualification of economically strategic areas through actions integrating pre-competitive development and innovation with environmental sustainability (re-qualification of the Sites of National Interest (SNI) and of industrial disused areas; financing of pilot projects to pinpoint and re-qualify existing industrial districts or systems that can be considered “sustainable districts” or to develop companies-chains of strategic environmental sectors).</p>
	<p>Integrated research action for Information Society– research activities to find innovative application forms and devices able to exploit the expanding capabilities of network systems (also in terms of calculation) and the heterogeneity of telecommunication systems. The results will consist of innovative methods of efficient data management and processes based on IT systems; consolidation of public-private laboratories and related networks to increase knowledge and know-how in the field of IS;</p>
	<p>Integrated competitiveness action for Information Society related to operational, management and market processes preferably adopting on-line services and technology solutions based on cooperation networking forms;</p>



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Axis III – Technical assistance and support activities

AXIS III - TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT ACTIVITIES	
Specific Objective: to increase the quality level of NOP action and related impact	
Operational objectives	Actions
Improvement of actions' efficiency, efficacy and quality levels, as well as of related monitoring, evaluation and auditing activities	Technical Assistance Administration and Auditing
Increase of the strategic and communication capacity of the NOP	Evaluation
	Information and Publicity
Programmatic integrations to attain system impacts	Integration between national and regional actions
	Osmosis initiatives between the North and South of Italy
	Service activities and joint projects
	Services for industrial property valorisation



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Axis III – Technical Assistance and support activities

Axis III – TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT ACTIVITIES	
<i>Specific Objective III.1 – Increase of the quality level of NOP action and related impact</i>	
Operational Objective	Actions
<i>III.1 Improvement of actions' efficiency, efficacy and quality levels, as well as of related monitoring, evaluation and auditing activities</i>	Technical Assistance, Administration and Auditing
<i>III.2 Increase of the strategic and communication capacity of the NOP</i>	Evaluation Information and Publicity



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Axis III – Technical Assistance and Support Activities

<p><i>III.3 Programmatic integrations to attain system impacts</i></p>	<p>Integration between national and regional actions – promotion of actions of linkage between national and regional programmes; creation of a mechanism to vertically integrate the different facilitation instruments to speed up the transfer of scientific results to the productive level; implementation of projects aimed at increasing the activity and employment rates of highly qualified experts, especially females; valorisation of instruments to estimate beneficiarie’s satisfaction and efficiency levels of actions supporting enterprises.</p>
	<p>North-South osmosis initiatives to promote scientific cooperation between “Convergence Regions – Competitiveness Regions”, the exchange of experiences and dissemination of best practices topically interesting for the Regions involved;</p>
	<p>Service activities and joint projects – activities supporting regional offices and projects joining central and regional administrations to promote, screen, administer and evaluate projects for the valorisation of human capital.</p>
	<p>Services for industrial property valorisation will be promoted to develop the patents culture (new patents/trade marks registration) among enterprise. Focus on protection, dissemination and valorisation of industrial property.</p>



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Some Research and Innovation Actions envisaged by the Programme

RESEARCH

- Complex projects of fundamental, industrial research and experimental development with regards to scientific-technological areas of strategic value as envisaged by the National Research Programme (NRP)
- Public-private laboratories
- High-technology centres

INNOVATION

- Complex projects of industrial innovation related to the 5 technological areas envisaged by Industria 2015
- Projects to competitively re-align the productive system
- Activities of innovative finance

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

- Integrated cross-cutting activities to enhance sustainable development and Information Society

