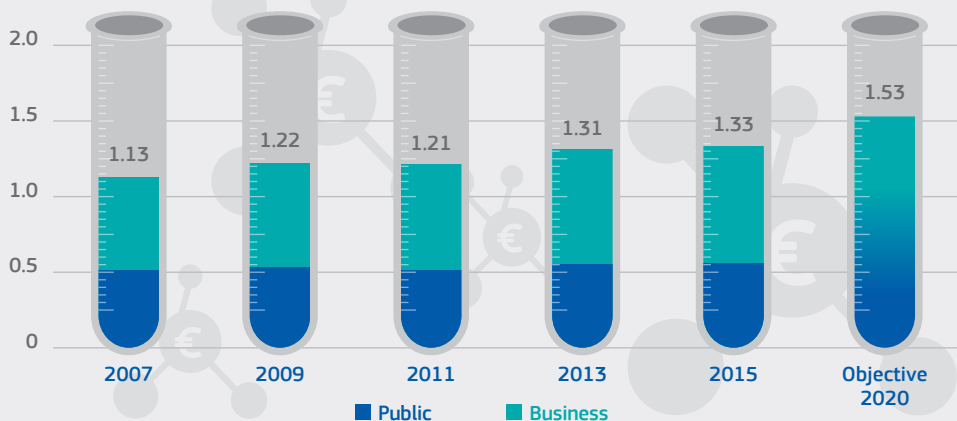


# ITALY 2017

## INVESTMENT IN R&D ▶ R&D SPENDING

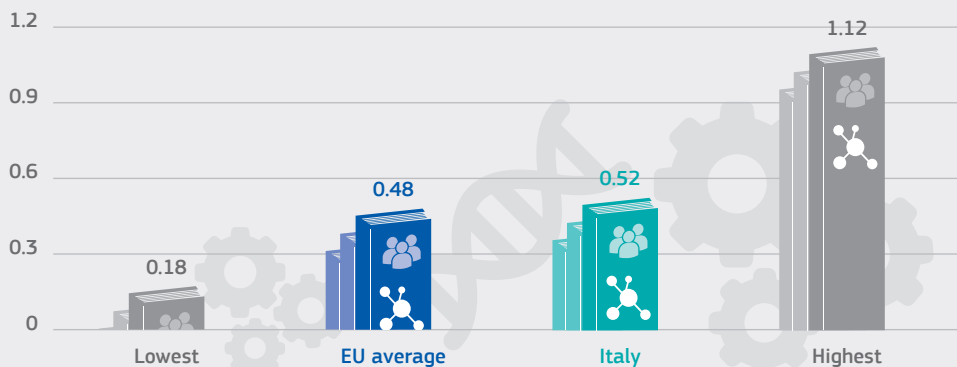
While R&D intensity has been increasing at a low pace during recent years...  
...an acceleration is needed to reach the Italian national R&D target by 2020



R&D intensity (total R&D spending as % of GDP)

## STRENGTH OF R&I SYSTEM ▶ PRODUCTIVE PUBLIC SCIENCE

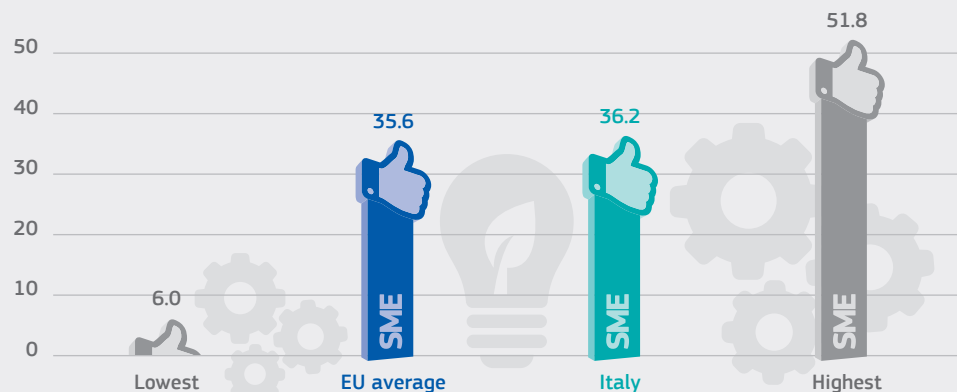
Even with low public R&D investment, the productivity of the public science base is above average



Productivity of science base indicator (2014)

## STRENGTH OF R&I SYSTEM ▶ INNOVATIVE SMEs

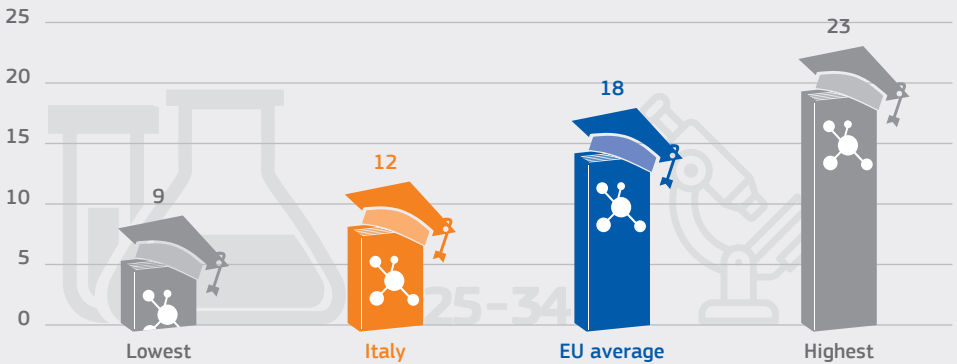
Italian SMEs are keen innovators, which is an asset for the economy if well leveraged



SMEs introducing product or process innovations as % of SMEs (2014)

## KEY CHALLENGE ► SKILLS GAP

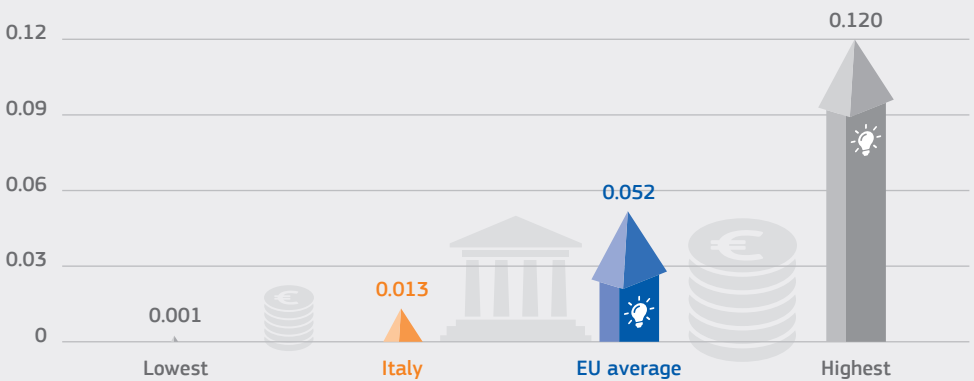
Shortages of scientific and technical skills hold back R&D and innovation activities



Number of new graduates in science and engineering per thousand population aged 25-34 (2014)

## KEY CHALLENGE ► SCIENCE-BUSINESS COOPERATION

Low cooperation between academia and business hampers knowledge diffusion in the economy



Public expenditure on R&D funded by business as % of GDP (2015)

## RECOMMENDATIONS ► ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

-  Invest in human capital and improve Italy's appeal for the highly skilled
-  Provide incentives to boost academia-business cooperation and knowledge diffusion
-  Better leverage business R&D investment and dynamism

## H2020 POLICY SUPPORT FACILITY ACTIVITIES



Participated in the **Mutual Learning Exercise** on Performance-based Funding of Public Research Organisations