Current actions in Italy on resource efficiency and green economy and plans for the EU Presidency

Italian Minister for Environment

Gianluca Galletti

EREP meeting 31 March 2014
The Italian “Green Agenda” for a green economy (1)

- The 2014 Annual Stability Law has an Environmental Annex, on “Actions for greening the economy and improve resource efficiency” - already recalled the Italian Green Agenda

- An important tool to reinforce current EU policies on market for greener and recycled products, environmental certificates, green public procurement, energy efficiency in buildings, waste management, soil protection, water service, better use of Environmental Impact Assessment
The Italian “Green Agenda” for a green economy (2)

Some examples:

**GPP**

- mandatory use of the “minimum environmental criteria” for energy services, electronic devices, lighting, supply (paper, cleaning products, food)
- incentive for economic operators participating in public contracts and that are equipped with EMAS registration or Ecolabel

**MARKET FOR RECYCLED PRODUCTS**

- incentive to consumers, businesses and local authorities to support the purchase of products made with raw materials derived from post-consumption waste collection, in order to prevent waste, promote its recovery, recycling and reuse, thus reducing the consumption of raw materials
The Italian “Green Agenda” for a green economy (3)

- Main actions:

  1. Setting a **Committee on Natural Capital** (with Ministry of Finance, Statistics institute, Bank of Italy and other relevant institutions), with the aim to integrate environmental costs into the main national financial and economic planning documents

  2. Setting a **Registry on environment-friendly and harmful subsidies**, to be updated each year
Other main actions

Environmental fiscal reform

- In February 2014 a Delegated Fiscal Act was approved, to be implemented in 12 months. Action includes environmental fiscal reform, with tax shift from labour to carbon and pollution – with priority to labour tax from green industries
- Working to set up a Committee on Green Fiscality

Resource productivity indicators

- Italy is one of the six MS working with Eurostat to further define the Raw Material Consumption indicator, for a better representation of the use of resources
Plans for the EU Presidency

• Greening the economy is one of the priorities of the programme for the Italian Presidency of the EU Semester

• In the context of the European Semester process, the Annual Growth Survey needs to be enriched with environmental priorities and progress, next to growth and employment

• Revision of “Europe 2020” and Environment Council Conclusions on the “green communications”: an opportunity for Environment Ministers to push for a green agenda

• Great focus will be on green jobs to face unemployment - on 17 July Informal Meeting of Environmental and Employment Ministers following the EU Communication on green jobs
Thank you for your attention