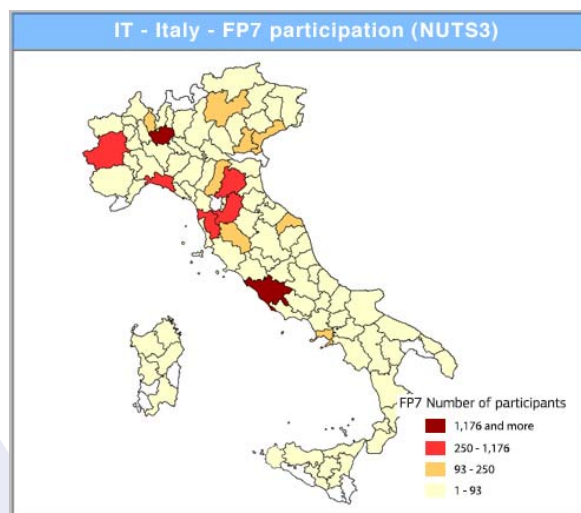


# ITALY



Over the last decade, the Italian economy has been oriented towards non-research intensive activities and the R&D intensity increased moderately reaching 1.26% of GDP in 2010, 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.

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>	15 out of 27 (Moderate Innovators)
<b>R&amp;D intensity target</b>	1.53% of GDP
<b>Total number of participants, total EU financial contribution e million</b>	8.850 participants receiving € 2.640,23 m in FP7
<b>Number of applicants</b>	50.159 (12,05% of EU-27)
<b>Success rate (EU-27 =21.0%)</b>	18,2%
<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>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. DE - Italy (15.257)</li> <li>2. UK - Italy (11.786)</li> <li>3. FR - Italy (11.252)</li> <li>4. ES - Italy (9.402)</li> <li>5. NL - Italy (5.776)</li> </ol>
<b>Total Population &amp; EU 27 Population Share</b>	61.261.254 (12.1% of EU-27)

CORDA DATA update as of 1 March 2013

## BACCARA - HELPING OUR FORESTS SURVIVE THE THREAT OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Forests are a key resource for the planet. They play an important role in preserving biodiversity, they are a source of natural, renewable materials, and by absorbing carbon dioxide they play a crucial role in combating the greenhouse effect.

But our forests today face perhaps their biggest challenge yet - climate change. Forests are complex and finely-balanced ecosystems, and even small climate changes could have major repercussions, potentially even causing forests to die out.

The difficulty lies in predicting specifically what those effects are likely to be so that effective planning can be started.

The EU-funded BACCARA project was set up to help forestry managers address exactly this problem aiming at development of the scientific basis needed to enable forest managers and policy makers to evaluate the specific risks to European forests resulting from climate change.

PROJECT DETAILS	
Coordinator	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, France
Other partners from	Germany, The Netherlands, France, Italy, United Kingdom, Poland, Sweden, Spain, , Switzerland, China.
Country partner	UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DI PADOVA, UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DELLA TUSCIA
Web	<a href="http://www.baccara-project.eu">www.baccara-project.eu</a>
FP	7
Project number	226299
Total cost in €	4.1 million
EU Contribution in €	3 million
Start date	Jan. 2009
End date	Dec 2012

## CORE ORGANIC II - Cross-border research expands in organic food and farming

To support the wider development of organic food in Europe a comprehensive multi-country research effort is being conducted under the EU-funded CORE Organic II project.

Organic food production is a way to promote sustainable development in food production and also to improve the general competitiveness of European agriculture.

PROJECT DETAILS	
Coordinator	University of Aarhus, Denmark
Other partners from	France, Czech Republic, Denmark, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Austria, Ireland, Italy, Belgium, Turkey, Germany, Sweden, Estonia, Latvia, Norway, Luxembourg, Slovenia, Finland, Spain, Switzerland, Lithuania
Country partner	MINISTERO DELLE POLITICHE AGRICOLE ALIMENTARI E FORESTALI
Web	<a href="http://www.au.dk">http://www.au.dk</a>
FP	7
Project number	249667
Total cost in €	1 607 082
EU Contribution in €	999 976
Start date	March 2010
End date	Feb. 2013

## NAIMIT - Genetically altered bacteria to help stop diabetes in its tracks

As the world's population grows, so does the increase in the number of new cases of Type I diabetes among the very young.

Researchers at the EU-funded project NAIMIT are using a genetically modified form of the bacterium *Lactococcus lactis* to help alter the way the disease contributes to Type I diabetes in children.

Success in this research could improve the quality of life for millions of people worldwide suffering from this autoimmune disease.

PROJECT DETAILS	
Coordinator	KATHOLIEKE UNIVERSITEIT LEUVEN, Belgium
Other partners from	United Kingdom, Belgium, Italy, Danmark, Germany, Portugal, The Netherlands
Country partner	UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI SIENA, UNIVERSITA DI PISA
Web	<a href="http://naimit.eu/">http://naimit.eu/</a>
FP	7
Project number	241447
Total cost in €	14 247 400
EU Contribution in €	10 920 800
Start date	Nov.2009
End date	Oct.2014

## FORBIOPLAST – DRAWING ON FOREST RESOURCES TO AID SUSTAINABLE MANUFACTURING

The timber industry currently wastes huge amounts of precious wood by-products like chips, shavings and sawdust that could otherwise be put to use. European researchers, with the support of EU funding, are finding new ways to ensure every little bit counts.

In order to alleviate the depletion of the world's natural resources, it is crucial to find ways of making better use of wood, without chopping down more trees.

FORBIOPLAST (Forest Resource Sustainability through Bio-Based-Composite Development) examines how to use wood by-products as raw materials to make composite foams.

PROJECT DETAILS	
Coordinator	Universita di Pisa, Italy
Other partners from	Germany, Italy, Belgium, Spain, Greece, Latvia, Romania, Hungary, Norway
Country partner	CENTRO RICERCHE FIAT SCPA
Web	<a href="http://www.forbioplast.eu">www.forbioplast.eu</a>
FP	7
Project number	212239
Total cost in €	5 966 874
EU Contribution in €	4 317 515
Start date	July 08
End date	June 2012