The Agency and the National Recovery and Resilience Plan

Within the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (Italy’s PNRR), the Agency is directly involved in Mission 5 “Inclusion and Cohesion” – Component 3 “Special Interventions for Territorial Cohesion”. This mission plays an important role in the pursuit of the cross-cutting objectives of supporting women’s empowerment and combating gender discrimination, increasing employment prospects for young people, rebalancing the territory, and developing Southern Italy regions and the so-called “Inner Areas”. Furthermore, via Decree-Law No. 77/21 “Governance and Simplification”, the Agency’s role has grown as an issuer and manager of calls for tenders aimed at increasing cohesion across Italy with the PNRR resources.

See the calls for proposals:
https://italiadomani.gov.it
https://www.agenziacoesione.gov.it/bandi-agenzia

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

An action programme for prosperity and peace. Signed in 2015 by the governments of the 193 member states of the United Nations and approved by the UN General Assembly, the Agenda sets out 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be achieved by 2030. The 17 Goals refer to the three pillars of sustainable development – economic, social and ecological – and aim to end poverty, combat inequality, tackle climate change and build peaceful societies that respect human rights. Within its remit, the Territorial Cohesion Agency is strongly committed to the 17 Goals of the 2030 Agenda.

2014-2020 implementation progress

Expenditure certified to the EU at 30/04/2022

29.2 billion euros, equal to 47.2% of programmed resources

The 2014-2020 programming resources

136.4 billion euros (including REACT EU)
61.8 billion euros – ESI Funds OPs
11.5 billion euros – Complementary OPs, national resources
3.0 billion euros – ETC Programmes
60.1 billion euros – Development and Cohesion Fund (national)

The National Recovery and Resilience Plan

The National Recovery and Resilience Plan (Italy’s PNRR) outlines the objectives, reforms and investments that Italy intends to implement through the use of Next Generation EU (NGEU) funds, the 750-billion-euro package endorsed by the European Union to mitigate the economic and social impact of the pandemic and make Italy a fairer, greener and more inclusive country, with a more competitive, dynamic and innovative economy. The “Italia Domani” (“Italy tomorrow”) Plan provides for 191.5-billion-euro investments through the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RFF), key instrument of the NGEU. A further 30.6 billion euros is envisaged by the National Plan for Complementary Investments (Art. 1 of Decree-Law No. 59 of 6 May 2021), thus bringing the total planned investments to 222.1 billion euros. In addition, a further 26 billion euros has been earmarked for implementing specific works and replenishing the resources of Italy’s Development and Cohesion Fund by 2032.

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The Territorial Cohesion Agency

The Agency promotes economic development, cohesion and social solidarity, and works to remove economic and social imbalances by strengthening the planning, coordination and monitoring of Cohesion Policy in Italy. Decree-Law No. 77/21 (Governance and Simplification) introduced significant legislative and regulatory changes entrusting the Territorial Cohesion Agency with new governance powers. The Agency is entitled to replace public administrations whose delay or failure in implementing programmes financed by the Structural Funds may result in real decommitment risks.

Why is Cohesion Policy important?

Cohesion Policy is the main investment policy of the European Union and supports:

• Job creation
• Enterprises competitiveness
• Economic growth
• Sustainable development
• Improvement of citizens’ quality of life.

Its action focuses on lagging behind regions to enable them to catch up by reducing the economic, social and territorial disparities that still exist in the European Union.

... And in Italy?

Cohesion Policy is financed by EU resources (European Structural and Investment (ESI) Funds) and national resources (Fondo Sviluppo e Coesione (FSC)). In the 2014-2020 programming period, Cohesion Policy aimed to promote smart, sustainable and inclusive growth through the implementation of Regional and National Operational Programmes (ROPs, NOPs). In the 2021-2027 programming period, Cohesion Policy aims to implement actions for a smarter, greener, more connected, more social and inclusive Europe, closer to its citizens.