



DESCRIPTION OF NATIONAL Agri-Med RESEARCH SYSTEM

(Programmes and capacity)



Funding scheme

Funding Organizations	Funding area*	Budget € year 2008
Ministry of agricultural, food and forestry policies - MIPAAF	<u>R&D projects</u> ¹	40.440.870
	R&D centres	104.698.680
Ministry of high education and research - MIUR	R & D projects ²	62.500.000
	R & D centres ³	72.517.000
	23 Faculties of Agriculture, 14 Faculties of Veterinary Medicine	Not available
Ministry of Health	R&D centres (Veterinary medical research Institutes)	21.750.000
Ministry of Environment and Land Management - MATT	<u>R&D projects</u> ⁴	1.145.780
	R&D centres	Not available
Regional governments + interregional network on agricultural research	<u>R&D projects</u> ⁵	11.081.560
Ministry of Foreign Affairs MAE	<u>R&D projects</u>	21.761.000
	R&D centres	
TOTAL		335.894.890

¹ average annual budget of 2006-2009 period ;

² partial estimation of average annual budget of 2006-2009 period on agri-food research

³ National Research Council, Agri-food department (CNR-DA)

⁴ joint call among MIUR_MIPAAF & MATT on agri-environment topics

⁵ €2.100.065 used for Interregional programs managed by Regions with MIPAAF funding



Research capacity

Research Institutions considered in the report*	Agri-med area annual budget (full cost in €)	Human resources in Agri-med area (total N. scientists)
CRA Council for Agricultural Research	164.000.000**	1369
INEA National Institute of Agrarian Economy	30.643.000**	118
INRAN National Institute of Food and Nutrition	26.000.000**	121
CNR DAA	72.500.000	900
Agrarian Universities	Not available	Not available
TOTAL	293.140.000	2508

*only partial data available, only the more relevant have been mention

** provisional data

The agri-Med research structure in the country

As Italy is a Mediterranean country in all its geographical extent the whole national agricultural research activity has been considered as strictly related to the Mediterranean research area.

Agri-Med research is mainly supported by two Ministries: MIPAAF - Ministry of agriculture, food and forestry policies and MIUR - Ministry of education, university and research .

In addition, other Ministries can fund specific projects in agriculture if related to their core mission: Ministry of Health, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Environment and at local level, Regions and Provinces. In addition some concerted actions between MIPAAF, other Ministries and regional governments have been financed, under the provision of different laws.

The general policy guidelines and the three-year National Research Programme (PNR) defined by MIUR represent the national framework for all research domains and provides financial instruments to fund research programmes through public calls. The new PNR 2010-2012 has been already finalized but its budget is still under approval (expected 0.65% of GDP); Agriculture is one of the strategic topics.

MIPAAF is directly responsible to define, fund and manage the national research programmes in agriculture, realizing the strategic objectives and actions agreed with the permanent consultation groups of stakeholders and Regions. The annual budget is yearly defined in the general financial law.

The main recipients of these funds are CRA, Universities and any other public or private (non profit) research body, having in their statute the research as institutional activity.

Part of the funds is also devoted to support the research institutions under its direct supervision (CRA, INRAN, INEA, ISMEA, ISILS) in their institutional activity and for its permanent staff salaries.

In more recent years other financial instruments to support agricultural research come from the budgets devoted to the different agricultural sectors, including the funds for young farmer support, considering that research is a key tool to improve their competitiveness:

In Italy agri-Med research is carried out by many research centres and universities some of them are devoted exclusively to agricultural research, other also to more general issues.



Coordination of the **Agricultural Research In the Mediterranean Area**

The national research centres with agricultural research as institutional mission are CRA, INRAN, INEA, ISILS, directly supervised by MIPAAF.

Other relevant public research institutions dealing with agricultural research are the CNR -DAA, ENEA, II.ZZ.SS, veterinary medical research institutes, Industry experimental stations (SSI), IAO under the Ministry for Foreign affairs and the the Faculties of Agriculture (23), Faculties of Veterinary Medicine (14), Life Sciences, Economic Sciences, and Medicine.

Priorities

- development of a highly productive and ecologically sustainable agriculture by using innovative approaches
- food quality, nutrition and its effects on health and well being (valorization of Mediterranean diet)
- mitigation and adaptation to climate changes and management of major risks;
- sustainable natural resources management including plant and animal biodiversity protection and valorization.
- strengthen of European and international cooperation between researchers, farmers and agri-food industry to improve the technology transfer.

Main research thematic area/programmes (2006-2009)

- 1) Animal welfare/care-Food safety (Min. of Health)
- 2) Food quality and safety (more than one funding body involved)
- 3) Genetics and genomics (MIPAAF, MIUR)
- 4) Southern Regions (MIPAAF)
- 5) Animal production (MIPAAF, MIUR, Region networks)
- 6) Climatic changes (MIPAAF, MIUR, MATT)
- 7) Instruments for food processing (MIUR, MIPAAF)
- 8) Viticulture (MIPAAF, MIUR)

Future perspectives in the Agri-Med research

- ✓ Strengthen competitiveness of agriculture productions through innovative approaches (ICT, Biotechnologies, young farmer support policies)
- ✓ Improve Food quality and safety, nutrition studies related to the prevention of diseases and well being
- ✓ Adaptation of agriculture to climate change (prevention of major risks and sustainable management of natural resources, including biodiversity)

Contact Points for information

Marina Montedoro

Ministry of agricultural, food and forestry polices –MIPAAF

Head of the Research & Development Office COSVIR IV

Via XX Settembre 20, 00189 Rome, ITALY

Te. +39 06 46655077; email: m. montedoro@politicheagricole.gov.it

<http://politicheagricole.it>