



# Best Practices - Sustainable Development - (Sustainable Development Goals) — ITALY —

The report was prepared as part of the project Empower – learn – led – Expand: YOUth4SDGs changing the rules transforming our world

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## Good Practices in Italy in the field of Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals

### Good practice 1 – Public Sector

#### Agency for Territorial Cohesion

All countries are called upon to commit to defining their own sustainable development strategy in order to achieve their goals and to communicate their achievements in a process coordinated by the UN. Each country is assessed annually by the UN through the High-level Political Forum (HLPF), which assesses progress, results and challenges for all countries, and by national and international public opinion. In addition, every four

Quali sono gli indicatori (SDGs) in Italia e cosa ci dicono del nostro Paese

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years a debate on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda takes place in the UN General Assembly, in the presence of Heads of State and Government: the first such review took place in September 2019.

In Italy, the 'Benessere Italia' steering committee has been set up, the body of the Prime Minister's Office responsible for 'coordinating, monitoring, measuring and improving the policies of all the ministries in the name of citizens' wellbeing'. A step forward to provide Italy with a governance for the 2030 Agenda, a tool that will allow the Government to promote fair and sustainable wellbeing through the definition of new approaches and new policies.

Fair and sustainable regeneration of territories, mobility and territorial cohesion, energy transition, quality of life, and circular economy are the five macro-areas in which its policies are developed. They place the individual at the centre and aim to promote healthy lifestyles, the definition of balanced life times, the design of fair living conditions, the promotion of actions aimed at human development, and lifelong learning.

At the national level, the **National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSSD)** is the coordinating instrument for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

The National Strategy for Sustainable Development 2017-2030 is the main tool for the creation of a new circular economic model, with low CO2 emissions, resilient to climate change and other global changes that cause local crises, such as, for example, the loss of biodiversity, the modification of fundamental biogeochemical cycles (carbon, nitrogen, phosphorus) and changes in land use.

An innovative aspect of the 2030 Agenda is the focus on inequality. In the absence of an appropriate intervention strategy, several factors can contribute to polarisation between different situations. This is why it is necessary to identify and share policies that can boost growth and make it sustainable in the long term.

The National Sustainable Development Strategy is based on a multidimensional approach to overcoming economic, environmental and social inequalities and thus pursuing sustainable, balanced and inclusive development. This approach implies the use of a wide range of instruments, including budgetary policies and structural reforms.



It is structured in five areas of intervention, corresponding to the "5Ps" of sustainable development proposed by the 2030 Agenda, each of which contains Strategic Choices and Strategic Objectives for Italy, related to the objectives for sustainable development of the 2030 Agenda and recalling the profound interrelationship between economic dynamics, social growth and environmental quality, aspects also known as the three pillars of sustainable development.

- **People:** combating poverty and social exclusion and promoting health and well-being to ensure the conditions for the development of human capital;
- **Planet:** ensuring sustainable management of natural resources, countering biodiversity loss and protecting environmental and cultural assets;
- **Prosperity:** affirming sustainable models of production and consumption, guaranteeing quality employment and training;
- **Peace:** promoting a non-violent and inclusive society, without discrimination. Fighting illegality;
- **Partnership:** intervene in the various areas in an integrated manner.

## Good practice 2 – Private sector

### CSR Manager Network

The CSR Manager Network Italy is:

- a laboratory for the development of skills, where CSR managers illustrate their experiences, compare themselves with Italian and foreign best practices, learn about new models, approaches, standards;
- a trade association that promotes, inside and outside the company, a rapidly evolving profession;
- a body for representation and dialogue with the political world, business associations, trade unions, environmental associations and other NGOs, and the Third Sector;
- a center for the promotion and experimentation of sustainability, as it contributes to the dissemination of the culture of sustainability by actively participating in national and international debates;
- the Italian node of a network of similar associations developing all over the world, belonging to which the above objectives can be better pursued.



The Platform was created with the specific objective of analysing motivations, processes, procedures, results and processes for improvement and growth by sharing virtuous experiences of sustainability recorded by the business (and non-business) sector at both strategic and operational levels.

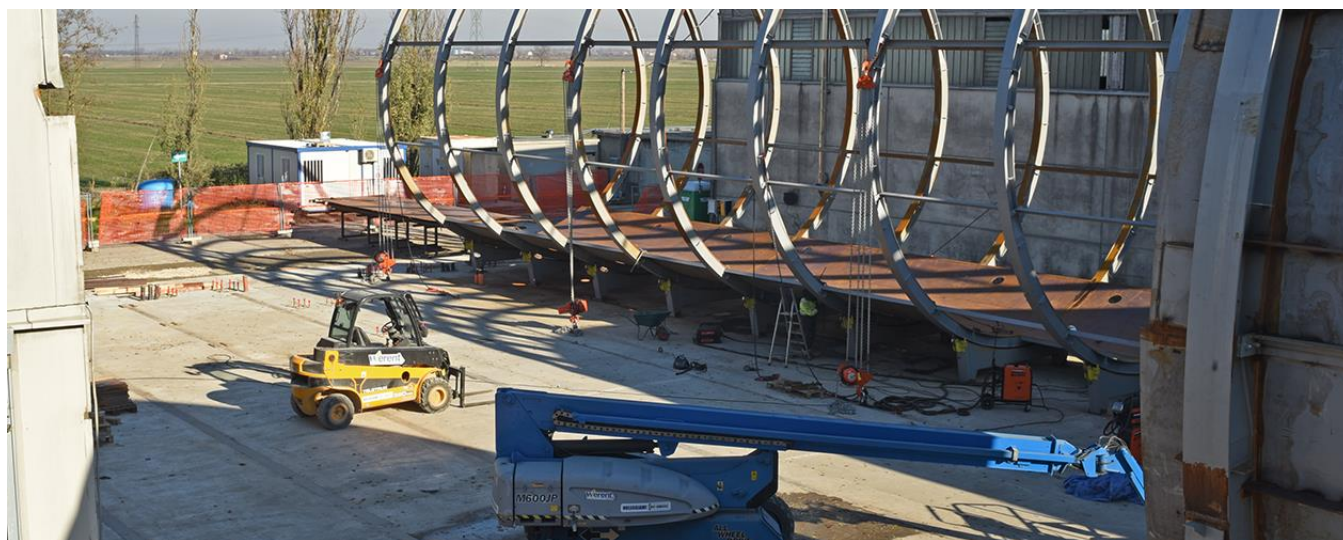
The collection of specific cases provides direct access to their visualization and in-depth analysis.

This is, for example, the format of an innovative bio-refinery operating on SDG 7.



### **Best practice Gruppo Hera**

Hera Group is committed to fight climate change and reduce fossil fuels in all its operations. The project that better address the challenge of goal 7 “Affordable and clean energy” is the creation of a fully integrated biorefinery in Sant’Agata Bolognese. The biodigester will be able to process 100,000 tons/y of organic waste and 35,000 tons of green waste from separate waste collection. It will lead the Group to produce from 2018 about 20,000 tons of high quality fertilizer and more than 7.5 million of m3/y of biomethane, which can directly reach homes after being fed into distribution networks. Moreover, the annual production of biomethane will avoid the use of more than 6,000 toe of fossil fuels and 14,600 tons of CO2 emissions.





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### Good practice 3 – Third sector

The **Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development (ASVIS)** was set up on 3 February 2016, on the initiative of the Unipolis Foundation and the University of Rome "Tor Vergata", to raise awareness in Italian society, economic actors and institutions of the importance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to mobilise them to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through:



- developing a culture of sustainability at all levels, orienting production and consumption patterns to this end;
- analysing the implications and opportunities for Italy linked to the Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- contributing to the definition of an Italian strategy aimed at achieving the SDGs (also using analytical and forecasting tools that help define policies for sustainable development) and to the creation of a system to monitor Italy's progress towards the SDGs.

The Alliance currently brings together more than 290 of the most important institutions and networks of civil society, such as

- associations representing social partners (business associations, trade unions and the Third Sector);
- networks of civil society associations addressing specific Goals (health, economic well-being, education, labour, environmental quality, gender equality, etc.);
- associations of local authorities;
- Universities and public and private research centres, and related networks;
- associations of players active in the worlds of culture and information;
- foundations and networks of foundations;
- Italian members of international associations and networks active in the field of sustainable development.

ASVIS' commitment takes the form of specific objectives such as

- raising the awareness of public and private operators, public opinion and individual citizens about the Agenda for Sustainable Development, while also fostering widespread knowledge of the trends underway with respect to the SDGs and those expected in the future through the use of all the media;

- proposing policies aimed at achieving the SDGs and expressing opinions on possible legislative interventions, with particular reference to overcoming the existing gaps between the various regions of our country and the inequalities between different socio-economic groups;
- promote a programme of education for sustainable development, with particular attention to the younger generations;
- stimulate research and innovation for sustainable development, promoting the dissemination of good practices developed abroad and in Italy and of innovative proposals coming from the research system in order to encourage experimentation on a local and national scale, adoption by businesses and public administration;
- contribute to the preparation of adequate monitoring tools for the achievement of the Objectives in Italy, also with reference to specific stakeholder groups (enterprises) and to local territorial contexts (communities and cities), making the most of existing systems, such as the indicators of Equitable and Sustainable Wellbeing (BES);
- promote the development of analytical tools useful for assessing the impact of economic, social and environmental policies and for minimising the costs of the transition to sustainability, identifying the trade-offs between different policies and proposing measures to make them more favourable.

### What does Asvis do?

**Policies for sustainable development** One of the objectives of ASVIS is precisely to contribute to the design of policies that will put Italy on the path of sustainable development, accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in our country. Through an ongoing dialogue with supranational, national and local institutions, the private sector and civil society, the Alliance is committed to fostering the development of a culture of sustainability at all levels.

**Information** ASVIS aims to appeal to both experts and the general public in order to raise awareness among ever-wider sections of the population and increase knowledge about the topicality and urgency of the 2030 Agenda. In addition, it aims to help understand the interconnectedness of the Sustainable Development Goals, which closely affect all spheres of daily life. In recent years, sustainability issues have slowly begun to penetrate mass communication, in particular the fight against climate change, also thanks to the young people of Fridays for Future, and public opinion has become more informed about the 2030 Agenda, but there is still a need to communicate the urgency of these issues and to warn against the risk of not telling the truth.

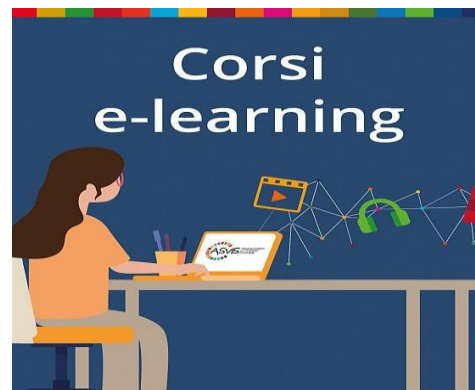


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### **Education for sustainable development** through

- educational materials and initiatives promoted by ASVIS, also in collaboration with other civil society bodies;
- Schools of advanced training, courses and Master's degrees organised and promoted by ASVIS;
- the list of good practices implemented by the Alliance's Adherents and Associates for the dissemination of the Agenda 2030 themes.



### **Festival of Sustainable Development** lasting 17 days throughout the country

### **Database about Sdgs** in Italy and in Europe