



## Big Science ILOs in Italy

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# ILOs in Italy

**ILOs are supported by the Italian Research Institutions mostly involved in scientific activities at the various laboratories**

- **INFN** -> CERN and ESS (from ~ 1988)
- **CNR** -> ESRF, ILL (from 2012 )
- **ENEA** -> F4E/ITER (from 2009)
- **INAF** -> ESO, CTA, SKA (from 2008)

**in most cases ILOs are researchers employed by the Institutions**

- R.I. provide funds for ILO activities and travels; participant fees cover part of the costs of important events organized for Italian companies

# Contacts with Companies

## overview:

- **CERN/ESS:**
  - database of ~ 1000 companies (400+ companies got orders in the last 10 years)
- **ESRF:**
  - list of 50 companies
- **F4E/ITER:**
  - database of 500 industrial contacts, ~ 100 companies involved with the project
- **ESO, CTA, SKA. :**
  - list of 100+ companies

**there are large overlaps, especially in the first three sets**

# ILOs in Italy

## **some of the ILO are appointed by the Italian Government**

- CERN ILO by Italian Foreign Affairs Minister, in consultation with Ministry for Education, University and Research

## **others directly by the R.I.**

## **ILOs have so far organized their activities quite independently one from each other**

- there has never been a significant coordination of efforts

## **however ...**

## ... the approach hasn't caused much harm

- in fact, **Industrial return coefficients** (IRC) for Italy have overall been **rather good recently** (see ESO, F4E, CERN, ..), despite the country not hosting any International Research Infrastructure
  - this is surely due to several factors: decline of internal demand pushing companies toward foreign markets, flexibility of companies, low salaries, large industrial base, casual coincidences etc.
- but **tight connections of ILOs to the Research Institutions** may have also played a role
- so far, so good, but there are always **opportunities to improve ...**

# ★ There is a new kid in town ★

(thanks also to BSBF)



- a bottom-up initiative started recently, aimed at **fostering the cooperation among Italian ILOs** to:
  - favour **industrial involvement across research fields**
  - foster **opportunities of collaborations among companies** that have complementary competences
  - organize in a more effective way **common events**
  - merge various **suppliers databases/lists** into a single one

# The future

## ILO Network's plans include:

- organizing in Spring 2019 an **Italian Industrial Opportunities day covering projects** in:
  - International Labs/Organizations
  - Italian Research Institutions
  - the new Divertor Tokamak Test facility to be built in Italy
- **setting up a panel** with representatives of three Ministries (Foreign Affairs, Education-University-Research, Economic Development) and of main Industrial Associations to discuss and implement **synergic coordinated actions**
- promoting **networking activities** for the Italian companies involved as Big Science suppliers

**Thank you !**

 **ILO** Network Italia