



## THE STATE OF NATIONAL URBAN POLICY IN ITALY

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|---|---|
| Name of national urban policy   | No national policy. There is sectoral urban policy co-ordination at the national level  |
| Date of national urban policy   | Not applicable  |
| Explicit or partial   | Not applicable  |
| Legal status (e.g. act of the legislature, executive order, administrative guidance, etc.)                | Not applicable  |
| Previous/secondary policies   | <i>URBAN I 1994-1999;</i><br><i>URBAN II 2000-2008</i> , and additional programmes, the so-called “complex programmes” (so-called <i>Priu, PRU, Contratti di Quartiere, PRUSS, SISTeMA – Porti &amp; Stazioni – PUM</i> );<br><i>National Operative Program METRO 2014-20</i> |
| Stage of development  | Not applicable  |
| How developed (e.g. through a participatory/stakeholder process, or act of parliament, etc.)              | Not applicable  |
| Implementing body   | Not applicable, although there is an Inter-ministerial Committee for Urban Policy for policy co-ordination  |
| Government system   | Centralised   |
| Type of national urban agency   | Not applicable  |
| Implementation mechanism (e.g. committee, involvement of multiple agencies, national-local co-ordination) | Not applicable, although there is an Inter-ministerial Committee for Urban Policy for policy co-ordination  |

### Current national urban policy

Italy does not have a national urban policy. The country however enacted a nationwide restructuring of the provincial administrative system in a way that gave cities greater responsibilities. The Law n.56 of 7 April 2014, on *Metropolitan Cities, Provinces, Municipal Unions and Municipal Mergers* created 10 Metropolitan Cities: Torino, Milano, Venezia, Genova, Bologna, Firenze, Bari, Napoli, Reggio Calabria, and Roma Capitale. These cities replaced their corresponding provinces and provincial government with a metropolitan government led by a president and represented by the mayor of the metropolitan area’s primary city (OECD, 2015).

The purpose of metropolitan cities is the strategic development of the metropolitan area, integrated management of public services, development of infrastructure and communications networks, strengthened institutional relations with municipalities in the area and with other metropolitan areas in Europe, and the simplification of bodies and functions of provinces (OECD, 2015). This is the context of the recent *National Operational Program Metropolitan Cities (METRO) 2014-20*, which is specifically dedicated to the development of the recently instituted metropolitan cities and financed by the Funds SIE 2014-20 and by national funds.

An integrated approach has emerged and addressed, in the first place, disadvantaged neighbourhoods through a series of physical and socio-economic regeneration programmes (*URBAN I 1994-1999; URBAN II 2000-2008*). Furthermore, additional programmes, the so-called “complex programmes” (*Priu, PRU, Contratti di Quartiere, PRUSST*) were also put in place. The latest generation of complex programmes aims to promote innovative urban and regional development methods focusing on the role of cities as catalysts of sustainable regional networks for competitiveness and cohesion (*SISTeMA – Porti & Stazioni – PUM*). Besides which, additional programmes and initiatives have been implemented to activate multi-sectoral intervention policies for support to growth and employment, with particular attention to “territorial logistics”.

At the national level, urban policy is overseen by the Inter-ministerial Committee for Urban Policy. This committee was established by Law n.134 of 7 August 2012, to address three main issues:

1. the sometimes conflicting relationship between institutional boundaries and planning activities to increase effectiveness in policy making;
2. the phenomenon of urban sprawl, territorial congestion and the need for efficient infrastructure; and
3. the maintenance and strategic management of the process of recovery and renewal of housing stock. (OECD, 2015).

Recently, the Italian government, with the last two Stability Laws (Law n.190/2014 and Law n.208/2015), has promoted two national programmes, respectively on poor urban areas and on urban periphery. Finally, the government has prepared the National Report on sustainable urban development for the Habitat III Conference of the United Nations.

## *Bibliography*

OECD (2015), “Regional Outlook Survey Results: Italy”, unpublished.

UN-Habitat (2017, forthcoming), “NUP Regional Report: Western and Eastern Europe and North America.” Nairobi: UN Habitat.