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The Strategic Role of Research & Innovation to Implement the Italian Energy and Climate Plan

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Italy is part of the EU SET-Plan and is a promoter of Mission Innovation launched at COP21 to boost frontier projects for clean energy technologies

Mission Innovation is an International partnership joined by 25 Nations (plus the European Commission) with the aim to promote technology innovation to support energy transition by means of doubling of public funds for clean-tech research. Italy committed to double public funds for R&D for clean energy (from 222 Million € in 2013 to 444 Million € in 2021). Italy has a co-leadership role in the development of the new Mission “Power in the Future” MI 2.0 and is also member of the Mission Clean Hydrogen.

The Strategic Energy Technology (SET) Plan is the reference program for investment at EU level, and for private investment to support R&D and innovation in the energy sector. The main implementation program of the SET Plan is Horizon Europe 2021-2027.

The National Energy priorities for Italy are:

1. The development of products and process technologies for the energy transition;
2. The development of models and systems for energy transition and security.

The main policies and measures will be briefly described, including:

- The Recovery and resilience facility;
- Mission Innovation;
- The power system research Fund

Marcello Capra is Senior Expert of the Department of Energy of the Italian Ministry of Ecological Transition.

After obtaining the Laurea Degree in Nuclear Engineering in 1980 at the University of Rome La Sapienza, he started his career in the power generation sector in F.B.M.-HUDSON ITALIANA S.p.A., Milan, Italy, where he worked until 1984 on R&D of heat exchangers for power plants.

In 1984 he entered ENEA, the National Agency for R&D in Energy and Environment, where he took on many responsibilities as Experimental Areas manager and R&D projects manager. In 2001 he was appointed Head of the Division for Energy-Demand Technologies.

In 2002 Mr. Capra has been appointed by the Ministry of Economic Development Member of the Secretariat of the Department of Energy of the Italian Ministry of Economic Development (now Ecological Transition).

He represents his Ministry in many international organizations, such as the Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum (CSLF), the International Partnership on Hydrogen Economy (IPHE) and the Steering Group of the Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET Plan) of the European Commission.

He has been also appointed by the Ministry of University and Research (MUR) in 2001 Member of the Italian Delegation of the Horizon Europe Programme – Cluster 5.