

## Broadband in Italy

The Italian strategy for next generation access network aims at developing a high-speed access network to maximise the take-up of an infrastructure able to guarantee services of 100 Mbps for at least 85% of households by 2020. Italy adopted a national state aid scheme to support ultra-broadband in areas where market failure is present.

### Summary of broadband development in Italy

Italy's national ultra-broadband plan, the Strategy for next generation access network (Strategia Nazionale per la Banda Ultra-Larga, SNBUL), was approved by the Council of Ministers in March 2015. It aims at developing a high-speed access network to reach the 2020 Digital Agenda targets. In line with the SNBUL, Italy adopted a national state aid scheme, approved by the European Commission in June 2016, to support ultra-broadband in market failure areas. The first tender worth 3 billion EUR was assigned in June 2017 covering Abruzzo, Molise, Emilia Romagna, Lombardia, Toscana and Veneto regions. The second tender was assigned in November 2017 and covers the rollout of fibre-based networks in the regions Piedmont, Valle d'Aosta, Liguria, Friuli Venezia Giulia, Umbria, Marche, Lazio, Campania, Basilicata, Sicily and the autonomous province of Trento. The third and last tender for the provision of broadband infrastructure in unserved and underserved rural areas worth 103 million EUR was launched in April 2018 and covers the regions of Calabria, Puglia and Sardinia. An implementing decree for the "School Plan" and the "Family Voucher Plan", with EUR 600 million to be spent, was signed in August 2020.

The 5G band auctions for 700 MHz, 3.5 GHz and 26 GHz spectrum took place in 2018, with licenses valid till end 2037. Vodafone and TIM launched 5G services in June 2019, Wind Tre in October 2020 and Iliad in December 2020.

### National broadband plan and policy

#### Responsible authorities

- The department of Telecommunications (Comunicazioni) within the Ministry of Economic Development (MiSE, Ministero dello Sviluppo Economico) is the main body responsible for planning and implementing Italy's national broadband plan. MiSE is responsible for telecommunications infrastructures, adopts measures defined in the SNBUL and coordinates the activities of all the involved actors both public and private. It also manages the Italian National Registry of the infrastructures (SINFI).
- The Agency for Digital Italy (AgID) assists in domains related to issues of public administration, digital connectivity to public offices and special public users, and integrating connectivity with advanced digital services.
- The role of the public sector in the development of the entire ultra-broadband policy in Italy is coordinated by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers (PCM) through the Committee for the spread of high-speed broadband (COBUL), which is composed of the PCM, the MiSE, Infratel

Italia Spa and AgID.

- AGCOM, the sector regulator, has consultancy tasks and acts within its domain of regulation of NGA access, price conditions and technical standards.

## **Main aims and measures for broadband development**

The 2015 Italian strategy for next generation access network (SNBUL) has the general objective of developing a future-proof telecommunications infrastructure through the country. The plan intends to:

- bring connectivity with a minimum of 100 Mbps for up to 85% of the Italian population,
- guarantee coverage of at least 30 Mbps to all citizens,
- coverage of at least 100 Mbps for offices and public buildings,
- bring high speed broadband in the industrial areas.

The tools implemented within the SNBUL strategy are:

- administrative simplification and reduction of burdens,
- creation of tax exemption tools for infrastructures operations,
- stimuli for triggering demand,
- direct public sector execution of works in market failure areas,
- land registry creation (SINFI) to locate all the infrastructures above and below the ground.

A website detailing the strategy for ultra-broadband was launched in March 2016 in order to increase the transparency of the governmental action and to update the citizens step by step towards the 2020 targets.

## **National and regional broadband financial instruments**

- State aid measure (SA41647(2016/N)): a planned total budget of EUR 4 billion composing of national and regional funds has been made available to build a passive public infrastructure managed with a wholesale-only model and opened to all the operators in areas where a market failure is present. Further measures are under study to match the desired targets in grey and black areas too.
- In August 2015, the inter-ministerial committee for economic programming (CIPE) committed a total amount of EUR 5 billion of public funding to sustain the SNBUL, allocating EUR 2.2 billion to cover the market failure (white) areas. In these white areas in particular, the state aid scheme provides a direct model of investment to build a passive public infrastructure managed with a wholesale-only model and open to all operators.
- EUR 5 billion of national funds (FSC) for actions including white, grey and black areas.
- EUR 1.6 billion from 18 ERDF Operational Programmes (POR) and 21 EAFRD Development Rural Programs (PSR).
- EUR 233 million from a National Operating Programme including funding of ultra-broadband investments to set up 100 Mbps connections of business companies and enterprises in industrial areas.

## **Data on broadband development and technologies in Italy**

For the latest data on broadband coverage, subscriptions and penetrations, coverage of different broadband technologies and costs check the scoreboard reports and the country reports of the Digital Economy & Society Index (DESI).

# Spectrum assignments for wireless broadband

For details on harmonised spectrum assignments consult the European 5G Observatory.

## National publications and press documents

### English

- Strategy for next generation access network 2015 (Strategia Nazionale per la Banda Ultra-Larga, SNBUL)
- Italian national state aid scheme - Strategia Banda Ultralarga
- Study on National Broadband Plans in the EU-28
- Europe's Digital Progress Report
- Broadband Connectivity Reports and Analyses
- Guide to High-Speed Broadband Investment
- Mobile and fixed broadband prices in Europe at the end of 2019
- Study on broadband coverage in Europe 2019

### Italian

- Strategia italiana per la banda ultra larga 2015 (SNBUL)
- Sistema Informativo Nazionale Federato delle Infrastrutture (SINFI)

## Interview with a regional Broadband Competence Office: BCO Trentino

## Interview with a regional Broadband Competence Office: BCO Emilia-Romagna

## Contact information

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## **Related Content**

### **Big Picture**

Broadband in EU countries

Find current information on broadband development in each country, as well as national strategies and policies for developing broadband.

### **See Also**

Broadband in Sweden

Sweden's national broadband plan, adopted in 2016, has the vision of an entirely connected Sweden and has goals for both mobile coverage and for high-speed broadband connections for households and businesses. By 2020, 95% of all households and companies should have access to...

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[Broadband in Spain](#)

Digital connectivity and 5G rollout are among the ten strategic priorities of the Spain Digital 2025 Agenda.

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[Broadband in Slovenia](#)

Slovenia's broadband aims are in line with the gigabit society targets.

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[Broadband in Slovakia](#)

Slovakia has set the long-term objective of achieving access to high-speed internet connection with at least 30 Mbps for all households by the end of 2020.

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### Broadband in Romania

Romania's broadband plan focuses on building up a national broadband network as a first step towards achieving the targets set by the Digital Agenda for Europe.

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### Broadband in Portugal

Portugal's NGA coverage is slightly below EU average. The Agenda Portugal Digital aims at development of a digital infrastructure that allows citizens to take advantage of the new opportunities offered by technologies.

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### Broadband in Poland

Poland's national broadband plan foresees that 100% of households should have access to internet connectivity of at least 30 Mbps by 2020. 50% of households should have internet connectivity of 100 Mbps by 2020.

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### Broadband in the Netherlands

The Dutch government supports the Gigabit Society targets. All households should have the opportunity to access broadband networks of at least 100 Mbps and a vast majority should be taking advantage of 1 Gbps by 2023. Mobile networks must also be able to access basic services at...

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### Broadband in Malta

Malta's broadband policy is technology neutral and favours a competitive market environment.

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### Broadband in Luxembourg

The development of a communication infrastructure with a target of gigabit broadband access throughout the country is one of the priorities in the governmental programme of Luxembourg.

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### Broadband in Lithuania

Lithuania's Next Generation Internet Access Development Plan focuses on direct state contribution to long-term infrastructure development, supports measures promoting private sector investments and seeks to foster an increase in demand for fast broadband access.

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## Broadband in Latvia

Broadband facilitates the development of e-services for government, schools, commerce, health and business besides providing high-speed internet to residents, businesses and public administrations in Latvia.

## Broadband in Ireland

The national broadband plan for Ireland foresees that by 2026 all premises in Ireland will have access to high-speed broadband.

## Broadband in Hungary

Hungary's National Digitization Strategy 2021-2030 aims at 95% of households covered by gigabit networks by 2030.

## Broadband in Greece

The Greek Digital Transformation Bible 2020-2025 highlights connectivity as one of the five strategic axes and acknowledges the Gigabit Society 2025 targets.

## Broadband in Germany

The 2018 coalition agreement of the German Federal Government identifies the priority goal of a nationwide expansion of gigabit networks by 2025. The federal government has also developed a 5G Strategy for Germany.

## Broadband in France

The national broadband programme France Très Haut Débit sets out the targets of fast broadband access for all households by 2022 and fibre for all by 2025.

## Broadband in Finland

The Finnish authorities go for a competition-driven, fibre-based network roll-out assisted by public funds for underserved areas and advice for local municipalities on how to deploy broadband networks.

## Broadband in Estonia

Estonia has established basic broadband coverage throughout the country, and has brought its

broadband targets for 2020 in line with those of the Digital Agenda for Europe.

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### Broadband in Denmark

A number of political initiatives aiming at nation-wide fixed and mobile broadband coverage support Danish broadband goals. The Government works towards making Denmark a digital frontrunner by creating a foundation for Danish businesses to exploit digital technologies.

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### Broadband in the Czech Republic

The National Plan for the Development of Very High Capacity Networks, approved in March 2021, defines the strategic approach of the Czech Republic to the construction of VHCN.

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### Broadband in Cyprus

Cyprus' broadband plan sets strategic objectives for 2016-2020 and is aligned with the Gigabit Society objectives and the 5G Action Plan. It aims at Internet coverage with at least 30 Mbps for all households and businesses by 2020. In order to achieve the 2020 take-up target of...

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### Broadband in Croatia

Croatia's strategy contains basic principles such as service and technological neutrality, net neutrality and inclusion of broadband internet access among universal services.

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### Broadband in Bulgaria

The National Broadband Infrastructure Plan for Next Generation Access "Connected Bulgaria" and the Policy in the field of electronic communications have been updated and adopted in August 2020.

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### Broadband in Belgium

Belgium's broadband strategy is incorporated into a broader policy strategy "Digital Belgium 2015-2020". The aim is to provide speeds of up to 1 Gbps to half of the country by 2020 and to facilitate a proactive 5G roll-out. By lowering costs and reducing administrative burdens...

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### Broadband in Austria

Austria's broadband strategy focuses on the nationwide supply of Gigabit connections by 2030. By the end of 2025, almost nationwide availability of 5G should have been realised.

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**Source URL:** <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/policies/broadband-italy>