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# Italy's Contribution to ECEC and Inclusive Education

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# Italy's updates on the European Child Guarantee 1/2

- National Steering Committee
- Composition
- Link between the National Action Plan and other Plans

## Italy's updates on the European Child Guarantee 2/2

- **DesTEENazione Project:** 60 multifunctional centers for vulnerable adolescents, social inclusion, prevention of school dropout and violence.
- **"Dote Educativa":** Co-design with the Third Sector to deliver socio-educational services.
- **"First Thousand Days":** Integrated interventions supporting vulnerable families with children aged 0–3.

# Regulatory and policy framework: towards universal coverage

- **Integrated 0–6 System (Legislative Decree 65/2017)**  
Ensuring equal opportunities, continuity, family involvement, qualified staff.
- **EU Targets by 2030:**
- Coverage: 45% children under 3 years; 96% aged 3–5 years.
- **Current Coverage (2022/23):**
  - National average 0–2 yrs: 30% (366,000 places).
  - Regional disparities: North/Centre >33%, South/Islands <18%.

# PNRR Mission 4: Education and Research (Component 1)

## **Investment 1.1 (ECEC)** funded by Next Generation EU

- Objective: Build, renovate, and improve safety of early childhood education facilities
- Supports families and promotes women's workforce participation
- Adjusted EU target: 150,480 new nursery places (originally 264,480)
- Funding: €4.47 billion
  - 2024 Plan: €735 million
  - 2025 Plan: €428 million (597 projects approved, call ongoing)
- Total projects approved: 3,963 (55.61% in Southern Italy)
- Potential impact: Over 120,000 new nursery places, surpassing 33% coverage goal (age 0-2)

# Inclusion and accessibility: a systemic approach

- Constitutional and Regulatory Framework
- Recent Normative Enhancements
- Inclusive Organizational Structure
- Permanent Observatory for School Inclusion
- Current Inclusion in Practice

## Good practices

- **Roma, Sinti and Caminanti Project:** increasing school attendance from 38% to 75% in the most vulnerable contexts
- **Altamura School:** educational network and experiential approach
- **Akki Hope Center** – Cisterna di Latina: school-therapy integration for children with special needs
- **“Diversi da chi?”** (Different from whom?) – Verona: inclusion as a shared culture and community involvement

## Conclusion

- Integrated, participatory, and quality-oriented approach
- Synergy between schools, families, services, and local communities
- Inclusive education as a strategic lever for social cohesion and combating educational poverty
- Priorities: reducing territorial inequalities, strengthening networks, and investing in staff



Thank you