Projects for Development
Second catalogue of infrastructures and public services carried out or being carried out in Southern Italy

Published by the Department for Development Policies
March 2005

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Development Projects
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Following a first edition of April of 2003, the Department for Development Policies of the Ministry of Economy and Finance publishes the second edition of the Development Projects catalogue. Each page of the catalogue illustrates a project that has been carried out, or is currently being carried out, in Southern Italy, describing the cost, the completion date for the work, the managing entity and the services made available to citizens as a result of the project. The review lays no claim to being exhaustive, but the projects, in large part reported by the Authority for the Management of Regional and National Operating Programs of the European Community Support Framework for 2000-2006 in the Objective 1 Regions, are of different sizes and include both tangible and intangible infrastructures. As a whole they well show a sample of changes taking place in collective services in the regions of Southern Italy as a result of the co-financing from the European Community Structural Funds of the CSF (Community Support Framework).

Thanks for the publication, which was co-financed by the European Union (European Regional Development Fund), go to the Managing Authorities and to the heads of communication of the Operating Programs.
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Natural resources
Construction of purification plant in Potenza

The project consists of the construction of a new purification plant for the City of Potenza, capable of industrial re-utilisation of purified waste water, with a collector for the delivery of waste water and a conduit for the return of the water for industrial use. The plant will have a capacity of 70 thousand cubic metres per day, compared to the approximately 25 thousand of the old plant, and it will serve a user pool the equivalent of approximately 160 thousand inhabitants, roughly double the capacity of the pre-existing structure.

The cost of the project is approximately 26 million euro of European Community funds from the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Basilicata Region.

The implementing subject is the Consortium for Industrial Development of the Province of Potenza, while the plant is to be managed by the Lucano Aqueduct Authority.

The new purification plant will treat urban and industrial waste water from the City of Potenza and the industrial area of Tito, one of the most important in the region, where approximately seventy enterprises, most of them in the mechanical sector, have facilities. A tertiary type of treatment is planned, with reuse of the treated water for industrial purposes in order to satisfy the entire demand of the Industrial Development Area of the City of Potenza, with corresponding savings in the water currently supplied from the drinking-water aqueduct.

The direct beneficiaries of the initiative are the 90 thousand inhabitants of Potenza. In terms of the reuse of the purified water, the industrial areas of Potenza and Tito will benefit from the project: these areas hold approximately 130 industrial facilities, steel and tool-and-dye concerns, as well as crafts and service-industry enterprises.

The plant is currently being completed, with the schedule calling for the work to be concluded in the summer of 2005.
Solid urban waste treatment plants in Basilicata

There are three projects involving the pre-treatment of solid urban waste (SUW) and its disposal at dumping sites. The sites of the projects are the City of Potenza and the Towns of Sant’Arcangelo and Colobraro. The first project consists of the logical completion of the SUW disposal system of the City of Potenza, calling for the establishment of a dumping site and the construction of an aerobic bio-stabilisation that will operate alongside the existing thermo-destruction unit. There are also plans for a dumping site and a SUW treatment plant in the Town of Sant’Arcangelo. In the Town of Colobraro, improvements are to be made on the existing dumping site, and a treatment plant is to be built, in addition to a storage area for plastic waste used in agriculture.

The projects, co-financed with European Community funds from the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Basilicata Region, have an overall cost of 6.3 million euro. The work will make it possible to render earlier initiatives operative, for a value of approximately 13 million euro.

The subject implementing the initiatives is the Optimal Territorial Environment (ATO) 1 and 2 of Basilicata, while the plants shall be managed by, respectively, the City of Potenza, the Mountain Community of Basso Sinni and the Mountain Community of Medio Agri.

The projects contribute to improving and reinforcing the system of waste disposal in the areas in question, with reduction or elimination of the delivery to dumping sites of untreated waste. The new refuse cycle introduced by the initiatives will have a noteworthy positive effect on the environment, in line with the legislation currently in force.

The primary beneficiaries of the plants will be the more than 190 thousand inhabitants in the territories involved: the City of Potenza and outlying communities, for a total of 100 thousand inhabitants; the 6 municipalities of the Mountain Community of Basso Sinni and a number of municipalities along the Ionian coast and in the hills and mountains of the Matera area, for a total population of 61 thousand inhabitants; along with the 14 municipalities included in the Mountain Community of Medio Agri and the Val Sarmento, as well as a number of towns in the Medio Sinni area, for a total population of 31 thousand inhabitants.

The work has all been completed, performance tested and placed in operation, with the exception of the plants in Colobraro, which are scheduled to begin operation by the end of May 2005.
New electrical station in Falerna

The plant, built in the Town of Falerna, consists of an industrial-type construction with a room for medium-voltage electrical panels and rooms equipped for auxiliary services (control room and remote signalling, battery room and storage facility). The system installed has two trellises that make possible entry of a primary high-voltage line at 150 kilovolts, leading to two high/medium voltage transformers at 16 MVA each. Leaving the transformers, finally, is an additional line for the transport of energy, transformed at an average voltage of 20 kilovolts. In compliance with standards of environmental defence, the external area has been bounded with walls of reinforced concrete faced with local stone. The remote-signalling systems installed in the station make possible constant and total remote control of its operations, avoiding the use of personnel to oversee the system, except in the event of breakdowns or power outages.

The total cost of the project was approximately 1.6 million euro, financed with the European Community Funds of the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Calabria Region.

ENEL Distribuzione S.p.A., Department of Infrastructures and Networks, Electricity Network, High Voltage Centre, Calabria.

Before the new station went into operation, the situations of electrical overload on the network in the Falerna zone had reached levels that gave cause for concern, especially in the summer season, when the large number of tourists generated a marked increase in the demand for electric energy. Construction of the primary electrical station in Falerna has made possible a drastic reduction in the network overloads, resulting in a decrease in the annual total time of power interruptions in the area serviced, from a figure of approximately 300 minutes in the past to today’s roughly 190 minutes.

The plant services the towns of Falerna, Gizzeria, Nocera Terinese, San Mango d’Aquino and Martirano Lombardo, for a total of approximately 13,500 utility users.

The work was completed in the Month of June 2003, and the plant is currently in full operation.
Integrated Project for the Vesuvius Park

The Integrated Project – entitled ‘Vesevo’ – includes 70 initiatives focused on safeguarding and preserving the natural resources of the Vesuvius National Park (8,400 hectares), as well as an "ecological and sustainable" retooling of the local economy. Specific activities of environmental upgrading and landscaping are planned for the access roads to the protected area (replacement of roads for motor vehicles with hiking trails, bicycle routes and horse riding circuits); together with initiatives to upgrade the historic infrastructures found in the territory of the Park; plus activities to promote local crafts and traditional products (approximately 23 million euro shall be utilised as an incentive for crafts activities and small and medium-size enterprises in the sectors of tourist hospitality, food service and activities connected with the management of the natural and historical-cultural heritage); as well as 10 training initiatives to cultivate new professional skills involving the upgrading of environmental and cultural resources (local development agents, park guides, welcome-service operators etc.). In addition to this activities, environmental education initiatives will be offered to area residents through the organisation of seminars, theme events, open-air classrooms and informative publications.

The overall planned investment is 73.3 million euro. This amount consists of European Community Funds of the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 of the Campania Region (for 50.3 million euro), plus state, regional and municipal resources (for 10 million euro) and private resources (for 13 million euro).

The Vesuvius National Park Authority.

The initiatives will improve the functional efficiency of the territory in terms of the environment, the hydro-geological situation and the defence of the soil; utilisation of the environmental and cultural heritage will be improved; the development of quality tourist, crafts and agricultural activities will be supported; the working capacity of the local population will be improved.

The primary beneficiaries of the initiatives will be the 577 thousand citizens who reside in the 18 municipalities of the Vesuvius area. Positive fallout is expected in terms of both the environment and increased tourist and cultural activities. There are plans, for example, to reduce the annual number of visitors to the restricted area of the crater of Vesuvius from 650 thousand to 550 thousand (with an average stay of approximately 3 hours) and to increase the tourist flow in the entire area of the park from 65 thousand to 165 thousand visitors yearly (with an average stay of 2 days), resulting in an increase in secondary economic activity for the entire area.

The approval and financing procedures stipulated for the European Community Programs of the Ob. 1 CSFhave been completed. The initiatives planned for the Integrated Project shall be completed by the end of 2008.
Defence and safeguarding of the Molise territory

The project includes 36 initiatives designed to defend the territory of the Molise Region, with a focus on the hydro-geological defence of the terrain, characterised by a widespread state of disarray, and on the defence of the coastal area, which is subject to erosion. Hydraulic reclamation work is planned for waterways (the Biferno river and a number of streams) in order to limit flooding and contrast erosion, while hillsides subject to landslides shall be reinforced to eliminate the risk of falling rocks. The overall surface area to be rendered secure corresponds to approximately 25 hectares, while the length of the river and stream beds earmarked for hydraulic restoration work is approximately 4.5 kilometres, and the coastal area subject to the defensive work is roughly 4 kilometres in length (the Molise Region has approximately 36 kilometres of coastline).

The overall cost of the work is approximately 13 million euro, 43 percent financed by the European Community Funds of the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Molise Region, 40 percent from national resources, and the remaining 17 percent from regional resources.

A total of 31 initiatives are supervised by the Molise regional government, with their execution being handled directly by the municipalities to which the financing is granted; the remaining 5 projects will be handled directly by the region, under the responsibility of its Department of Hydraulic and Maritime Works.

The initiatives undertaken are meant to remedy a number of situations of environmental deterioration that have occurred in recent years (12 cases of hydro-geological displacement, 18 landslides and 6 falling rock episodes), so as to guarantee an adequate level of "physical" security for the territory’s existing residential, industrial and tourist activities, as well as its infrastructures.

The areas involved in the initiatives are found in various municipalities of the provinces of Campobasso and Isernia, comprising a total population of approximately 83 thousand inhabitants.

All the projects are scheduled to be completed by the end of 2005.
Waste treatment plant of the Town of Manduria

The initiative, undertaken by the Town of Manduria, is part of the emergency waste planning of the Apulia Region, calling for the construction of a plant complex for the treatment of urban waste. The plant consists of a centre for the reception of materials originating from differentiated waste collection; a selection centre capable of separating the dry combustible fraction from the wet fraction in the case of undifferentiated urban waste (the "dry" fraction, in the form of bales, is sent to energy from waste plants for subsequent use); a bio-stabilisation system for the wet fraction, designed to handle fractions of refuse which, once they have been bio-stabilised, can be used as covering materials in environmental reclamation projects and/or for dumping sites.

The total cost of the project is 9.5 million euro. Of this amount, 50 percent is financed with European Community Funds from the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Apulia Region, while the remainder is the responsibility of the concession-holder.

ManduriaAmbiente S.p.a.

The plant, with an overall capacity of approximately 63 thousand cubic metres and a capacity of 285 tons of waste per day, has three main advantages. First of all, the system for selecting materials originating from differentiated collection makes it possible to minimise the environmental impact of the waste disposal. In fact, prior to the project, the materials were left at the dumpsite without a distinction being made between the dry portion and the wet portion; what is more, the dry portion, not having been bio-stabilised, presented instances of contamination with highly pathogenic micro-organisms and contained organic substances subject to decomposition and highly damaging to the surrounding environment. Secondly, the separation of the dry fraction (which can be used to produce energy) from the wet fraction (absorbed by the composting systems) provides economic benefits in terms of both energy production and the recovery of materials. Finally, the plant introduces key technological innovations compared to the disposal of waste rendered "inert" through the process of bio-stabilisation, reducing the total quantity of waste that remains at the dumpsite by approximately 50 percent. This process provides the municipal governments, and, therefore, citizens as well, with noteworthy economic benefits tied to the application of the eco-tax, whose amount is proportionate to the quantity of waste placed in the dumpsite.

The user basin of the plant consists of 17 municipalities in the Province of Taranto, for a total population of approximately 284 thousand inhabitants.

The work, which began in 2002, was completed in July of 2003, and the plant is now in operation.
Defence of the coast at Giardini Naxos

The bay in front of the Town of Taormina is affected by coastal erosion: the project involves the reconstruction and defence of the beaches of the Municipality of Giardini Naxos for a seafront area of more than 2 kilometres in length. The solution adopted, designed to respect the environmental conditions, consists of a dual initiative: the construction, 200 metres from the coast, of a submerged reef made of lava boulders, plus the restoration of the beach using the same fine sand that was eroded from the shore and deposited inside of the adjoining port. To date, the first portion of the project has made it possible to recover approximately 15 thousand square metres of beach. In addition, the plans for completion are currently being drawn up.

The cost of the first portion (currently underway) is approximately 3.2 million euro, and the work is being financed by the European Community Funds from the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Region of Sicily. The completion project, which must still be financed, has a cost of approximately 7.3 million euro.

Municipality of Giardini Naxos.

The natural heritage of the area is safeguarded, restoring the original conditions of the environment and the landscape along approximately 2 kilometres of beach area with a high economic value: a site that has made the Bay of Giardini Naxos famous and Taormina well known as a seaside resort.

The project also calls for a sophisticated system of monitoring (modelling software, buoys that measure waves and currents) to ensure continuous, low-cost maintenance of the restored beach.

In addition to satisfying the needs of the approximately 10 thousand residents of the Taormina area, the project is designed to increase the number of annual tourist presences (more than 1 million). In economic terms, the initiative will benefit not only tourist-hotel complexes, but also the commercial activities already present in the zone, plus, looking to the future, the new beach establishments that will begin operation on the restored beach, leading to the creation of new jobs.

The first portion of the work was concluded in December of 2004.
Cultural resources
Construction of the Malconsiglio Castle, located in the Town of Miglionico, roughly 30 kilometres from the City of Matera, dates back to the early decades of the 13th century. The castle’s medieval core was expanded and modified through numerous operations that can be dated up to the 17th century. With its seven towers, the Castle sits on a hill from which it dominates the Bradano Valley, plus the plain of Metaponto, including a portion of the Ionian coast, and the route of the ancient Via Appia. The monument is well known for its artistic worth, plus the fact that it was the site of the historic “conspiracy of the barons”: in 1485, the most powerful barons of the Kingdom of Naples, allied against King Ferdinand I of Aragon, met in Miglionico. The restoration project has included static reinforcement work (reinforcement of walls, foundations and vaults, plus restoration of the antique masonry facing and the decorative elements in tufa stone, as well as restoration of the battlements and the towers, plus new pavements, plastering and fixtures), in addition to plant-engineering work (heating, refrigeration, a sound system for the meeting room, a fire-prevention system), decorations and furnishings for the meeting room, a food-service area and tourist welcome services, not to mention a library and cultural services.

Initial funding of approximately 1 million euro from the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Basilicata Region was used for completion of the static restoration and recovery work. The final financing of the project, equal to 4.1 million euro, was covered with supplementary national resources from the Fund for Under-Utilised Areas, allocated under a resolution of the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Economic Planning.

The Municipal Government of Miglionico.

The ground floor of the Castle will hold a multipurpose cultural centre, including a library and media centre and a room for meetings and entertainment events; on the first floor will be structures for food service, welcoming tourists and housing permanent expositions on the local historical and artistic heritage, as well as itineraries featuring the fortified architecture of the Basilicata Region. These structures, lacking to date in Miglionico, will not only provide the town with services capable of satisfying local needs, but, even more importantly, place it on the principal tourist itineraries of the Basilicata Region.

The services created, in addition to being suitable for use by the inhabitants of the other towns in the vicinity of Miglionico (approximately 15 thousand people), provide important support to the hospitality network for the flow of tourists in the entire Metaponto and Matera area, whose number steadily rises by an annual rate more than 4 percent higher than the national average. In fact, the number of visitors to the area has gone from 30 thousand in the 1990’s to approximately 600 thousand in 2004.

The first portion of the consolidation and recovery work has been completed, and the contract form the second portion has been assigned; the final furnishings and fittings will be completed in 2007.
Integrated Project “Grand Attraction of the Caserta Palace”

The Integrated Project “Grand Attraction of the Caserta Palace” consists of 58 projects subdivided into four sets closely connected with one another. A first set regards the Palace and its grounds, which were placed on the UNESCO’s World Heritage list in 1997, and consists of initiatives designed both to restore sites and locations already open to the public and make other portions of the complex fit for use. Included in this set of efforts is restoration of the Palace’s façades, as well as the main stairway and a number of rooms earmarked for use as museum space, plus assistance to tourists and laboratories for training restorers. A second set of initiatives, revolving around the establishment of a network of Bourbon sites in the Caserta area, includes the repaving of the historic burgh of Caserta Vecchia, the restoration of the Bosco Vecchio (an historic wooded area of inestimable botanical value) and the restoration, for the purpose of full utilisation, of the Belvedere of San Leucio, where events and expositions could be organised in combination with the cultural activities held inside the Palace. A third set includes urban projects in Caserta, such as the upgrading of Piazza Carlo III and the elimination of the “barrier” between the Palace and the city. The last set consists of training courses and technical assistance for companies operating in the sector of culture and leisure time, plus the creation of service centres for the development of cultural tourism and the creation of Web portals for the computerisation of cultural activities.

The overall cost of the project is 97.4 million euro, of which 50.1 million are financed with the European Community Funds of the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Campania Region, while 28.3 million are covered by state, regional and municipal public finding and 19 million euro represent private funding.

The Campania Region.

Focused on the restoration of the city of Caserta’s traditional role on tourist activities, as well as on achieving a transformation from “hit and run” tourism to longer stays, the project will contribute to upgrading the cultural and hospitality offerings of the area (the current number of guest beds will double, going from 490 to more than a thousand in the space of 10 years), developing new enterprises involved in the management and utilisation of cultural resources, restoring historic quarters of the city and improving the quality of the environment by rationalising the location of services and increasing the stock of infrastructures.

The natural beneficiaries of the project are the inhabitants of the City and Province of Caserta, who will receive all the direct and indirect advantages resulting from an increase in the number of visitors to the Palace and to the other Bourbon sites (currently approximately one million yearly).

The planned initiatives are scheduled to conclude in the year 2008.
The Larino Archaeological Park and Museum

The Archaeological Park of Larino, the most important town in the entire Frentani area (named after an ancient Italic people that inhabited the zone) during the pre-Roman and Roman eras, includes an amphitheatre, plus a number of public and private buildings, one of them a wealthy pre-Roman domus, as well as a forum, crafts shops and urban baths whose rooms are paved with mosaics. Also found in the area is a nature park that holds the Villa Zappone, a late-nineteenth-century structure that will house the new Archaeological Museum of the Frentani Zone. In addition to new archaeological digs, the projects regard restoration work, the creation of educational itineraries and the offer of the services visitors need to get the most out of the park, the museum and the amphitheatre.

The project is part of the “Cultural Resources” Program Framework Agreement signed by the Molise Regional Government in March of 2000. The overall cost of 2 million euro is financed with European Community Funds from the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Molise Region and national resources.

The Office of the Superintendent of Archaeological Resources of the Molise Region.

At present, only the amphitheatre is (partially) open to the public. The work will make much of the site of the Roman and pre-Roman city of Larino accessible for use by the public. The museum will include facilities for conventions and other culturally relevant events; it will also be possible to visit the park, the amphitheatre and the museum by taking guided tours or using self-guided services. In addition to visiting the amphitheatre, it will also be possible to use it for public occasions whose impact is compatible with the priceless nature of the structure.

Expansion of the services will benefit not only the more than 8 thousand inhabitants of Larino, but also tourists, and especially those visiting the Molise coast, which is only 20 kilometres away. With the beaches of Termoli, Petacciato and Camponarino, coastal tourism has reached the level of approximately 2 million presences, including foreigners, concentrated during the period of May-September.

The work shall be completed by the first half of 2006.
Restoration of the Palazzo Imperiali of Latiano

The construction of the baronial Palazzo Imperiali of Latiano, known as the Castle, began in the 12th century, under the rule of the Normans. Created as a defensive fortress, the structure was placed on the Via Appia for reasons of strategy. Its definitive transformation into the residence of a noble family occurred around 1670, when the feud passed into the hands of Carlo Imperiali III; dating from the same period is the transformation of the façade, which lost the features of a defensive structure and was brought in line with the architectural taste of the age on the Salento peninsula. The restoration work has involved the static reinforcement of the roof, the restructuring of the flooring and the paving of the internal courtyard, the application of new plaster, the replacement of the fittings and the installation of systems for electric power, air-conditioning and fire-prevention, plus a burglary alarm.

The cost of the project is approximately 1.5 million euro from the European Community Funds of the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Apulia Region.

Town of Latiano.

The palazzo, once the seat of the town hall, has been unfit for use since 1997. The work has made it fully operational, with the rooms on the ground floor housing the municipal library and the upper floors used for expositions, conventions and concerts. Following its unveiling in December of 2004, the Palazzo was open to the public throughout the Christmas holiday period, hosting a series of ceramics expositions. The building also holds an Underground Museum and a permanent exhibition of 15 paintings by the Neapolitan school of Luca Giordano, dating from 1600-1700. The library, whose media centre and collection of 35 thousand volumes was recently enriched with a donation of 30 thousand more, has been made a part of the National Library Service.

In addition to the 15 thousand residents of Latiano, the services are offered to the roughly 370 thousand inhabitants of other nearby towns. With its 12 thousand visitors a year, the library represents a centre of attraction for the numerous students in the zone.

The work, which began in June of 2002, was completed, and the Palazzo was unveiled at the end of 2004.
The objective of the project is to create a cultural circuit through the restoration and upgrading of historical resources in the towns of Cagliari, Iglesias, Oristano, Bosa, Alghero, Sassari and Castelsardo, the 7 municipalities that, in the 14th century, were not subjugated under the Catalan-Aragon conquest, but remained independent, being placed directly under royal jurisdiction. The greater independence of the so-called “royal towns” resulted in noteworthy development, and, over time, the 7 municipalities gained great economic, commercial and strategic importance. The creation of a cultural itinerary connecting them is meant to highlight their shared historical traits, restoring their distinctive layouts and architecture while reinvigorating their downtown areas through routes for visitors and thematic displays tied to the history, traditions and customs of the age, in addition to holding tourism-cultural events throughout the year. A special focus of the initiatives, many of them already underway, is the structural restoration of the most important monuments in the town, as well as the perimeter walls and the defensive towers (in Alghero, Iglesias, Castelsardo and Oristano) and the reclamation of the castles (Salvaterra in Iglesias and Malaspina in Bosa) and the “City Palazzos” of Cagliari and Sassari, plus the establishment of documentation centres on local history and staged reconstructions of slices of life from the age. Other, related efforts involve the restoration and upgrading of theatres, archives and libraries.

The itinerary of the royal towns consists of 34 initiatives, for an overall investment of approximately 30 million euro; when the secondary efforts regarding the restoration and upgrading of theatres, archives and libraries are included, the sum total of the projects, which are financed with European Community Funds from the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Sardinia Region, constitutes an investment of approximately 75 million euro.

The manager of the project is the Bureau of Culture in the Independent Regional Government of Sardinia, which has delegated to the individual municipalities the task of implementing the planned work. The municipalities, in turn, through public announcements, contract out the necessary services to companies or organisations with expertise in the field of cultural resources.

The project calls for welcome services for visitors, plus points offering tourist information, guides and escorts, sales and food services. Museums of sacred art will be established to hold the rich stock of historical-artistic resources currently kept in parish churches and thematic expositions and teaching activities shall be organised, using multimedia laboratories. A theatre circuit will also be set up to promote events throughout the year.

In addition to the inhabitants of the 7 towns (approximately 400 thousands), the benefits of the project will also be enjoyed by tourists, who numbered approximately 500 thousand in 2004 and whose growth is estimated to reach, following the initiatives for the upgrading of artistic resources, a rate of approximately 12 percent. In fact, the projects will stimulate tourist demand not only in the 7 towns, but throughout the region, contributing to spreading the flows of tourism, now highly concentrated in the months of July and August, throughout the year.

The project is scheduled to be completed by 2008.
Integrated Project “Madonie Networks”

The Integrated Project “Madonie Networks” – a widespread integrated tourist system compatible with the Madonie area – contemplates initiatives geared towards upgrading and showcasing the tourist attractions of the environmental heritage of the Madonie district, plus efforts meant to favour local business activity. The project consists of 48 initiatives, including: the creation of a Museum of Anthropology in Gangi, a Museum of Sacred Art in San Mauro Castelverde and Museums of Archaeology in Polizzi Generosa and Collesano (all currently being completed); restoration work on the historic cores of the towns of Alimena, Bompietro, Campofelice di Roccella and Gratteri (efforts also being completed); the creation of 21 information windows in the towns participating in the Integrated Project, for the purpose of promoting the cultural and natural heritage of the Madonie area; the establishment of a Territorial Information Systems for local government bodies, including a provincial system; the start-up of 6 training initiatives (for approximately 175 people), designed to qualify or retool the area’s human resources, in particular with regard to the correct use of water resources, the promotion of small-scale businesses in the tourist sector and the entry in the working world of disadvantaged groups. The majority of the public resources (65 percent) is earmarked for projects favouring the business sector, such as the upgrading of guest structures (20 investments approved for financing), the promotion of agro-tourism activities (24 investment approved) plus entrepreneurial initiatives (10 financed), as well as the production of energy from renewable sources, the reinforcement of infrastructures to benefit agricultural concerns, the promotion of traditional crafts enterprises (10 projects approved), the endorsement of quality systems and the founding of consortiums (5 initiatives approved for financing).

The investments activated under the Integrated Project are equal to 62.4 million euro, of which 19.4 million come from business investments by private operators, while 43 million consist of public investments co-financed under the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Region of Sicily.

The Unified Office of the Integrated Project in Cefalù. The organisational model employed contemplates the rotation of officials from the administrative bodies that are partners in the Integrated Project.

Performance of the projects called for under the Integrated Project shall contribute to improving the existing stock of infrastructures in the territory (18.3 million euro of the public resources invested have been earmarked for infrastructures), to consolidated industry-wide processes in the sectors of tourism, small-scale industry and agriculture (including subsidies for the showcasing of quality agricultural products recognised as such, or about to be so recognised) and to upgrading the human resources engaged in local development. An additional activity is the adoption in the park area of the European Charter of Sustainable Tourism, an instrument promoted by the European Union for the development and tourist management of sites of environmental significance.

The main beneficiary will be the local community of the 21 municipalities involved in the Integrated Project (almost 80 thousand residents). Forecasts call for an increase in the number of inhabitants (+4,500 units in 5 years) and an increase in the net balance of the number of business enterprises (+15 percent in 5 years), with promotion of a territory that intends to centre its development around quality and environmental sustainability.

The projects will be completed by the end of 2006.
Functional upgrading of the Racioppi Scholastic Institute of Potenza

The project involves the functional upgrading of the “Giacomo Racioppi” State Professional Trade Institute in Potenza, a secondary school attended by approximately 300 students. The project, one of a number of initiatives undertaken in support of the educational system in the Lucania area, for the purpose of upgrading and reinforcing scholastic institutes, will make possible the full restoration of the entire building, bringing it in line with safety regulations. Specific activities planned include rendering both the indoor sports facilities and those outside of the school usable and functionally efficient, in addition to creating new classrooms, thanks to which the building will also be able to house the 160 students of the “Giovanni Falcone” Commercial Technical Institute of Potenza.

Performance of the project will entail total spending of approximately 700 thousand euro, financed under the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Basilicata Region. The work is part of Plan for Scholastic Construction Initiatives approved by the Regional Government in 2003.

The safety measures necessary for normal performance of teaching activities will be applied to the school, with upgrading of facilities that already exist but are currently unfit for use.

The user basin of the school covers the entire City of Potenza, which has a population of 9 thousand young people between the ages of 13 and 18. When the work is completed, the building will be able to hold two scholastic institutes, for a total of approximately 450 students, including young people from towns in the vicinity of Potenza.

The work began in March of 2004 and is scheduled for completion in September of 2005.
Projects against the abandonment of schooling: the TravellingCal case

The TravellingCal project, involving a simulation of a tourist agency, was developed by the students of the Technical Institute of Tourism of Acquappesa, a branch of the “Galileo Galilei” high School of Science of Paola, as part of a larger program of training and prevention of the abandonment of schooling in Calabria, a project co-financed by the European Social Fund. TravellingCal is the outcome of a course of instruction for tourist-industry professionals organised in a number of phases: an introductory portion during which the artistic, natural and instrumental resources of the Calabria region are examined; a phase involving the design and formulation of tour packages; a phase on the use of computer technology specific to the tourist industry; a period of on-the-job training abroad, at the office of a major tour operator, where the students work alongside professional tutors.

The cost of the TravellingCal Project was approximately 37 thousand euro, 70 percent of which was financed with European Community Resources from the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Calabria Region, while the remainder was funded with national resources. The total cost of the broader effort against the abandonment of schooling in Calabria (which includes, in addition to TravellingCal, 32 other projects) was approximately 1.1 million euro, of which 70 percent was financed with the resources of the Regional operating Plan of 2000-2006 for the Calabria Region, while 30 percent was funded with national resources.

The manager of the initiative is the Calabria Region, while the implementing party is the Technical Institute for Tourism of Acquappesa.

Examination of the artistic, natural and instrumental heritage of the local territory translates into identification of the underlying theme “Tourist itineraries: Occitan, Franciscan and Byzantine”. Drawing on the consulting of an established local tourist operator, full-fledged tour packages were drawn up, accompanied by spending estimates and with the performance of sales simulations and on-line connections with the leading carriers and tour operators. The course has taught participants how to use tools of Information Technology, resulting in the design of the site www.institutetecnicturismoacquappesa.it, inside of which the tour packages created by the students have been inserted.

The simulated agency TravellingCal contributes to the instruction of the 110 students of the Technical Institute for Tourism of Acquappesa.

The TravellingCal project concluded in the month of December 2003, but the TravellingCal agency continues to train students in the tourism sector.
There are 11 Resource and Orientation Centres for Female Employability (COF) in the five provinces of the Campania Region. Created as part of a series of initiatives geared towards the development of favourable conditions for the presence of women on the labour market, the COF are designed to operate on a local basis, in keeping with the needs of the specific women and their socio-economic settings. The centres are housed in fixed facilities, but they are also equipped with mobile units (campers, mobile information booths, gazebos etc.), in order to contact women at the sites where they carry out their day-to-day activities and reach those women who find it difficult to take advantage of more traditional structures.

The cost of the establishment of the COF was more than 6 million euro. The initiative is financed with European Community Funds from the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 of the Campania Region.

The Department of Equal Opportunity of the Campania Region planned the initiatives, which are managed locally under agreement memorandums signed with the Provincial Governments and the Municipal Governments in provincial seats.

The COF carry different types of activities, ranging from the surveying of needs to the evaluation of the skills of the participants, as well as information on existing training and work opportunities, plus initial orientation and tutoring regarding work experiences, legal consultation and the organisation of basic activities of instruction (such as computer courses or lessons in foreign languages), the organisation of services of cultural mediation and the creation of networks of local businesses or businesswomen. The Centres place particular emphasis on services of information (consultation of databanks, navigation on Internet), orientation towards freelance or salaried employment and placement on, or return to, the labour market (thematic seminars, apprenticeships and on-the-job training, tools for the creation of businesses).

Priority beneficiaries of the services offered by the COF are unemployed or non-employed women in the five provinces of Campania. Based on the Istat figures for 2001-2002, Naples is the province in Campania with the highest rate of female unemployment (equal to 35.9 percent), while Benevento shows the lowest rate (18.4 percent). The services offered by the COF also benefit women workers with atypical employment contracts and, in general, women with a low level of schooling and little specialised training, plus women at high risk for social disadvantage and immigrant women. The monitoring data collected up through 30 April 2004 show that more than 14 thousand women have made use of at least one service at the Employability Centres.

The first Agreement Memorandums for the establishment of the COF expired on 30 June 2004. Based on the results achieved, plans have been drawn up to hold the activities anew.
Construction of the Library of the University of Molise

The new university library, whose buildings cover an area of 3,500 square metres, feature an innovative organisational approach in terms of opening hours, multimedia links and modes for the acquisition and lending of books. The nature of the initiative, its location at the centre of both the urban area of Campobasso and the university complex, plus the rational approach taken in the planning of the spaces, have resulted in the creation of a full-fledged university "citadel", which has been chosen as the site of the exposition of contemporary art 'Movement/Movements', promoted as part of the larger program "Contemporary Senses". The project – a joint undertaking of the Department for Development Policies of the Ministry of Economics and Finance, the Department of Contemporary Art of the Ministry of Cultural Resources and Activities, the Venice Biennial and the seven regions of Southern Italy – is designed to promote contemporary art while upgrading architectural and urban planning setting in the south.

The total cost of the initiative is 5.3 million euro, with 57 percent covered by supplementary national public resources allocated under resolution no. 52 of 21 April 1999 of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Economic Planning, and the remainder funded with university resources.

The University of Molise.

The resources of the new Library consist of more than 93 thousand monographs, 1,350 periodicals and 850 active publication, which will be further augmented by the network of electronic subscriptions. The structure, distributed on three floors, offers an ample range of services, including 24 multimedia stations, a European documentation centre and a section dedicated to the culture of Southern Italy and the Molise Region. It also holds a study hall seating 32, a reading room seating 192 and a room with seating for 40-80 people for seminar activities. The spaces make it possible to organise educational and cultural events open to the public, as well as conventions.

The project will benefit not only the approximately 10 thousand students and 400 university faculty members and researchers, but also the inhabitants of the urban area and the surrounding region. The number and types of users are destined to grow and differentiate themselves as the University expands and diversifies the objectives of the facility, with the necessary development of the services to be offered.

The project was carried out fully on schedule, meaning within 630 business days. The University Library shall be unveiled on 16 November 2004.
Professional training for the development of female entrepreneurship in Apulia

The project, part of a series of initiatives geared towards creating integrated paths of training, support and consulting for women in Apulia seeking to establish new businesses, consists of 6 courses meant to lead to the creation of a bed and breakfast network. Each course covers 300 hours of activity, including classroom teaching, visits to businesses and on-the-job training. The project has resulted in the publication of a “Manual of Procedures for Female Hospitality and Tourism Professionals in the Bed and Breakfast Sector”, providing detailed explanations of the organisational and operating methods.

The cost of each course was approximately 62 thousand euro, for an overall amount of approximately 372 thousand euro, all of it financed with European Community Funds from the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Apulia Region.

The courses are held by the training organisation I.F.O.A. (Institute for the Training of Corporate Professionals) at the operating offices of Castellana Grotte, Ostuni, Foggia, Casarano, Lecce and Maglie. These sites were chosen for the courses because they rank among the major tourist locations in Apulia.

The activities of ongoing support at the end of the course ensure that each of the participants receives individual, personalised technical assistance in starting up her business initiative. A survey carried out five months following the conclusion of the activities showed that 30 B&B had been placed in operations. In addition, activities had been initiated for the formulation of hospitality standards for the “Bed & Best Network” through the forum set up on the site www.bedandbest.it and run by the participants, with the support of outside consultants and I.F.O.A. personnel. Finally, procedures were drawn up for the certification of the “Bed & Best Network”, with the support of an outside certification organisation.

The course is designed for 120 unemployed/non-employed women (selected from a group of 600 candidates) who possess skills in organisation and personal relations, and who have demonstrated, during the selection process, in-depth knowledge and awareness of their local territory, plus a spirit of initiative and an entrepreneurial attitude.

The training initiative began in October 2003 and was concluded in December of 2003.
The Polaris Park of Science and Technology

The Polaris project for the creation of a Park of Science and Technology in Sardinia is organised around four complexes specialised by production sector and located, respectively, in Cagliari-Pula (headquarters), Sassari-Alghero, Nuoro and Oristano. The initiative provides a vast pool of users interested in both research and the experimentation of innovative technologies and/or new products and production processes with laboratories for advanced research in the fields of neuro-pharmacology, ICT (Information Communication Technology), biotechnology and bio-informatics. The five buildings constructed at the complex in Pula hold offices, laboratories, a prototyping shop and service facilities (library, conference room, food service structures etc.), with the related services of urban development. The more than 18 thousand square metres of facilities are currently being put to use at a rate of over 90 percent. Operative at the Sassari-Alghero complex are a centre for large-scale equipment used in biotechnological and agro-industrial research, plus a technological incubator.

The initiatives are financed with 40 million euro from the European Community Funds of the 1994-1999 Program (construction of the facilities in Pula and the biotechnological complex in Sassari-Alghero) and 11 million euro from the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Sardinia Region, in application of the Cagliari Four Integrated Project.

The Cagliari-Pula complex is managed by the “Ventuno Consortium”, a regional public agency established in 1985 to supply services supporting the competitiveness of businesses on the island of Sardinia. Management of the Sassari-Alghero structure is the responsibility of “Porto Conte Ricerche”, a consortium whose capital is partially held (approximately 70 percent) by the “Ventuno Consortium”, plus local government bodies and business associations.

The facility in Pula offers its participating subjects offices and laboratories for technologies involving information and communications, neuro-pharmacology, bio-technology, genomic studies and bio-informatics, plus services of barrier relay, as well as services of incubation and technological transfer, all geared towards encouraging SMB’s that work with new knowledge to take root in the area, in addition to increasing familiarity with instruments and working methods that represent alternatives to the standard operating procedures. Since the start of the Polaris project, roughly 40 prototypes have been created (three quarters at the Pula facility, and the rest in Alghero), more than 200 patent-related research efforts have been carried out, and 35 patent consulting operations have concluded with the deposit of a patent.

Major research centres have established operations at the Cagliari-Pula complex, where roughly 20 regional SMB’s have also installed themselves or received assistance. Approximately 200 professionals work at the complex, with over 60 percent of them playing an active role in the research. At the Sassari-Alghero facility, 11 enterprises (public, private or mixed capital) have installed themselves, employing 88 professionals, 63 of whom are researchers.

The Pula facility, opened in July of 2003, and the Sassari-Alghero complex, opened in October of 2001, have already achieved tangible results, serving as incubators and catalysts for the birth of initiatives regarding new product areas.
Construction of the School of Engineering of the University of Messina

The new facility housing the School of Engineering of the University of Messina, a building that looks out on the splendid natural scene of the Strait of Messina, is part of the scientific-technological university campus, located roughly 10 kilometres north of downtown Messina. The new structure was built alongside the existing School of Science and the Business Incubator, which is currently being established and represents the first structure of its kind in a Southern Italian university complex. The construction consists of three buildings: the Department Structure, arrayed on six different levels that follow the lay of the land, and housing teaching and research laboratories, seminar classrooms, libraries, faculty offices and extensive study space for the 2,500 students enrolled at the School; the Teaching Structure, laid out in the form of a plate and connected with the Departmental Structure by means of elevated links, it holds 28 multimedia classrooms, the General Library and the Aula Magna; the University Residence, which comes with both single rooms and commons spaces.

The initiative, whose total cost is approximately 74 million euro, has been financed with supplementary national resources from the Fund for Under-Utilised Areas, allocated under resolutions passed by the Ministerial committee for Economic Planning.

Responsibility for the execution of the project has been assigned to the university of Messina, which is also handling the operating management.

Construction of the new facility revives the role of the School of Engineering as a strategic infrastructure for the development of the local territory, in addition to resolving the decades-old problem of its precarious cohabitation in the structures of the School of Sciences. The statistics presented by the new structure are highly impressive: 12 thousand metres of roofed surface area for the departmental spaces, the seminar classrooms and the student facilities; 9 thousand square metres for the teaching and research laboratories; 3 thousand square metres for the heavy-equipment laboratories with the sliding crane; 28 classrooms (seating from 60 to 300); seating for 400 in the multifunctional Aula Magna; the Centralised Library, measuring 1,500 square metres and offering reading stations for 250 students, 50 of them computerised; 90 residential units for out-of-town students and faculty.

The new teaching and research structures will significantly increase the School’s power of attraction on the traditional basin of users gravitating around the Strait. The new facility is aimed, in particular, at the many Sicilians and Calabrians that choose to study in the universities of central-northern Italy, being attracted by the more efficient structural resources.

The structure was completed in July of 2004. Activities got underway in October of 2004.
Multifunctional centres for the development of the Information Society

The introduction of information and communications technologies (ICT) is changing the contents and methodologies of teaching in scholastic institutes throughout Europe. The document eEurope, approved at the European Council of Lisbon (March 2000), proposed the creation of multifunctional services centres in schools, for the purpose of promoting the development and spread of information technology. The National Operating Program “Schools for Development” finances the construction of 74 Multifunctional Service Centres at an equal number of State Technical Institutes and Professional Schools, built according to the latest technological standards and designed to provide cultural and technological support for the integrated, widespread introduction of ICT in the schools.

The cost of the project, at 30 million euro, was financed with the European Community Funds of the National Operating Program “Schools for Development” for 2000-2006.

The project is managed by the state professional institutes and technical schools involved, which are found in all the provinces of the six Objective 1 regions: 4 in Basilicata, 10 in Calabria, 15 in Campania, 12 in Apulia, 8 in Sardinia and 25 in Sicily.

The Multifunctional Service Centres of the National Operating Program for Schools offer: broadband connections to Internet; multimedia library and media collections equipped with a system for managing the catalogue of acquisitions and lending, plus a space for the consultation of texts, cd-rom’s and video cassettes; laboratories for the development and updating of multimedia products; rooms for conventions and seminars, with multimedia workstations; video-conference systems; networks for the management of I.T. forums and for initiatives of training and collaboration over the Web.

The primary beneficiaries will be not only the students and scholastic professionals of the 74 institutes involved in the project, but also the partner subjects. In fact, each Multifunctional Service Centre is part of a network with five or six schools of all types and levels from the same territory; each Centre, therefore, has a potential basin of at least 2,500 students and 500 scholastic professionals, making for an overall total of approximately 200 thousand students and 35 thousand operators.

60 centres have already been established; 14 are under construction, but will soon be completed.
Resource Centres to prevent the abandonment of schooling and social disadvantage

Schools can be the driving force behind the development of a local territory, reviving in young people an awareness of the pleasure of utilising and producing culture, as well as of receiving education and training in innovative professional areas that are closely connected with policies of local development. This was the objective behind the creation of the 115 Resource Centres to Prevent the Abandonment of Schooling and Social Disadvantage, where young people can utilise sports structure, hospitality spaces, play areas, media collections, and theatrical, musical and film laboratories. The National Operating Program “Schools for the Development”, which promotes the project, calls for the creation of two types of Resource Centres. The first consists of Resource Centres that are meant to prevent the abandonment of schooling social fragmentation and are located in large towns or in the urban areas with the highest levels of social and economic deterioration, locations often characterised, at present, by sharp cultural differences and tensions, given the massive presence of immigrants, as well as the absence of adequate conditions of hospitality and employment. The other type of Resource Centre works towards social inclusion and integration in outlying and isolated areas and is located on the smaller islands or in mountain or rural areas, meaning sites where young people and adults lacking in material and cultural resources find themselves most isolated.

The cost of the Resource Centres is 41 million euro, financed with the European Community Funds of the National Operating Program “Schools for Development” for 2000-2006.

Scholastic institutes of every level and type, distributed in all the Objective 1 Regions, and especially concentrated in areas at risk, on the islands and in mountain communities.

Each Centre may hold interactive language laboratories for supplementary and hospitality activities (theatre, film, dance), production laboratories for music and the graphic arts, laboratories for the simulation of production processes services, a media collection and a multimedia periodicals reference, plus spots facilities and specially designed equipment for the disabled. Inside of each given school, the Centre shall serve as a vehicle for educational experiments designed to motivate the younger individuals among the disadvantaged, in addition to offering students and all the young people of the surrounding territory with opportunities for socialisation, leisure-time activities and learning, plus orientation and training, along with professional retooling. The Centres shall promote collaboration and support among all the vital forces of a given local territory; parents, local government bodies, businesses, state juvenile attorneys’ offices, police forces, local health boards and volunteer associations may take part in the planning of the activities of the Centres, using their structures and drawing support for their own activities.

Each year the European Social Fund finances initiatives that, taken altogether, involve a total of at least 20 thousand young people within the Resource Centres.

72 Centres have already been completed, 43 are currently being established, and the work is scheduled for completion by the end of December 2005. The activities of support and training are planned to run up through completion of the National Project “Schools for Development”, eventually with the contribution of the European Social Fund as well.
Local development systems
Park of the Grancia

The project involves the creation of the historical thematic Park of the Grancia, which covers approximately 50 hectares in an area of particular environmental and cultural value, just 10 kilometres from Potenza. Dominated by the Fittipaldi Castle, the Park takes visitors on an extraordinary journey to the roots of the rural world through reconstructions and historical re-enactments in period garb, plus theatrical performances and organised theme activities. Distributed along the trails of the Park are numerous attractions, including the Nineteenth-Century Market, the Craftsmen’s Burgh, the Valley of Ethnic Echoes (where a charming musical performance is held) and the Amphitheatre of the Eagles, a natural space capable of seating up to a thousand spectators and used for trained-falcon shows not seen anywhere else in Europe.

The Park’s first facility was created under the European Community initiative Leader II (with funding of more than 3 million euro), while the expansion effort, carried out as part of the Integrated Territorial Project (ITP) of the Upper Basento and completed in 2002, was financed with 1.8 million euro in European Community Funds from the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Basilicata Region.

The “Upper Basento” Mountain Community and the Consortium Enterprise “Plans and Programs of Local Action”.

The activities performed inside the park, the first of its kind in Italy, are meant to showcase the local culture and folk traditions. Of particular note is the film presentation “Bandit History”, which examines the instances of banditry in the area in the first half of the nineteenth century, with the involvement of 300 local volunteers as actors and extras, and with the support of advanced technology, including a slide able to project images on an entire mountainside, a 30-metre screen of water, a multi-diffusion sounds system operating in 12 directions, a stage area of 25 thousand square metres and an amphitheatre seating 3 thousand.

The Park, which is open to the public in the summer months, has registered an average of approximately 50 thousand visitors a year, while the presentation “Bandit History” is seen by an average of 40 thousand people a year – for a total, from its first showing, of more than 150 thousand viewers and 110 projections. The cultural activities proposed by the Park also involve scholastic institutes: the historic promenade organised for the elementary schools of the Province of Potenza register more than 5 thousand participants a year.

The work was completed in 2002.
The “Dairy Milk” Integrated Industrial Sector Project

The Integrated Industrial Sector Project (IISP) on dairy milk concentrates and organises approximately 70 percent of the milk production in Calabria. The IISP is one of the 23 industry-wide projects prepare by the Department of Agriculture, Hunting and Fishing of the Calabria Region for the purpose of favouring the vertical integration of operators in the agricultural sector by production sectors, so as to establish critical masses of product, reinforce the weaker phases of the production sequences (in particular the transformation and marketing) and pursue the upgrading and recognition of the quality of the products of Calabria. The Dairy Milk IISP includes establishment of a quality certification, in accordance with the UNI EN ISO 9001:2001 standard, for participating agricultural enterprises that produce milk, in this way providing an additional service for the active partners, with an eye towards constantly optimising the value of the products of Calabria.

The cost of the Dairy Milk IISP totals approximately 20.5 million euro financed with European Community Funds of the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Calabria Region. The total of 23 IISP in the Calabria Region mobilises resources equal to approximately 280 million euro of pubic and private investments, involving 1,200 beneficiaries.

The ASSO.I.A.C. (Calabrian Dairymen’s Associations), a limited cooperative.

The primary initiatives promoted by the Dairy Milk ISP include: land reclamation work tied to the upgrading of irrigation systems for the production of fodder, to hydraulic-agrarian restoration of terrain and to the repair of farm roads; the purchase of the machinery and equipment needed to feed and transport the animals, and for the production of fodder; the construction or restructuring of buildings for animal husbandry; the improvement of the hygiene and well being of livestock through a rationalisation of spaces and a modernisation of fixed plants for feeding, milking and for the preservation of the milk. In terms of processing activities, held to be of strategic value for the upgrading of milk-cheese production and for increasing employment in the sector, the following initiatives are planned: the purchase of machinery for the crating and placement on pallets of the milk; the construction of plants for the pasteurisation and homogenisation of the milk; the construction of storage tanks; the purchase of an ageing unit for the production of cream; the establishment of a packaging line for consumer milk.

The IISP involves 84 beneficiaries, including 55 businessmen, 14 businesswomen and 15 companies (10 young business owners running their first facility are involved). The strategic nature of the initiative is tied to the economic importance of the milk and cheese industry in Calabria, a sector whose overall value accounts for 24 percent of all agricultural activity.

The Project began in July of 2003 and is scheduled to conclude by the first half of 2005.
The construction of a 20-kilometre bicycle track along Provincial Seaside Roadway no. 157 in Campania is one of the initiatives included in the Integrated Project for the restoration of the Plan of the Sele River, a territory that connects the two leading tourist locations of the Province of Salerno: the Amalfi coast, to the north, and the archaeological areas of Paestum and Velia, as well as the Cilento Park, to the south. The objective of the Project is to upgrade the area through the creation of a district for tourism, sports, well being and leisure-time activities. The bicycle track, one of the longest in Europe, will run along the seaward side of the provincial roadway, from the outskirts of Salerno, along the coastal territories of the towns of Battipaglia and Eboli, and up to the mouth of the Sele River. A further extension of the track, already funded, will take it as far as the archaeological area of the temples of Paestum. The construction of the bicycle track is accompanied by initiatives involving the shifting onto the nearby 'Aversana' road of private motor vehicle traffic, so as to reserve the provincial roadway exclusively for public transportation and bicycle-pedestrian travel.

The cost of the project is 13.2 million euro, financed with European Community Funds from the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Campania Region.

Once completed, the project shall be managed by the municipalities involved.

The construction of a safe route running along a roadbed completely separated from the provincial roadway will encourage the use of bicycles by the resident population and by tourists – who arrive in large number, especially in summer, in the residential units that have sprung up along the coast.

The project shall contribute to the upgrading and decongestion of the coastal area, as well as to an eco-compatible readjustment of the area’s tourist activities.

The construction of the bicycle track will benefit both the population of the area (approximately 150 thousand inhabitants) and tourists (more than 1 million per year).

The bicycle track from the outskirts of Salerno to the mouth of the Sele river was completed in May of 2004. Completion of the work on the last portion, up to the temples of Paestum, is scheduled for October of 2006.
The Tourist Port of Vieste

The initiative involves the construction of the Tourist Port of Vieste. The first portion of the project, currently underway, consists of the extension of the breakwater jetty (in order to render the water of the port area usable by ships), internal dredging (to permit the anchoring of vessels), the construction of a dock on the breakwater jetty and the installation of floating wharfs providing berths for 650 vessels, plus the space needed for the various dockside activities. In addition, 6 buildings will be constructed to hold the commercial facilities and sanitary services. The second and final portion (not yet contracted out) calls for completion of the port work, with the construction of industrial sheds for boatyard activities, a port service centre and the wharf sites for the winter maintenance of the vessels.

The total cost of the project is approximately 12.7 million euro; of this amount, 1.4 million come from the European Community Funds of the Regional Operating Program for 2000-2006 of the Apulia Region, while 5.7 million are supplementary national resources of the Fund for Under-Utilised Areas, allocated under resolutions of the Inter-Ministerial committee for Economic Planning, approximately 1 million come from the Regional Operating Program for 1994-1999, and 4.5 million are private resources.

Società Aurora - Porto Turistico di Vieste - S.p.A.

The plans for the structure call for the construction of all the works needed to offer both basic services and the advanced functions currently requested in the pleasure-boat sector, together with boatyard plants and services, long-term parking, a nautical services centre and commercial area and a boat club. Also offered are services of overhauling and maintenance for small-scale vessels.

The beneficiaries of the initiative will be the numerous pleasure-boat owners who visit the coast of Apulia and will be able to utilise the 650 new berths, 40 percent of which shall be rented for brief periods, while 60 percent will be sold or granted under multi-year concessions. At full operation, a flow of 3,600 pleasure vessels is forecasted; the increase in the tourist flow will follow the forecast results for occupation of the berths (50 percent in the first year and 50 percent in the second year, starting from the completion date of the second portion of the project).

The work contracted under the first portion will be completed by the first half of 2005. The work for the second portion will be carried out by the end of 2006.
The territorial pact for the employment in Oristano

The territorial pact for the employment of Oristano includes incentives for businesses, training activities and the creation of tangible and intangible infrastructures in the provincial territory. The business incentives regard the sectors of agriculture and food, tourism (characterised by scarce guest facilities, despite significant natural and cultural resources), high technology, crafts and the services. The infrastructure work took the form of an expansion of the Oristano-Fenosu Airport, a strategic effort within the set of activities designed to establish production operations within the area covered by the pact; the expansion of the airport involved lengthening and widening the runway and acquiring the control instrumentation needed to open the structure to airline and cargo traffic. Intangible system efforts were also planned for the creation of a territorial information system, for the marketing of the upgraded areas, for the planning and promotion of the local tourist system, for the holding of organised events, for the training and placement of individuals within the production context, for the modernisation of the Public Administration and for the qualification and social aggregation of human resources.

The work on the airport infrastructure cost 1.5 million euro, with 1.1 million financed with European Community Funds of the Multi-Regional Operating Program “Local Development – Territorial Pacts for Employment” and the resources of the Pact. The sum total of the system activities has led to an investment of 6.4 million euro, 5.8 million of which was financed with supplementary national resources of the Fund for Under-Utilised Areas, while the remainder was financed with finding, on an essentially equal footing, from local government bodies and private parties. The business incentive, on the other hand, generated investments of 65 million euro (90 of which had been completed by the end of 2001), 42.8 million of which was financed with the European Community Funds of the Multi-Regional operating Program “Local Development – Territorial Pacts for Employment”.

There are a number of parties carrying out the infrastructure work: the main role is that of the Local Intermediary Subject (manager of the Pact), though with the contribution, for the various activities, of the Provincial Government, the local government bodies, both individual and in associations, the company SO.GE.A.OR, for the development of the airport plan, and the C.N.I.O. consortium for the port development plan.

The entire territorial system of the Province of Oristano has been reinforced through the improvement in the airport connections and the plans for the integrated development of transportation, the definition of packages of localised development and reception, the construction of an administrative information network and the implementation of the Consolidated Association information Window, plus a Territorial Labour Observatory. These activities also contribute to the growth and stabilisation of the processes of production development undertaken through the business incentives.

The wide range of planned activities generates benefits for the entire population of the territory in question (153 thousand residents as of 2001). The more than 50 subsidised business initiatives have created approximately 250 jobs.

The expanded airport was performance tested in 2002; the creation of the activities system, initiated at the end of 2003 and currently underway, will conclude in December of 2005.
The “Trapani Tourism” Program Contract

The “Trapani Tourism” Program Contract, which involves 35 local tourist operators and businessmen, is geared towards the construction of 33 new guest facilities, plus 2 modernisation efforts, for a total of 3,734 beds (2,117 in the hotel sector, 249 in residential tourist hotels and 1,268 in the extra-hotel sector, meaning campsites and vacation homes and apartments). The optimisation of tourist activities in the Province of Trapani, also meant to drive development in the food and farming sector, finds an important model for concerted growth in the Program contract: in fact, a general agreement memorandum has been signed by the Region of Sicily, the Province of Trapani, 15 municipal governments and the banking system, as well as an agreement memorandum with the economic and social partners.

The overall value of the planned investments totals 86 million euro, 55 percent of which is covered by national and regional public resources, while 45 percent is funded with private resources.

The Program Contract is managed by the “Trapani Tourist Consortium”, a limited consortium enterprise.

Once in full operation, the investments undertaken will result in a 22 percent increase in the number of beds offered, with the total rising from the current 16,850 to 20,590. During the summer season of 2004, the initiatives already implemented registered 73 thousand presences, with a 45 rate of coverage of the available beds. The Program Contract is also designed to upgrade the environmental and historical-artistic resources of a territory that, on account of the current lack of guest facilities, remains on the margins of the region’s tourist flows.

The social impact of the project in terms of employment is significant: the investments undertaken will produce a direct increase of approximately 470 employment units, while additional jobs will be generated by the secondary activities. There will also be positive repercussions in the construction industry, with the annual number of construction site workers equalling 600 for approximately 4 years, in addition to the secondary activities.

The Program Contract calls for the investments to be completed by the end of the year 2005. On 30 June 2005, 31 of the initiatives, or 88 percent of those planned, are to begin operation.
Upgrading of the Matera Castle Park

The initiative is designed to upgrade an extensive area (approximately 40 thousand square metres) in the historic core of the City of Matera, whose dominant presence is the sixteenth-century Tramontano Castle. The work on the site regard restoration of the functional efficiency of the area of the Castle Park, with recovery of the pine grove through the introduction of new species of trees, the installation of lighting and irrigation systems, the creation of trails and spaces for entertainment events and the creation of play areas for children. The boundaries of the park will be surrounded with a natural hedge barrier. Great care has been taken in selecting the construction materials and the species of trees and shrubs to be planted. For the sake of consistency with the historic setting of the site, it was decided to plant holly oaks, pine trees, Judas trees, lindens, poplars and species of hedges typical of the Mediterranean, such as rosemary, myrtle and mastic.

Forecast total spending on the project is approximately 1.3 million euro, financed with the European Community Funds of the Regional Operating Program for 2000-2006 of the Basilicata Region.

The restoration will augment the use of the park, especially on the part of children and the elderly. The creation of a space for entertainment events will contribute to promoting artistic and cultural activities, which will favour social intercourse and the flow of tourists.

Given the central role of the park in the urban context, as well as its historical importance, the restoration effort will benefit all the residents of Matera (more than 57 thousand inhabitants), plus the approximately 120 thousand tourists that visit the town each year.

The work will be completed by the end of 2005.
The Social, Cultural and Hospitality Centre of Pesco Sannita

The project consists of the creation of a social, cultural and hospitality centre in the Town of Pesco Sannita for the purpose of improving the quality of life in a portion of the Benevento hinterland facing the threat of decline. The Centre will be housed in a building of historical and artistic importance that had reached an advanced state of deterioration, but is now being reclaimed (work of restructuring, restoration and preservation). The Town of Pesco Sannita, whose inhabitants number more than 2 thousand, looks down on the upper Tammaro Valley and is involved, together with other municipalities in the Province of Benevento, in the ‘Pietrelcina’ Integrated Project, whose objective is to develop, in and around the hometown of Father Pious, local tourist offerings that, while based primarily on the theme of religion, also take into account the area’s entire historical, artistic, cultural and environmental heritage.

The overall planned investment is 1.3 million euro, financed with the European Community Funds of the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Campania Region.

The Town of Pesco Sannita is implementing the initiative. The manager will be selected through a tender.

The Centre will hold a variety of services for individuals, in addition to meeting rooms, a library, a music room, a cafeteria and a number of mini-residential units for young people.

The Social Centre shall be made available to elderly individuals over the age of 60, young people and families residing not only in the Town of Pesco Sannita, but also in the nearby towns of Pietrelcina, Paduli, Benevento, Pago Veiano and Fragneto l’Abate, which, taken as a whole, reach a population of more than 76 thousand inhabitants. In addition, a portion of the tourists travelling in pilgrimage to the sites of St. Pious of Pietrelcina, estimated at a total of more than 500 presences weekly, will also be served.

The work will be completed in December of 2005.
Creation of an urban park on Bari’s Viale Europa

The project is one of a series of initiatives designed to improve the quality of life in the most disadvantaged zones of the cities of the Apulia Region. The San Paolo Quarter is an area of subsidised housing, a satellite neighbourhood located beyond the city’s outskirts, with the problems typical of rapid urban development in sites lacking history and tradition. The zone offers few commercial service, or sports or social facilities. For these reasons, the City of Bari has decided to create a multifunctional, eco-compatible urban park able to serve as a focal point for the social life of the quarter, while offering a variety of services capable of reviving an area in danger of deterioration.

The total cost of the project is 2.1 million euro, financed with the European Community Funds of the Regional Operating Program for 2000-2006 of the Apulia Region.

The City of Bari. Maintenance of the Park has been assigned to the “L’Obiettivo” cooperative.

The surface area of the Park, measuring 30 thousand square metres, is fenced and equipped with areas of greenery, play equipment for youngsters, urban embellishments, lighting and ramps for the disabled. A centre for the daytime socialisation of the quarter’s 6,400 elderly residents has also been constructed, designed for the organisation of games and activities featuring movement, as well as lessons in cooking and theatre.

The 36 thousand residents of the San Paolo quarter.

The project was completed in May of 2004 and is being fully used by the inhabitants of the quarter.
PET system at the Cannizzaro Hospital in Catania

In April of 2002, the Regional Government of Sicily signed Framework Program Agreement for the health-care sector with the Ministry of Economic and Finance and the Ministry of Health. The FPA regards the completion of the hospital network in Sicily, with a particular focus on the upgrading of metropolitan areas as centres of elevated specialisation and excellence in specific areas of health care. This is the context within which the initiatives involving the restructuring of the buildings and the modernisation of the technology of the public health-care service were undertaken, together with projects addressing the “reinforcement of infrastructures and stocks of high-technology equipment for precocious diagnoses of relevant social impact to be allocated to the three regional health-care centres” (Palermo, Catania and Messina), as per the Supplement to the Planning of the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Region of Sicily. Thanks to the opportunities offered by the ROP, the Cannizzaro Hospital Enterprise of Catania purchased, by means of a public tender, a PET system, one of the most sophisticated clinical-diagnostic devices available, consisting of a tomograph with positron emissions, a cyclotron, a radio-chemical laboratory and a bunker for protection.

The project was financed with the European Community Funds of the Regional operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Region of Sicily, at an amount of approximately 5.3 million euro.

The Cannizzaro Hospital Enterprise of Catania. The Hospital Enterprise has also signed a working agreement with the San Raffaele Hospital of Milan, which will provide clinical-diagnostic consulting.

The PET device in Catania is the only one found, to date, in a public health-care structure in Southern Italy, making possible analyses regarding a wide range of oncological pathologies, such as neuroplasies of the brain, the lung, the colon-rectum and the breast. The use of this type of device in the areas of cardiology, gynaecology, eye, ear nose and throat treatment and plastic surgery, as well as with degenerative pathologies, such as Alzheimer’s, has recently taken on noteworthy importance.

Thanks to this initiative, more than 3 million users may benefit from clinical-diagnostic services. The purchase of this device places the Region, and the “Cannizzaro” Hospital in particular, in the forefront of diagnostic services, contributing significantly to improving the care of patients who can obtain such services in their home region, avoiding the costs and personal inconveniences of having to go to Northern Italy.

The device has been fully installed and is about to receive the authorisations needed for activation.
Completion of the “Bradanica” State Roadway 655

The “Bradanica” State Roadway 655 follows an inter-regional route along the boundary between Basilicata and Puglia, connecting the Ionian-Salento zone with the Capitanata area through the Murge, the Ofanto Valley and the slopes of the Vulture hill. The subject of the initiative is the Santa Maria d’Irsi lot, in the Potentino district. This portion of the road, more than 10 kilometres in length, is characterised by a roadbed 12 metres wide made possible by the construction of heightened shoulders. The complexity of the work is traceable, in part, to the 5 viaducts, for a total of 935 metres, plus the 175 – metre tunnel.

Construction of the Santa Maria d’Irsi lot is financed with the European Community Funds of the Regional Operating Program for 2000-2006 of the Basilicata Region, for an amount of approximately 33 million euro.

ANAS – Department of Potenza.

The construction of the “Bradanica” route provides a rapid connection between the City of Matera and the A16 Naples-Canosa Highway in the vicinity of Candela, in the greater Foggia area. The trunk route of Santa Maria d’Irsi, in particular, will resolve the thorny infrastructure problem that hampers the area, which is currently served by a single consortium roadway.

The improvement in the inter-regional connections between Apulia and Basilicata will prove to be especially beneficial for the industrialised areas of eastern and northern Basilicata, the site of industrial complexes active in the production of furniture and automobiles. Significant advantages are also foreseen for commercial traffic arriving from Taranto and headed north, towards the zones along the Tyrrhenian and Adriatic Seas, as well as for the 1,800 commuters who travel daily from the greater Matera area to reach the plants in Melfi.

The work began at the start of March 2004, and it is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2006.
Modernisation of the “Jonica” State Roadway 106

The “Jonica” State Roadway 106 runs along the coastline of Calabria, Lucania and Apulia, between the cities of Reggio Calabria and Taranto, along a route approximately 480 kilometres in length. Part of the first program on strategic infrastructures of priority national interest, the road plays a key role in the north-south connection between the main local lateral transportation axes. Two areas of operation have been identified: upgrading of the old road to handle the new volumes of traffic and to reduce the high rate of accidents (an average of 36 deaths each year); at the same time, initiation of a full-fledged modernisation, using highway-type construction techniques. The upgrading activities can be considered completed: in 2005 the portions of Roccella, Bova and Montegiordano will be opened to traffic, for a total of approximately 30 kilometres. Functional efficiency has also been improved, thanks to the Marina di Gioiosa variant and the Montegiordano connection. At the same time, a modernisation effort has been undertaken, with the tendering of the macro-lots regarding the portions of Squillace-Simeri Crichi (23 Km), Palizzi-Caulonia (17 Km), Scanzano-Pisticci (20 Km ) and the Palizzi variant (5 Km).

The overall cost of the work is 1.697 billion euro, of which approximately 1.466 billion consists of the modernisation work. Coverage of the financing is provided by European Community Funds (592 million euro) and by supplementary national resources of the Fund for Under-Utilised Areas allocated under resolutions of the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Economic Planning (256 million euro). The remainder of 849 million euro is distributed between the Calabria Region and the ANAS Highway Authority.

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The sum total of the investments will make it possible to shift long-range and commercial traffic onto the new route, improving the safety and speed of travel while significantly reducing both environmental impact and transportation costs. The old roadway will be used by local traffic.

The statistics available for average daily traffic show constant growth in the number of vehicles, which would rise from the approximately 10 thousand vehicles/day registered at the end of 2000 to roughly 22 thousand vehicles/day by the end of 2008, the date by which the effects of the first cycle of investments for the modernisation of the state roadway would be felt.

The upgrading of the old roadway will be completed by the end of 2005, while the modernisation work will conclude by the end of 2008.
Unified Online Health-Care Appointment Centre

The project consists of the creation of a Unified Centre for Telematic Health-Care Appointments, meaning a portal accessible over Internet and designed so that users may make appointments for services provided by the National Health-Care Service, in accordance with measures of security and authorisation, as well as the confidentiality of personal information. The stations for access to the network are found in the territory of the Province of Catanzaro, at the offices of family physicians, at the headquarters of the Provincial Government and of the Municipal Governments found in the territory. The managing body is the Provincial Government of Catanzaro, with the involvement, in different roles, of a total of 85 entities, including the Calabria Regional Government, 78 municipalities of the Province, two Health-Care Enterprises (ASL no. 6 of Lamezia Terme and ASL no. 7 of Catanzano), two Hospital Enterprises (the Mater Domini Hospital and the Pugliese-Ciaccio Hospital) and a Mountain Community.

The total cost of the project is approximately 895 thousand euro. Financing obtained from the Ministry of Innovation and Technology covers 300 thousand euro, while the remainder of the initiative is being financed with the European Community Funds of the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 for the Calabria Region.

The Provincial Government of Catanzaro.

One of the emergency situations plaguing the health-care system in Calabria is the need to make burdensome trips in order to contact public health-care structures. This situation can be traced to the geo-morphological conformation of the territory, to the large number of small towns connected by roads that are difficult to travel, and to small number of public transportation vehicles available. The primary objective of the project is to allow all the citizens of the Province of Catanzaro to make appointments for examinations, analyses and hospital stays without having to leave their town of residence, but simply by going to the front-office point found in their town hall or in another authorised structure.

The project will benefit citizens of the Province of Catanzaro who live in the 78 municipalities involved in the effort. In numerical terms, the projects covers a population of approximately 250 thousand people, consisting of approximately 170 thousand adults, 40 thousand elderly individuals and 40 thousand children.

The appointment service is in operation; the web portal of the Unified Health-Care Appointment Centre can be found online at the address www.catahospital.it.
The Tele-Medicine Portal of Campania

The project, undertaken as part of the Information Society strategies, is designed to create a tele-medicine portal (www.telemedicina.campania.it) that allows citizens and health-care professionals to exchange multimedia data and integrate the archives concerning medicine distributed throughout the territory. The system can be used to transmit, file and consult clinical data and diagnostic images, in addition to monitoring patients. In order to guarantee confidentiality, access to the services is controlled with personalised security policies. In fact, differentiated access profile correspond either weak authentication mechanisms (user Id/password) or strong ones (based on digital certificates).

The total cost of the project, financed with the European Community Funds of the Regional Operating Program for 2000-2006 of the Campania Region, is more than 4 million euro.

The manager of the portal is the Campania Regional Government. The other entities involved in the creation and operation of the initiative are: the “Federico II” University of Naples and the Second University of Naples, the National Tumour Institute, the Pascale Foundation, the Monaldi Hospital and the CNR. The experimentation also involves, indirectly, all the health-care subjects (hospitals, medical centres, family physicians) that have a working relationship or an agreement with the entities involved in the management of the initiative.

The tele-medicine services offered are: remote filing and consultation of radiographic images, of data on laboratory analyses and reports, monitoring of patients with high blood pressure, undergoing dialysis and suffering from diabetes, remote cardiology consultation, prenatal remote monitoring, epidemiological analyses and statistical services, management of the therapeutic data of patients with neoplasies, overseeing of pharamco-surveillance and assistance for the hard of hearing.

The system will benefit the patients of the entities that manage the project, as well as those affiliated with these structures. It will be possible to enter in the system, in addition to all the family physicians, all the public and private entities that offer health-care services in Campania, a region where the number of patients of the public health-care service is approximately 5.8 million a year.

The portal has been completed and has been online since December of 2004.
Upgrading and reinforcement of safety in the Castelvolturno pine grove

The reclamation effort regards the 368 hectares of terrain (101 hectares municipal and 267 belonging to the body public) of the Municipal Pine Grove of Castel Volturno, which runs along the coastline bordered by the Via Domitiana in the Province of Caserta, and which, is recent years, has been characterised by a high degree of deterioration, frequent criminal episodes and unauthorised construction. The initiative calls for fencing to be placed around the entire perimeter of the pine grove, plus the installation of lighting at the main access points, the demolition of 140 unauthorised structures, the clean-up of waste, the installation of a fire-prevention system and a video-surveillance device connected to the operations room of the State Forestry Corps and the construction of a heliport for emergency operations of the Civil Defence Corps.

The 9.6 million euro needed for the upgrading effort were financed with European Community Funds from the National operating Program “Security for the Development of Southern Italy” 2000-2006.

The subject implementing the initiative is the Ministry of Internal Affairs-Department of Public Security, through the Special Government Commissioner for the management of the areas in the territory of Castel Volturno. The State Forestry Corps manages the project.

The initiatives have made possible the clean-up and reinforcement of security in the pine grove, along with the construction of 4 pedestrian walkways leading directly to the beach, the creation of extensive areas with play equipment for youngsters, a picnic zone and an area set aside for schools, located inside the pine grove and equipped for the physical-education or recreational activities of the students. The overall result has been the restitution to the citizenry of an important area of greenery, plus the elimination of the criminal activities that threatened security.

The project, and especially the improvement of security conditions, will benefit not only the 20 thousand inhabitants of the area, but also those engaged in tourist, real estate and commercial activities along the Domitian coast – such as beach establishments, hotels and restaurants – resulting in an upgrading of the entire area. The total number of people who use the pine grove is estimated at 5 thousand.

The reclamation effort and the reinforcement of security was completed in 2003; by the end of 2005 the remaining upgrading initiatives will be completed.
In order to increase the rapidity and improve the effectiveness of projects, Law no. 443 of 2001 (the so-called "Objective Act" empowering the Government to take action with regard to infrastructures and strategic production facilities, as well as other initiatives for the revival of production activities) has introduced the figure of the "General Contractor", meaning the overall project manager. Between the end of 2002 and the year 2004, the General Contractor was assigned two maxi-lots of the Salerno-Reggio Calabria highway, for a length of 60 kilometres; a third maxi-lot, at a length of 20 kilometres, was assigned in February of 2005. The portion of highway involved in these projects were among the most complex, in terms of engineering, and required, both on account of the geo-morphological layout of the terrain and considerations of environmental impact, the construction of 26 new tunnels and 48 new viaducts. It also proved necessary to enlarge other tunnels and viaducts: of particular note was the Sfalassà Viaduct, which runs above the town of Bagnara and is set apart by its 376-metre-wide span, making it one of the most important engineering works in the Italian and European roadway system.

The overall cost of all the initiatives is 4.83 billion euro. Of this amount, 2.305 billion is earmarked for the construction of 3 maxi-lots (1.733 billion funded under the "Objective Act" and 572 million from the supplementary national resources of the Fund for Under-Utilised Areas). The earlier financing had been charged to the different spending acts, as well as to the Program for 1994-1999 and the National Transportation Operating Program for 2000-2006, plus the three-year ANAS plan for 2002-2004.

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The lack of a valid alternate route along the entire length of the Salerno-Reggio Calabria highway makes it a connection that draws all the commercial and civil traffic moving between the northern and southern portions of Italy. In addition to serving as a major connecting route, the A3 Highway also absorbs much of the local traffic: use even for brief journeys, the Highway lessens the congestion on the secondary roadways, especially in the areas of Salerno, Cosenza and Lamezia Terme. Based on analyses drawn up using projections up to 2010 and 2020 from the traffic volumes actually recorded, the use of a third lane solely for the Salerno area, where approximately 30 thousand vehicles travel daily, proved to be economically viable.

In addition to the flows of traffic engaged in long and short trips, the highway absorbs, during the summer period, a large amount of seasonal passenger traffic, concentrated in the months of July and August. The modernisation will also benefit freight transportation, which is less subject to the seasonal factor, and thus far more constant.

The financial resources guaranteed to date make possible completion of the planned work on 64 percent of the entire route by the end of the year 2008.
Circulation of traffic in the tourist zone of Campitello Matese

The initiative was designed to improve the system of roadway infrastructures, formerly extremely difficult to travel, that make possible access to and use of the Molise ski complex of Campitello Matese, located at an altitude of 1,430 metres above the sea and extremely popular during the winter months, when a daily average of 15 thousand presences is registered. The renovation of the road between Campitello and Sella del Perrone, which connects the tourist district in the province of Campobasso to the mountainous massif of the Matese area in the Campania Region, has resulted in the expansion of the roadway, the renovation of the surface, the installation of protective mesh against falling rocks, the improvement of the roadway signals and the installation of a guardrail.

The work, financed with the European Community Funds of the Regional Program for 2000-2006 of the Molise Region, cost a total of approximately 1.4 million euro.

Carrying out the project is the 'Matese' Mountain Community, while the manager is the Provincial Government of Campobasso.

The road from Campitello to Sella del Perrone allows excursionists arriving from the Matese area in the Campania Region to save roughly an hour over the time they formerly needed to make the trip, when they would travel from Naples to Caianello. The initiative, designed primarily to favour winter tourism, has contributed to increasing both the quantity and the quality of tourist offerings in the area throughout the year: in fact, many sports can be practiced in Summer, and there are a large number of nature trails on which to hike. The Summers of 2003 and 2004 showed sharp growth in off-season tourism to the site, to the point where the "Del Caprio" chairlift, which reaches an altitude of 1,800 metres, was reopened for use during the summer. During the period of June to September 2004, the Campitello Matese Consortium proposed a new summer program entitled "a Mountain of Pleasure", featuring cultural, social and sporting initiatives, including events of national acclaim.

The most recent figures show an increase in hotel stays, calculated at from 25 to 30 percent, plus an increase in chairlift revenues on the order of 35 percent, with a 45 percent increase in the resulting passages. The great majority of hotel guests, apartment owners and one-day tourists were found to come from Campania, meaning that their arrival was facilitated by the improvements in the connecting route. For the last two years, a chalet has been open along the road, attracting, in both winter and summer, a healthy number of enthusiasts of the mountains, Open-air tourism and local wine and food. The renovation of the roadway infrastructure has also benefited the other commercial enterprises located in the tourist area, as well as companies that supply services, plus local enterprises active in rural tourism and agro-tourism and in the offer of additional sporting activities (horseback riding, quad and mountain bikes).

The project was concluded in 2002.
Modernisation of Bari’s Palese Airport

The airport currently in operation was built in 1981 and originally designed for cargo transport. In 1990 the structure was expanded and the runway was lengthened. In response to increased passenger traffic and the need to equip the structure with adequate security services, a radical modernisation of the airport has been underway since the year 2000. The various projects are designed to lead to the construction of a new passenger airport, a new access roadway system and a multi-floor parking facility, together with an expansion of the aircraft parking and taxiing aprons, plus a new system for controlling the baggage in aircraft holds and modernisation of the ATC (Air Traffic Control) and AVL (Lighted Visual Aids) systems, not to mention the restructuring and reinforcement of the computer systems.

The project, which is part of the Framework Program Agreement for Air Transport signed in 2003, has an overall cost of 132.2 million euro and is financed with state resources (53.2 million euro), European Community Funds from the National Transportation Operating Program for 2000-2006 (62.3 million euro) and supplementary national resources from the Fund for Under-Utilised Areas allocated to the Apulia Region (16.6 million euro). Construction of the multi-floor parking facility is financed with the finds of the operating company.

Implementation of the initiatives (which have been approved by the ENAC – National Civil Aviation Agency) is the responsibility of SEAP S.p.A. – the company that operates Apulia’s airports – with the exception of the two initiatives for modernisation of the ATC and AVL systems, which are to be carried out by ENAV S.p.A. – the National Flight Assistance Enterprise. Management of the airport services is handled by SEAP, while ENAV S.p.A. manages the control tower.

The new passenger airport will be arrayed on five floors, with a total surface area of 29 thousand square metres (compared to the current 4,950). The work will improve access to the entire airport structure, reinforce the parking facilities and establish an adequate number of ground services, as well as an adequate level of flight security and passenger and baggage control. In the future, the old airport will be reconverted to its original function as a cargo terminal.

Following a fair amount of growth in passenger traffic (from approximately 700 thousand in 1992 to roughly 1 million and 500 thousand in 2003, for an average of 63 flights a day by 30 different airlines), the new airport has been designed and sized to absorb traffic of more than 2 million passengers, making possible further increases in the future.

The new air terminal was opened on 31 March 2005. The other projects will be completed by the end of 2006.
Metropolitan railway connection between Bari’s San Paolo Quarter and the city centre

The new metropolitan railway connection is meant to reduce the considerable distance that currently exists between Bari’s San Paolo Quarter and the centre of the city, creating the conditions for an effective integration of modes of transport. The connection is linked at kilometre 4.153 of the current Bari-Barletta line, at the Lamasinata Station, from which it branches off with a pair of independent tracks. The line will be electrified, as will the remaining portion of the existing line, and will run for approximately 1 kilometre on an elevate track, then for less than 2 kilometres in a viaduct, travelling the remaining distance (slightly more than 3 kilometres) in an artificial tunnel, an option that reduces the visual and acoustic impact and permits full utilisation of the urban areas through which the infrastructure passes. Travel time will be approximately 15 minutes and 4 new stops are planned.

The cost of the initiative is 73 million euro, with 15 million financed under the European Community of the Program for 1994-1999 and 20 under the European Community Funds of the Regional Operating Program of 2000-2006 form the Apulia Region.

Ferrotroviriaria S.p.A., the company with the concession to operate the existing Bari-Barletta network.

The new metropolitan railway will remedy the shortage of infrastructure connections that currently characterises the San Paolo Quarter while shortening travel time. At present the distance between the quarter and the city centre takes roughly 35 minutes to travel by public transportation, while private vehicles employ no less than 25 minutes. It is estimated that the metropolitan railway transport will absorb approximately 20 percent of the private traffic and 70 percent of the public traffic. Trains are to run every 15-20 minutes in each direction during the periods of peak traffic, though the line could potentially handle trains at intervals of 3 minutes.

The infrastructure will be of particular interest to the residents of the San Paolo Quarter, who currently number approximately 40 thousand, as well as to the citizens who must reach the San Paolo Hospital, located a short distance from where the infrastructure being built passes. The distance between Bari’s Central Station and the Hospital stop is approximately 9 kilometres, which will be travelled in roughly 13 minutes. The connection also represents a new opportunity for employment, both direct (specialised personnel working on the construction and the maintenance of the infrastructure and the trains, engineers) and ancillary (services offered for passengers in and around the new stations). It is estimated that the service, at full operating capacity, will employ 36 workers. Given the improved connection to downtown Bari, the new infrastructure should also occasion further economic growth of service-industry activities in the San Paolo Quarter.

The work is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2005.
The project calls for construction of a light tram system in the urban area of Sassari, with future plans for extension of the system to reach the existing railway routes that currently connect Sassari to Porto Torres, Nulvi, Alghero and Sorso. The initiative, which can be carried out through a modular approach, is subdivided into 5 lots of work: the first three lots will cross the city’s urban core, travelling a distance of approximately 11 kilometres, while the fourth and the fifth lots will regard the electrification of the Sassari-Sorso and Sassari-Alghero lines, in order to upgrade them to suburban light subway lines. New Sirio trams, 28 metres in length, each able to hold approximately 200 riders, and designed to guarantee easy use by the handicapped as well, will be used on the entire metropolitan network. A computerised traffic supervision system will make it possible to control and optimise circulation of the trams along the entire line, while the use of a single rail and other technical features will limit the impact of the work in terms of occupation of land, noise and vibrations.

The overall cost of the project is approximately 120 million euro, financed under the Regional Operating Program for 2000-2006 of the Sardinia Region, and under Law no. 402 of 1994, a measure falling under regional responsibility.

The subject that implements and manages the initiative is the Ferrovie della Sardegna, the railway authority for Sardinia.

With a carrying capacity of approximately 800 people (during period of peak traffic, three Sirios will be used together) and a frequency of approximately 15 minutes, the project shall increase the supply of local public transportation by 36 percent, reducing the congestion of city traffic and making possible a significant shortening of the time needed to travel the sections serviced by the light subway. When the line has been fully competed, the average time saved will be approximately 10 minutes for users of public transportation and 7 minutes for those who switch from a private motor vehicle to public transportation.

The potential user basin consists of the approximately 120 thousand residents of the City of Sassari, plus 45 thousand local users, thanks to the extension of the line to Alghero and its airport. The tram system – connected with other sections of railway routes and reinforced in terms of its frequency – is suitable for intercepting, when in full operation, a potential pool of tourist users not that far removed from 5 million passengers a year.

The conclusion of the work is scheduled for 2008. The first functional lot is completed and shall be placed in operation in June of 2006. Performance tests are currently underway.
Modernisation of air traffic control at the Olbia Airport

The project is part of the larger effort to expand and upgrade Olbia’s “Costa Smeralda” Airport. This effort involves the construction, on a total surface area of approximately 1,700 square metres, of a new ENAV complex consisting of a technical-administrative portion and an operating portion that includes a control tower and a room for the management of flight plans and weather information. Two equipment rooms have also been built to house flight-assistance systems (two-way radios, recording, radio equipment etc). Together with the installation of the new infrastructures, a new approach-radar system will be placed in operation, the fixed and mobile radio systems will be modernised, and all the systems for presenting information will be technologically renovated.

The cost of the modernisation is approximately 24 million euro, financed with the European Community Funds of the National Operating Program for Transportation of 2000-2006, and with national resources drawn from the rotating fund referred to under Law no. 183 of 1987.

ENAV S.p.A. – the company in charge of flight assistance in Italy.

The new structures will make possible significant operating advantages in terms of safety, increased integration of airport system data and improved working conditions for operators. The new control tower, approximately 42 metres high, will contain a surface area of 120 square metres, making it the third largest operations room in Italy, after those at the Malpensa Airport and in Bologna. The workstations are equipped with radar screens and multifunction terminals for weather and aeronautical information. The Olbia Airport, equipped with a dedicated radar antenna that provides radar service for approaching flights and flights leaving the airport, as well as for over-flights, is integrated with the radar system of the Area Control Centre in Rome.

The initiative will benefit the users (private citizens and businesses) of the “Costa Smeralda” airport transport service, which handles approximately 32 thousand movements a year (including take-offs, landings and over-flights), with peaks of 340 a day during the summer period.

The main structures have been operative since June of 2004.
Expansion and upgrading of Catania’s Fontanarossa Airport

The need to expand the airport arose following the noteworthy increase in passenger traffic registered in recent years. The current air terminal, whose dimensions were set at the end of the 1970’s for 800 thousand passengers a year, totalled more than 4.8 million transits in 2003 (+18 percent, compared to 2002), with an average of 149 daily flights by 162 different air-travel companies. The new airport, designed to guarantee an elevated level of quality (IATA level “B”) while improving the service offered to passengers and to airport operators, shall occupy a total surface area of approximately 40 thousand square metres, compared to the current 9 thousand. The project also calls for initiatives to improve passenger comfort, as well as work designed to raise the level of operating security, such as: enlargement of the air terminal through the construction of a building adjoining the current structure; restructuring of the car-park facilities and improvement and improvement of the access roads; the construction of new aircraft parking aprons; improvement of the performance and the security characteristics of the flight infrastructures, with the installation of roller ways, belts and a system for controlling baggage in aircraft holds, plus modernisation of the air-traffic control systems. In addition, two feasibility studies are to be drawn up for the construction of a new runway and another passenger module to add to the air terminal.

The project, which is part of the Framework Program Agreement for air transportation signed in November of 2001, has a total cost of 132.5 million euro and is financed with state resources (89.8 million euro), the European Community Funds of the National Operating Program for the Transportation of 2000-2006 (28.1 million euro), supplementary national resources from the Fund for Under-Utilised Areas allocated to the Region of Sicily (9.3 million euro) and funding supplied by the operating company itself (5.3 million euro).

The implementation of the initiatives (approved by the ENAC – the Italian Civil Aviation Bureau) is the responsibility of SAC S.p.A. – the Catania Airport company – with the exception of the modernisation of the Air Traffic Control systems, assigned to ENAV S.p.A. – the National Flight-Assistance Company. The management of the airport services is the responsibility of SAC, while the control tower is run by the ENAV.

The initiatives will improve the accessibility of the airport structure (access roads on two levels: departures and arrivals), reinforce the car-park facilities, establish an adequate number of ground services (registration counters, waiting rooms, boarding gates, stores, restaurants and bars). The levels of flight security will also be raised, in addition to the control of passengers and luggage.

The new air terminal is designed to sustain traffic of 6 million passengers year, making possible further increases in the future, beyond the current level of 4.8 million, which makes Catania Italy’s fourth largest airport.

The work on the new air terminal is scheduled to conclude in the second half of 2005. The other initiatives shall be completed by the end of second half of 2006.
Reinforcement of the operations rooms of the Police and the Carabinieri

The objective of the project is to increase the effectiveness of the actions of the law enforcement and emergency assistance units of the Carabinieri and the National Police in 30 provinces of Southern Italy through the use of new computerised technologies capable of increasing the capacity for managing events and the rapidity of intervention, plus, at the same time, the effectiveness of the crime-prevention structure. The new computer systems installed in the operations rooms are able to exchange information, making possible the activation of video-conference connections between operators (formerly equipped with radios and telephones), plus the rapid and effective modification of the positions of patrols. The interconnection of the operations rooms of the South has served as an example and stimulus for raising standards of security throughout Italy.

The cost of the project is 51.5 million euro, financed with European Community funds from the National Operating Program “Security for the Development of Southern Italy” 2000-2006.

Ministry of Interior Affairs – Department of Public Security.

The new technologies make possible increased coordination between law enforcement organs and immediate handling of emergencies, plus any type of request for intervention, including the viewing of maps showing the locations of sensitive objectives within the territory, plus the exact position of the resources of all the forces of the law. The operations rooms of the National Police Corps are also equipped with a computerised system that processes information on the interventions carried out and determines whether the security arrangement in place in the territory are appropriate, proposing new solutions for subsequent events.

At present the operations rooms of the National Police Corps and the Carabinieri are interconnected in 26 provinces out of 30, with benefits for all the residents (approximately 20 million people), who benefit from more rapid and focussed interventions on the part of the forces of the law. Finally, the project also involves cultural preparation and training in the use of the new technologies for approximately 3,800 personnel assigned to the operations rooms of units responsible for controlling the territory, as well as for personnel serving at the crime report offices of courts and stationhouses.

The final implementations will be completed by the middle of 2005.
Framework Program Agreement
The Framework Program Agreement (FPA) constitutes the instrument of implementation for the institutional program agreement in the sectors of intervention contemplated under the same. In particular, the FPA defines:
- the activities and initiatives to be undertaken, together with the timing and the procedures for implementation;
- the subjects responsible for the above and their obligations;
- the necessary financial resources, to be drawn from public funding or procured through private financing;
- the procedures and the subjects responsible for the monitoring and the control of the results.
The FPA is signed and enacted by the Regional Government and the Ministry of Economics and Finance, as well as the body (or bodies) of the Central Administration with jurisdiction, depending on the nature and the sector of the initiatives planned. Initiatives included in the FPA are financed with different resources: ordinary, national supplements for under-utilised areas, European Community and private.

Under-utilised areas
The definition (taken from art. 27, paragraph 16, of Law no. 488 of 1999 – the Budget Act for 2000) covers:
- the regions of Basilicata, Campania, Calabria, Apulia, Sardinia, Sicily, Abruzzo and Molise;
- the areas of Central-Northern Italy earmarked to receive European Community Funds under the present cycle of planning (Objective 2 Areas);
- the areas of Central-Northern Italy included in the earlier European Community planning, making them beneficiaries of the system of transitory support (phasing-out from Objectives 2 and 5b);
- the zones that are beneficiaries of state aid under the provisions of art. 87.3.c.

Program Contract
Program contracts may be proposed by large-size enterprises, by medium and small-size consortiums and companies and by representatives of industrial districts. The contract is stipulated by these subjects with the bodies of the State Administration responsible for the formulation, in given areas, of productive organic investment plans, which can be operative in a number of different sectors and include research activities and consortium management services.

EAOGF (European Agricultural Orientation and Guarantee Fund)
Created in 1962 for the purpose of financing the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). It is divided into two sections: the "Orientation" section contributes to financing projects designed to improve structures for the production, transformation and sale of agricultural products; the "Guarantee" section regards full financing of measures for supporting prices and stabilising markets.

ERDF (European Regional Development Fund)
Created in 1975, it is the European Community fund that promotes economic and social cohesion by correcting the main regional imbalances. The financing of the ERDF supports local development, research and technological innovation, plus the development of tangible and intangible networks, with respect for the environment and equal opportunity.

Structural funds
These are financial instruments managed by the European Commission in order to achieve economic and social cohesion in all the regions of the Union while reducing the gap between the more advanced regions and those suffering from delayed development.
The Structural Funds for 2000-2006 are the ERDF (European Regional Development Fund), the ESF (European Social Fund), the EAOGF (European Agricultural Orientation and Guarantee Fund) and the FIOF (Financial Instrument for Orientation towards Fishing). These are joined, in pursuit of the same goals, by the Cohesion Fund (reserved for Portugal, Spain, Greece and Ireland). The funding for the structural initiatives of the European Community budget for the period of 2000-2006 totals 213 billion euro, of which 195 billion are allocated to the Structural Funds, while 19 billion are earmarked for the Cohesion Fund. This amount represents 33 percent of the allocations for commitments in the European Community budget.
Fund for Under-Utilised Areas (FUA)
The 2003 Budget Act introduced measures that favour flexible and effective use of the supplementary national resources allocated to under-utilised areas. Two interconnected funds for under-utilised areas were established for the unification of all the instruments for financing of infrastructures and incentives managed by the Ministry of Economics and Finance (Laws no. 64 of 1986 and no. 208 of 1998 on public investments and incentives for independent businessmen and self-employed workers, bonuses for employment and tax credits for investments) and by the Ministry of Production Activities (Law no. 488 of 1992, territorial pacts, area contracts, program contracts).
The Budget Act did not establish the funding of the individual instruments (with the sole exception of the initial funding for the bonuses for employment), though it assigned to the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Economic Planning (CIPE) the task of stipulating which instruments, and to what degree and at what point in time, should be financed, given that the CIPE is able to transfer resources from one instrument to another.

ESF (European Social Fund)
Created under the Treaty of Rome (1957), it is the first of the Structural Funds. It is the instrument that provides support for measures designed to prevent and contrast unemployment, as well as for those meant to develop human resources and social integration on the labour market and promote an elevated level of employment, parity between men and women, lasting social development and economic and social cohesion.

European Community initiatives
These are initiatives that the European Commission proposes to the member nations in order to resolve problems affecting the territory of the Union. For the period of 2000-2006, the European Community initiatives are: Interreg III (financed by the ERDF, favours cross-border, trans-national and inter-regional cooperation), Leader + (financed by the EAGGF, favours rural development), Urban II (financed by the ERDF, favours the development of disadvantaged urban zones) and Equal (financed by the ESF, contrasts forms of discrimination in terms of access to the labour market).

Institutional Program Understanding
The Institutional Program Understanding (IPU) is the planning instrument that allows each regional government, or autonomous province, to reach an agreement with the central government on the objectives, sectors and areas in which to perform infrastructure initiatives of joint interest for the development of the regional territory.

Objective 1
Objective 1 is geared towards promoting the development and structural upgrading of the regions that show delays in development, meaning those regions with a gross per capita domestic product lower than 75 percent of the European Community average. In Italy the Objective 1 regions are: Basilicata, Calabria, Campania, Apulia, Sardinia and Sicily. The Molise Region is currently in phasing-out (transitory support), the treatment that allows former Objective-1 regions to gradually leave the system of European Community support, facilitating consolidation of the earlier structural initiatives.

Objective 2
Objective 2 is designed to sustain the economic and social retooling of regions with structural difficulties (socio-economic changes in the sectors of industry and the services, rural zones in decline, urban zones in difficulty, zones that depend on fishing and face crisis situations). Once again the objective is regional: the zones eligible for aid are identified on the basis of the percentages of the population set under the regulations (18 percent of the population of the European Union) and under specific socio-economic criteria.
In Italy: specific zones in the Centre-North.

GLOSSARY

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Objective 3
Objective 3 is meant to support the upgrading and modernisation of policies and systems of education, training and employment. This objective is the reference framework for the measures adopted in the new title on employment introduced with the Treaty of Amsterdam and the resulting European Strategy for Employment. Objective 3 is not regional: all the regions that do not qualify for Objective 1 are eligible for the aid.

Territorial Pact
The Territorial Pact is a agreement stipulated between different local subjects – businesses, local government bodies, industrial and labour associations etc. – for the purpose of identifying shares development objectives, as well as the production and infrastructure initiatives which, integrated with each other, are necessary to achieve the objectives.

Integrated Territorial Projects (ITP)
The ITP represent a specific mode for the implementation of initiatives co-financed under the European Community Support Framework for the Objective 1 Regions. They constitute a set of inter-sector activities, closely tied and consistent with each other, that point towards a shared objective of territorial development, justifying a unified approach to implementation.

Operating Program
This is the document for the implementation of the European Community Support Framework. It provides a detailed description of the priorities of the CSF, consisting of initiatives that take the form of multiyear measures. In Italy, the CSF of 2000-2006 for the Objective 1 Regions contemplates 14 operating Programs: 7 ROP (Basilicata, Calabria, Campania, Apulia, Sardinia, Sicily and Molise) and 7 NOP (Research, Schools, Security, Development, Transportation, Fishing, Technical Assistance). The programs are drawn up by the managing authorities (the Regional Governments in the case of the ROP, the Ministries in the case of the NOP) and approved by the European Commission. The planning for 1994-1999 (concluded on 31 March 2003) included the MOP, Multi-fund operating Programs.

CSF (European Community Support Framework) for the Objective 1 Regions
This is the document approved by the European Commission, in accordance with the member nation, that contains an overview of the initial socio-economic situation, plus the strategy for development, the priorities for action, the objectives, the distribution of the resources of the structural funds and the conditions for implementation. It is organised into priority segments of intervention and implemented by means of the Operating Programs. The CSF of 2000-2006 for the Italian Objective 1 Regions includes 7 ROP (Regional Operating Programs) and 7 NOP (National Operating Programs).

FIOF (Financial Instrument for Orientation towards Fishing).
Established in 1993, this is the instrument for the implementation of the Common Fishing Policy (CFP). It finances initiatives in the sector of fishing, aquaculture and the transformation and marketing of the related products. Its purpose is to contribute to the achievement of a lasting balance between fish resources and the fishing capacity of the fishing fleets.
Projects for Development
Second catalogue of infrastructures and public services carried out or being carried out in Southern Italy

Published by the Department for Development Policies
March 2005

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