

COUNTRY	Italy
<p>What is the present situation and future prognosis on demographic ageing in your country?</p>	<p><i>On December 31 2010, the resident population was 60,626,442. Foreign immigrants were over 4 million and a half (7.5% of the total population). The fertility rate is 1.4 children per woman. The average life expectancy is 79.4 years for men and 84.5 for women.</i></p> <p><i>Over the past ten years the share of persons 65+ increased from 18.4% in 2001 to 20.3% in 2011 (1.8 million). In 2001 there were also 1,234,000 people in the age of 85 and over (2.2% of the total). Today, they are 1,675,000 people in the age of 85+ (2.8%). The average age of the population was 41.7 years in 2001 and is 44 in 2012. It will be 50 in the year 2035.</i></p>
<p>What are the specific challenges faced?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Low activity rate and employment rate of older people, particularly among women</i></li> <li>• <i>Guarantee public pension system sustainability and adequate level of income for people over 65</i></li> <li>• <i>Improve health, access to sanitary and social services and long-term care for older people</i></li> </ul>
<p>Does the National Reform Programme (NRP) or other national programmes refer to active ageing and/or demographic change? If yes, please describe core issues of the ageing policy within your country.</p>	<p><i>According to the Ministry of Economy, the influence of age will produce an increase in public spending (pensions, health care, education and unemployment benefits) around 2 points of GDP in the period 2005-2060. After recession in 2008-2009, the share of public spending for pensions, health care and long term care is estimated to be stable for 5 years (around 24%) and then lowering to 22,9% in 2030. The maximum will be probably reached in 2047-2050 with 25%.</i></p> <p><i>The Government estimates that pension reforms which occurred between 2004 and 2011 will generate a reduction of the share of pension on GDP of about 60 cumulative point in 2050.</i></p> <p><i>In April 2011 the NRP reported sustainability of pensions, public health services and social benefits as core issues.</i></p> <p><i>In 2012 NRP highlighted the lower participation and employment rates of older workers, in comparison with EU and pointed out that their weak involvement in training and life-long learning programmes reduces their opportunities to remain or re-enter into the labour market.</i></p>

<p>Is there a specific Active Ageing Strategy developed within your country? If yes, please shortly describe the Strategy.</p>	<p><i>There is not a specific national Active Ageing Strategy</i></p>
<p>Does your country follow a combined policy approach (linking economic, social, health and educational policies) in the context of ageing? If yes, please briefly describe the multi-policy approach.</p>	<p><i>A first attempt to implement a multidimensional approach is currently under way within public health services. The starting point of this approach is a shift from a hospital-centric vision of health services to a new health-related socio-economic vision: according to this approach, the functional status of each elderly individual does not derive solely from age-associated health issues, but also from the interaction of pathologies with other factors such as economic, social (isolation and poverty), environmental, neuro-psychological and other objective conditions. Starting from this, the National Health Service aims at improving homecare services in order to maintain individuals within their original social and family environment.</i></p>
<p>Does the ageing policy of your country follow a cross-generational approach? If yes, please describe.</p>	<p><i>In June 2012 the Government launched a National Plan for the Family giving priority to larger households with minor children, households with persons with disabilities and/or non autonomous elderly, families with internal relationship problems.</i></p> <p><i>The plan envisages assistance and empowerment interventions, addressing in particular housing policies, measures aimed at enhancing fiscal equity, child care services, homecare services for non-autonomous persons, work-life balance measures, education support and support to immigrant's households.</i></p>
<p>Does the ageing policy in your Member State include other geographical foci than the national? If a multi-level approach is used in your country, please specify how the policy actions taken in respect of ageing at the different levels (regional, sub-regional, local e.g. county, district, municipality, etc.) are linked to each other.</p>	<p><i>Central Government is in charge of the labour legislation, the public pension system management and the establishment of minimum standards as concerns sanitary and social services, as well as of specific measures and programmes. Regional governments are responsible for active labour market policies and the delivery of social and sanitary services. This general share of responsibilities affects also ageing related policies.</i></p>

<p>Which specific policy actions are taken in order to (re-)integrate older people into the labour market?</p>	<p><u>Mobility allowance (mobilità)</u>: workers hit by collective firing, excluding temporary or seasonal jobs; a special list provided by Public Employment Services (PES) is complemented by incentives to recruitment; duration varies in relation to workers' age and firm's geographical location.</p> <p>In July 2012 a broad reform of the labour market has come into force, explicitly providing, among other things, measures for job reintegration and income support for workers over 50. The reform, while redesigning the whole Italian job protection system, provides incentives for hiring long term unemployed workers over 50 and specific pathways out based on agreements among social partners at enterprise level (beneficiaries: enterprises with more than 15 employees and workers who need 4 more years of contribution for retirement).</p> <p>The reform abrogated Mobility allowance, providing a period of phasing out for its beneficiaries. Similarly to previous legislation, longer duration of job protection measures and unemployment benefits addressing over 50 workers is confirmed (from 2016).</p>
<p>What specific policy actions are taken in order to retain employment for older workers?</p>	<p>Progressive enhancement of statutory retirement age and shift to a notional defined contribution system. Recent reforms will gradually introduce equal statutory retirement age for men and women both in the public and private sector (respectively 66 and 62 from 2012 and 66 from 2018). From 2009 it is possible to fully combine income from both work and pension.</p>
<p>What is done in your country in order to support SME's in respect of the demographic change?</p>	<p>There are not specific measures to support SMEs in respect of the demographic change. Single projects are promoted by regions and social partners at local and regional level.</p>
<p>Country's Best practice Example on Active Ageing</p>	<p><u>Confindustria Veneto Siav (employers association)</u>: since 2003 a number of age management projects were realized, funded by European Social Fund, Leonardo Programme, Equal and Grundtvig. Currently Leonardo Magister Project is under way, which is aimed at the business transfer between generations within family enterprises.</p> <p><u>Emilia-Romagna Regional Government</u> funded during last years interventions aimed at strengthen older worker's skills in order to retain them in the labour market, also supporting ageing population from an active ageing perspective. The interventions included the enhancement</p>

	<p><i>of employability/adaptability of workers by means of training programmes.</i></p> <p><i>In 2004 the Plan “A society for all ages. Regional action plan for the elderly” was launched. The plan does not cover any specific area of regional planning, but provides objectives and synergies aimed at an integrated development of policies in the perspective of active ageing. Its general purpose is thereby to help stakeholders (institutions, social partners and NGOs) to contribute to the improvement of public and private social services for elderly population.</i></p>
<p><b>Links</b></p>	<p><a href="http://www.siav.net">www.siav.net</a> <a href="http://www.regione.emilia-romagna.it/par/">www.regione.emilia-romagna.it/par/</a></p>
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