

Fueling Innovation: The Role of Funds in Shaping Italy's Ecosystem



June 26, 2025

10:30 - 14:00 CET



U.S. Embassy | Via Sallustiana 49, Rome



Recent amendments to the *Decreto Concorrenza* have created a transformative opportunity for Italy's innovation ecosystem, requiring **pension funds** to invest into **venture capital funds**. This pivotal change is set to unlock new avenues for **long-term growth**, fostering a dynamic and sustainable environment for startups and businesses alike.

As seen globally, pension funds, banks, and insurance companies play a crucial role in fostering innovation and economic development. Italy's new approach positions the country to benefit from a thriving ecosystem built on collaboration and investment.

Join us on **Thursday, June 26**, at the U.S. Embassy in Rome for an event hosted by the US Commercial Service in partnership with Plug and Play. Leading companies, pension funds, financial institutions, and public agencies will gather to discuss how funds can support innovation and strengthen Italy's ecosystem.

AGENDA

10:30	Registration
11:00	Welcome by the US Embassy <i>Caroline Chung, Principal Commercial Officer, US Commercial Service</i>
11:05	Plug and Play at a Glance
11:15	Introduction to PnP Italy's First VC Fund
11:25	Regulatory Landscape: Opportunities and Challenges <i>Federico Eichberg, Chief of Staff at MIMIT</i> <i>Gianmarco Carnovale, President at Roma Startup</i>
11:35	The Role of Pension Funds in Shaping the Future <i>Giovanni Maggi, President at Assofondipensione</i> <i>Maurizio Grifoni, President at Fonte</i> <i>Giuseppe Santoro, President at Inarcassa</i> <i>Piergiuseppe Mazzoldi, President at Fondo Pensione BCC</i> <i>Pierluigi Curti, Chief Financial Investment Officer at Enpam</i>
11:50	The role of institutional investors as Catalysts for Innovation <i>Matteo Tiezzi, President at Fondazione Modena</i> <i>Massimo Bottin, Senior Investment Manager at Fondazione CRT</i> <i>Francesco Marcolini, President at Lazio Innova</i>
12:10	Shaping the real economy – the transformative role of CDP VC's Rete Nazionale Acceleratori in the VC Pre-seed and seed ecosystem <i>Stefano Molino, Senior Partner CDP Venture Capital</i>
12:25	Fostering Innovation and Sustainable Growth in Europe <i>John McIlwaine, Senior Regional Representative, Italy and Rome at European Investment Fund</i>
12:40	Closing Remarks
12:45	Networking Lunch