

ITALY

1. Measures to accelerate progress towards the MDGs by 2015

In 2010 Italy established a roundtable of public and private actors involved in development cooperation activities to foster broader resource mobilisation for achieving the MDGs.

It also updated the programming guidelines and directions for 2011-2013. To help accelerate progress towards the MDGs Italy intends to concentrate its ODA on fewer countries and emphasizes specific MDG targets in recently approved and forthcoming sector guidelines. Italy has elaborated new guidelines on: poverty reduction, democratic ownership, communication, evaluation, decentralized cooperation, health, persons with disabilities and gender while others are in the pipeline in areas like education, minors, capacity development, agriculture, general/sector budget support, programme based approaches and use of country systems, and International organizations. These guidelines are designed to bolster Italy's efforts to making the MDGs achievable by 2015.

2. Changes in development policy, and what drives them

There has been no specific change to Italy's development policy in 2010. However, in addition to mobilizing more resources across the Italian aid system, the roundtable (see above) is attempting to establish a "whole-of-country" approach to development through action-oriented dialogue among different actors with a stake in development cooperation such as NGOs, universities, entrepreneurial associations, local and regional authorities.

3. Measures to increase the predictability of aid

Italy has worked to improve the predictability of its aid through the updated three-year programming guidelines (2011-2013). The country offices work with 3-year financial plans which are revised every year.