







## MANAGEMENT AND PRODUCTION ENGINEERING

## MUR DM 118 - Implementing NGEU: institutional & market capacities, organizational conditions & outcomes of implementation of Italy's RRP in comparative perspective

Funded By	MINISTERO DELL'UNIVERSITA' E DELLA RICERCA [P.iva/CF:97429780584] Dipartimento di Ingegneria Gestionale e della Produzione [P.iva/CF:00518460019]
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Context of the research activity	This project aims to build a framework for comparative analysis of the factors affecting the effective implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Plans – institutional capabilities of the PA, organizational structures to manage the RRPs and market demand capacity – and to relate such factors to impacts of NGEU in a subset of innovation, green, digital, health and education policies. The analysis will be carried out for Italy, compared to two other EU countries selected to maximize the scope for lesson drawing for the Italian PA. Progetto finanziato nell'ambito del PNRR – DM 118/2023 - CUP E14D23001760006
	Context of the research activity After Covid 19, the European Union has set up the Next Generation EU initiative – worth more than 800 billion euro – to fund the recovery of national economies, in particular through the Recovery and Resilience facility. NextGenEU is focused on six policy pillars: research and innovation; the green transition; the digital transition; the social and territorial cohesion; healthcare; and the improvement of human capital. Each Member State has had the opportunity to devise its own path to recovery and resilient modernization, by drawing up a policy planning instrument called national recovery and resilience plan (RRP). RRPs prioritize actions within and across the policy pillars, and consequently allocates the financial resources, according to the envisaged domestic needs and envisioned sustainable growth trajectories. Alongside autonomy in drawing up their RRPs, Member States have also had a high degree of autonomy in arranging the administrative structures to

implement their RRP. This has been done according to the peculiarities of each European political system, particularly its diverse administrative cultures and capabilities. The implementation of RRPs in different Member States may therefore be expected to vary according to several factors, including the existing institutional capabilities of the PA, the effectiveness of the organizational structures put to use to manage the RRPs, and market demand capacity on the part of firms and other policy takers of the specific projects and actions envisaged in the plans.

This project aims to build a framework for comparative analysis of the factors affecting the effective implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Plans – institutional capabilities of the PA, organizational structures to manage the RRPs and market demand capacity – and to relate such factors to impacts of NGEU in a subset of innovation, green, digital, health and education policies. The analysis will be carried out for Italy, compared to two other EU countries selected to maximize the scope for organizational and policy lesson drawing for the Italian PA.

## **Objectives**

To do so, the candidate will first help develop a theoretical framework for comparing PA performance in the implementation of EU funding streams, accounting for institutional capabilities, organizational structures and instruments, and market structure and capacity. Then, s/he will help develop a coherent research design, selecting 2 country or regional case studies in addition to Italy, and possibly 2 specific policy fields. This comparative design will test theoretically-driven expectations on the performance of public administrations using mixed methods approaches. Ultimately, the PhD dissertation resulting from this grant should make both a scientific contribution, advancing our knowledge of the 'production functions' of public administrations in multi-level, multi-constituency, highly conditional settings, and a practical contribution, identifying specific bottlenecks and potential solutions to bettering the operational capabilities of the public administration in Italy and elsewhere.

The project will collaborate with and contribute to the ongoing activities of the Italian School of Public Administration (Scuola Nazionale dell'Amministrazione, SNA). It also matches ongoing research at Copenhagen Business School on the implementation of NextGenEU.

Objectives of the research activity

The PhD research activity shall contribute to building a framework for comparative analysis of the factors affecting the effective implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Plans. The framework shall help relate such factors to the implementation of the NextGenEU initiative in a subset of innovation, green, digital, health and education policies, comparing the Italian case with two other EU countries. The PhD research activity shall contribute to increased knowledge and causal understanding of the mechanisms linking policy design to implementation to impacts in the implementation of EU or international funding facilities, and of the specific bottlenecks in such process. Thus, it shall help draw policy lessons and issue policy recommendations for Italy.