

## Press Release

### Trieste Welcomes Third Edition of Big Science Business Forum: Oct 1st - 4th, 2024

Europe's leading research infrastructures and businesses converge to promote the Big Science market

Trieste, Italy - May 28, 2024 - **Italy is set to host the third edition of the Big Science Business Forum (BSBF2024) in the city of Trieste from October 1 to 4, 2024**, at the Generali Convention Center in Porto Vecchio. Among the numerous scheduled initiatives, a packed program of meetings will culminate nearly two years of intense promotional activities between Italy and Europe. **There will be over 150 stands representing institutional participants and companies** from across Europe in the exhibition space. These significant numbers aim to surpass the success of previous editions in Copenhagen and Granada, which brought together about **1,000 delegates from 500 organizations and 30 countries** to discuss the future of the Big Science market.

**BSBF2024 is organized by ten leading European Big Science Organizations (BSOs): CERN, ESA, ESO, ESS, ESRF, European XFEL, FAIR, F4E, ILL, and SKAO**, with the support of **PERIIA**, the **pan-European network of national Industry Liaison Officers (ILOs)**.

**The bid to host BSBF2024 in Trieste was supported by the Autonomous Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia**, in collaboration with ILO Network Italy, composed of representatives from **CNR, ENEA, INAF, and INFN**, as well as **Area Science Park** in Trieste and **PromoTurismo FVG**. Therefore, the Big Science Business Forum 2024 will be a **business-focused event**, bringing together Europe's leading research infrastructures and international companies in high-tech and innovation sectors. The aim is to expand future prospects for creating a **European Big Science market**, including technological developments, economic investments, and facilitating entrepreneurial opportunities across the continent.

**To achieve this, BSBF2024 has launched a series of calls for proposals** over the past months, published on its [official website](#). These calls are the main tool for enabling European companies to connect and participate in the **European Big Science market**. This initiative has facilitated the involvement of new SMEs (26 selected from 14 different countries, including 2 from Italy) and the selection of other scientific organizations affiliated with BSBF (9 from 5 different countries, including 3 from Italy).

**Some calls are still open, such as the Technology Transfer Track Call ([TTT Call, deadline June 30](#))**, which will highlight technology transfer experiences and proposals within the **Big Science sector**. Another call aims to select companies that have already had multiple contracts with various BSOs to outline proposals for building a common **European market for Big Science**, the so-called **Big Science Common Market call ([BSCM call, deadline June 18](#))**.

**BSBF2024 in Trieste this October represents a unique opportunity** for live interaction among European companies and organizations to participate in a market valued at nearly **€10 billion annually**. These funds are managed through international public tenders directly by the BSOs according to specific rules and procedures, which participants will have the opportunity **to explore in-depth during the four-day event**.

Host Organisers BSBF Trieste 2024

Following the handover to the **Friuli Venezia Giulia Region** at the previous edition in Granada, BSBF TRIESTE 2024 was officially presented in [Rome on February 1, 2023](#), by Governor **Massimiliano Fedriga**, with regional councillors **Alessia Rosolen** and **Sergio Emidio Bini**.

Alongside them, as speakers, were Minister for University and Research, **Anna Maria Bernini**, Minister for Enterprises and Made in Italy, **Adolfo Urso**, Minister for Environment and Energy Security, **Gilberto Pichetto Fratin**, Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, **Maria Tripodi**, and the presidents of the National Research Council, **Maria Chiara Carrozza**, the National Institute for Nuclear Physics, **Antonio Zoccoli**, the National Institute for Astrophysics **Marco Tavani**, and Area Science Park **Caterina Petrillo**. Director of BSBF 2024 initiatives is **Paolo Acunzo** (ILO Network Italy, ENEA), in collaboration with **Ketty Segatti**, Deputy Director of the Department of Education and Research of the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region.

**The Big Science Business Forum has conducted a real roadshow across Europe** in recent months, in collaboration with the **Central European Initiative (InCE)**, with institutional meetings in **Belgrade** (February 27, 2024), **Bratislava** (March 20, 2024), **Prague** (March 21, 2024), **Warsaw** (April 16, 2024), **Budapest** (May 7, 2024), **Zagreb** (June 13, 2024), and **Ljubljana** (June 14, 2024), in the presence of **Italian ambassadors** and numerous stakeholders.

BSBF presentations have also been held in scientific, institutional, and entrepreneurial contexts throughout Italy and Friuli Venezia Giulia, including **IOD'23 – Industrial Opportunity Days in Naples** (June 2023), **Trieste Next** (September 2023), **Barcolana Sea Summit** (October 2023), **Confindustria Alto Adriatico** (November 2023), and **Confindustria Udine** (January 2024). Additional presentations took place at the **University of Tuscia** (January 2024), **IUPAP Industry & Education Projects** in Trieste (March 2024), and at the **Italian-Belgian Chamber of Commerce in Brussels** (April 11, 2024). The forum has also participated in international conferences such as **EPS Forum** in **Berlin** (March 26, 2024) and **Deep Tech Atelier** in **Riga** (May 17, 2024).

**Throughout 2023 and the first half of 2024**, the BSBF2024 organizing team has provided hundreds of European entrepreneurs the opportunity to visit the **major European Big Science Organizations**, including **Fusion for Energy (F4E)** at ITER Organization (Saint-Paul-lez-Durance, France, October 2023), **European XFEL** (Schenefeld, Germany, January 2024), **CERN** (Geneva, Switzerland, February 2024), and **ESA** (Noordwijk, Netherlands, March 15, 2024).

**Online webinars are available**, such as "[Women in Big Science Projects](#)," focusing on female presence in Big Science, and the presentation of **the call to host BSBF2026**, open to European governments, regions, or cities interested in hosting the next edition. [Registration for BSBF2024 is open on the official website](#), where more information is available: [www.bsf2024.org](http://www.bsf2024.org).

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Host organizers of BSBF Trieste 2024

