

Press Release

## Italy, Trieste: The Grand Stage of Big Science and Technological Innovation

*Over 1300 delegates attended the opening of the Big Science Business Forum, featuring the presence of senior leaders from the ten European Big Science organizations, culminating in the presentation of the Einstein Telescope project.*

**Trieste, Italy, October, 2, 2024.** The event was a resounding success, with great satisfaction expressed by the **Autonomous Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia** and top representatives from the ten leading European Big Science Organizations (BSOs). **Over 1300 delegates** participated in the opening of the third edition of the [Big Science Business Forum](http://www.bsf2024.org) at the Generali Convention Center in Porto Vecchio, Trieste.

*"It is a great honor for Friuli Venezia Giulia, and Trieste in particular, to host such a prestigious event as BSBF 2024. This region has historically been a hub of innovation and major scientific settlements, offering concrete professional opportunities to thousands of researchers. In today's international context, characterized by significant tensions, our geopolitical position must facilitate the convergence of large scientific infrastructures and the industrial world. We aim to be a place of dialogue between scientific diplomacy to affirm Europe's ability to drive innovation, increasingly strategic for every country,"* stated **Massimiliano Fedriga**, Governor of Friuli Venezia Giulia and President of the Big Science Business Forum, during the opening of the second day of the conference between science and business, held in front of a packed audience at the Generali Auditorium.

**Paolo Acunzo**, Director of BSBF 2024, also expressed his satisfaction: *"For the first time, we have brought together on the same stage the directors of Europe's Big Science organizations, such as **Xavier Barcons** of the European Southern Observatory (ESO), **Christopher Hartley** from CERN, Jörg Blaurock from FAIR, **Jean Dailant** from ESRF, **Philip Diamond** from SKAO, **Nicole Elleuche** from the European XFEL, **Mark Robert Johnson** from ILL - Institut Laue Langevin, **Marc Lachaise** from Fusion for Energy, **Carole Mundell** from the European Space Agency (ESA), and **Helmut Schober** from the European Spallation Source (ESS), who discussed potential developments for the European Big Science single market,"* said Acunzo. *"Another highlight of the convention was the joint presentation of the Italian and Dutch candidacies for the **Einstein Telescope project**, which is expected to receive international approval by 2026."* This ambitious project, positioned at the intersection of research and industry, aims to develop new expertise in various sectors, from cryogenics to electronics, and caught the audience's attention, explained by **Antonio Zoccoli**, President of the Italian National Institute for Nuclear Physics (INFN), and **Stan Bentelvsen**, Director of Nikhef.

*"I would like to thank the representatives of organizations and institutions for enabling the regional capital to become, during these days, the site of a global debate on research, innovation, and development, having supported the candidacy two years ago,"* highlighted **Alessia Rosolen**, Regional Councillor for Research. *"The backing of four ministries (Universities and Research, Environment, Enterprises and Made in Italy, Foreign Affairs) shows the broad range of internationally relevant topics that are addressed at this event."*

Host Organisers BSBF Trieste 2024

The event opened with welcome addresses from key figures in Italian research agencies. **Gilberto Dialuce**, President of ENEA, **Roberto Ragazzoni**, President of INAF, **Antonio Zoccoli**, President of INFN, **Stefano Fabris**, Director of the Department of Physical Sciences and Technologies of Matter at CNR, and **Caterina Petrillo**, President of Area Science Park, each highlighted the crucial role Italy plays in fostering innovation and driving scientific advancements.

**The intense program will continue until October 4**, with meetings on creating a common **Big Science market in Europe**, worth approximately €10 billion annually. In addition, the winners of calls promoted by BSBF 2024, including those dedicated to [ABSOs - Affiliated Big Science Organizations](#), and new SMEs involved in the Big Science market, will be announced. The closing day will focus on final plenary sessions, such as "[Women in Big Science](#)" promoted by the WBSBF Committee, and "[Career Opportunities in Big Science](#)"

So far, **1,840 applications from young researchers across Europe** have been submitted, with Italy ranking second in terms of representation. Thanks to BSBF 2024, the final day will be dedicated to these young professionals, with free admission upon registration.

Registered participants will also have the opportunity to visit research centers across Italy and Slovenia, such as **Elettra Sincrotrone Trieste** and KYMA; the **Jožef Stefan Institute** in Ljubljana; and **OGS**, the Italian National Institute of Oceanography and Experimental Geophysics. The day will conclude with the final plenary session: the handover to the organizers of BSBF 2026, led by **Alessia Rosolen**, Regional Councillor for Labour, Education, Research, Universities, and Families for the Friuli Venezia Giulia region.

### **BSBF 2024 Figures**

At least **1.300 delegates** from **500 organizations** will attend the forum, featuring **163 stands** with **245 exhibitors**, and **14 national pavilions**. **30 countries**, including **Italy, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Jordan, Latvia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Serbia, Slovakia (Slovak Republic), Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom, and USA**, will be represented. Furthermore, **1,840 applications** from young students and researchers in Big Science have already been collected from across Europe, with Italy ranking second in terms of representation, thanks to BSBF 2024.

### **Sponsors**

The **Gold Sponsors** of the event are [AVS Added Value Solutions](#), [DANIELI](#), [Fincantieri S.p.A.](#), and [illycaffè S.p.A.](#) The **Silver Sponsors** are [CADINOX, S.A.](#) and [GLP Intellectual Property Office](#), while the **Bronze Sponsors** are [DELTA-TI IMPIANTI S.P.A.](#), [Serco Italia SpA](#), [T-Systems International GmbH](#) and [Generali S.p.A.](#), with **Confindustria Alto Adriatico, V.A.T. and Leonardo**.

### **How to Participate**

Registrations to participate in the event are open through the [dedicated registration page](#). For more

Host organizers of BSBF Trieste 2024



information, the official **BSBF Trieste 2024** website [www.bsf2024.org](http://www.bsf2024.org) is always available, and the event app ([iOS](#) and [Android](#)) can also be downloaded.

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