

Finance on the road to sustainability: SRI Week to be back from 13 to 22 November

The 7th edition of the initiative promoted by the Italian Sustainable Investment Forum is one of the main events in Italy dedicated to sustainable and responsible investment

Press Release

Milan, 13 September 2018 – The 7th edition of the **Italian Sustainable and Responsible Investment Week** (or “SRI Week”) is running from **November 13th to 22nd in Rome and Milan**: the initiative, promoted and coordinated by the **Italian Sustainable Investment Forum** (Forum per la Finanza Sostenibile, or FFS) is made up of a series of events and conferences totally dedicated to SRI.

The programme includes **13 conferences** focused on some of the current and most relevant topics on sustainable finance, often through the **presentation of reports and studies**; for the occasion, FFS is gathering eminent Italian and international speakers, also thanks to the collaboration and support of important organisations and financial actors.

Traditionally, the SRI Week opens and closes in Rome with two conferences: the first one on **women SRI investors**, the second on the **attitude towards sustainable investment of pension plans** in Italy. Locations in Milan for all other events, opening up many opportunities for reflection and debate, in particular on the role of **SRI in emerging areas** and **in the packaging recycling industry**: both FFS’ research topics in 2018.

The events promoted by FFS, in details:

- **Rome, 13 November: “Women and sustainable finance: the situation in Italy”**

The SRI Week is making its debut in Senate with the presentation of a study conducted by FFS and Doxa on the attitude of women towards sustainable investment in Italy. The research is supported by Etica SGR, Hermes Investment Management and State Street Global Advisors. The conference is being attended by prominent female Italian personalities from the economic and financial sector.

- **Milan, 14 November: “Sustainable finance and circular economy”**

The schedule of day 2 includes the presentation of a report written by FFS and CONAI (National Packaging Consortium) on sustainable finance and the recycling industry: the publication is the result of a joint research project aimed at identifying guidelines for SRI investors and companies within the chain. The objective is encouraging a synergic collaboration between the two parts heading to the transition towards a circular economic model. The conference is being hosted at Palazzo Isimbardi, headquarters of the Metropolitan City of Milan.

- **Milan, 16 November: “AlpSib Talk”**

Organised by FFS and the Municipality of Pordenone at Cascina Cuccagna, the conference features an analysis of the potential of impact investing to support elderly people and NEETs (*Not engaged in Education, Employment or Training*). The initiative is part of the “Spazio Alpino” programme (promoted by the Municipality of Pordenone) within the European Interreg project AlpSib, aimed at connecting finance, institutions and the public sector organizations on one side, with companies generating positive environmental impacts on the other.

- **Milan, 20 November: “Sustainable investment in emerging areas”**

What could be the role of SRI in promoting a sustainable development in socially and economically disadvantaged contexts at international (emerging countries), national (South Italy) and local (urban suburbs) level? This topic is being discussed at Milano LUISS Hub for makers and student; the occasion is the presentation of a report promoted by FFS in collaboration with Acri and UNICEF and supported by Hermes Investment Management and Raiffeisen Capital Management. The project involved financial operators, non-profit organisations and institutions.

- **Rome, 22 November: “Pension plans and sustainable investment”**

The SRI Week is closing at the headquarters of INPS (the main social security and welfare institute in Italy), with a conference focused on the retirement sector; the event is featuring the presentation of the results of the fourth edition of the study on sustainable investment policies of the biggest Italian pension plans. The research was carried out by FFS in collaboration with Mefop and with the support of Coima SGR, DWS, Fondo Italiano d'Investimento and Vigeo Eiris.

Moreover, the SRI Week could not fail to include a **session dedicated to the European Union**: in fact, 2018 has been rich of interesting developments for the EU SRI market, especially with regard to the Commission's Action Plan *Financing Sustainable Growth* and the resolution by the Parliament. In order to show contents and outlooks for Italian operators, on **November 21st** FFS is organizing a high-level conference at FEEM Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei; the event is being attended by representatives of the Parliament and the Commission. At the opening, FFS is presenting the first data on the Italian SRI market collected within the *European SRI Study 2018*, the biennial research on sustainable investment in Europe coordinated by Eurosif – an association promoting sustainable finance in Europe, of which FFS is member.

Finally, for the fourth edition in a row **Saturday, November 17th** FFS and Associazione Hendel are proposing a **programme of cultural events** focused on finance and sustainability. The whole day is being hosted at **Palazzo Mezzanotte** (Borsa Italiana's headquarters) and is dedicated to cinema, concerts and workshops for children: the objective is to make a wider audience familiar to concepts and principles of finance filtered through the lens of sustainability.

FFS President Pietro Negri commented: *“Over the last year, the attention to sustainability criteria switched from a simple reporting tool to a working instrument for those who are in the governance of companies, according to their own perspective, tasks and responsibilities. The full integration of ESG criteria in the definition of strategic plans of companies, institutional investors and financial intermediaries is the next step to be taken to promote a sustainable and circular development of the economy. The Italian Sustainable Investment Forum, a reference point in Italy and a key player recognised in Europe, wants to confirm its role in order to support sustainable finance as an opportunity of cohesion and growth for the future”.*

“The 7th edition of the SRI Week comes at the end of a fundamental year for sustainable finance in Italy – Francesco Bicciano, FFS Secretary General, explains. – In the first place, the extraordinary growth of the market is characterized by highly innovative contents, tools and strategies developed by SRI operators. Sustainable finance is gaining a central role in the European context, which is characterized by a significant activism of the EU institutions in terms of policy, as proved by the swift elaboration of the Action Plan “Financing Sustainable Growth”. To FFS, it is very stimulating to assist at the dynamism of the Italian SRI market, which appears equipped to adopt proposals and hints coming from Europe. This process is reflected in a broader and active associative basis”.

For further information, please visit the official website: www.settimanasri.it

The 2018 edition of the SRI Week received the patronage of the Agency for Territorial Cohesion and the Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea.

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7th edition

Italian SRI Week

13 > 22 November 2018



*Agenzia per la
Coesione Territoriale*



Under the patronage of

The Italian Sustainable Investment Forum

The Italian Sustainable Investment Forum (Forum per la Finanza Sostenibile, or FFS) was founded in 2001. FFS is a not for profit multi-stakeholder association: its members are financial actors and other organisations interested in the environmental and social impacts of financial activities. FFS' mission is to promote the awareness and the strategies linked to sustainable investments, with the aim to encourage the integration of environmental, social and governance criteria into financial products and processes. FFS is a member of [Eurosif](#), the association for the promotion of sustainable investment in the European market.

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