

The **University of Catania** is the recipient of research funding at international and national level and it has a long-term involvement in different research programs, both as a coordinator and/or a partner. It also encourages scientific research activities carried out in all departments, by providing research grants for young fellows and reserving a certain amount of its resources to fund research projects.

As far as the internal management of research is concerned, great importance is given to an objective assessment of the scientific research works through the “Catalogo di Ateneo”, a list of scientific publications which is yearly updated.

University’s internal funding is, in fact, assigned according to the scientific value of the publications.

With reference to the International research, the University participates actively in the Framework Programmes of European Union for Research and it has about two hundred scientific partnerships with Italian and European institutions within the most recent European programmes.

As far as the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) is concerned, the University of Catania is currently participating to 41 Projects in different scientific fields. It also takes part to several Marie Curie Actions, such as Reintegration Grants, International Outgoing Fellowship (IOF) and initial training Networks (ITN). Moreover, it is a partner of five ENIAC Joint Undertakings Project and one IMI Project (Innovative Medicines Initiative).

The University of Catania takes part in many other European programmes (such as LIFE Programme, INTERREG III-A, INTERREG IV-C, Italy-Malta Programme, IINTERREG MED, Programme ENPI Cross-border Cooperation – CBC MED, ENPI Italy – Tunisia) and various international initiatives aimed at the support of research and international mobility. It also participates in many national and regional research programs, such as FIRB (Italian Fund for Basic Research), PON (National Operational Program), POR (Regional Operational Program), PRIN (Research Programs of National Interest) and other sectorial initiatives.

The University of Catania is strongly committed to implement European Union policies aimed at the development of scientific careers and international mobility of researchers: in 2008 it was one of the three Italian Universities which organised the Researchers’ Night, thanks to the EU contribution within the Framework Programme 7. The event was successfully repeated in 2011.

Moreover, the University of Catania, through its Research Office, is one of 17 the Italian Mobility Centres participating to the EURAXESS project, a network created by the European Commission to support international mobility and careers’ development of researchers.

Catania University pays a great attention to the exploitation of research results and it, currently, has 19 patents and 11 spin-offs.

**Major fields of research interest:**

- Health demographic change and wellbeing;
- European Bioeconomy Challenges: agrofood security, sustainable agriculture and Forestry, Marine and Maritime and Inland water research;
- Secure Clean and Efficient Energy;
- Smart green and integrated transport;

- Climate Action, Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials;
- Europe in a changing world Inclusive, innovative and reflective societies;
- Space and astronomy;
- Secure societies – protecting freedom and security of Europe and its citizens;
- Restoring preserving and valuing and managing the European Cultural heritage (tangible and intangible) creativity;
- Digital Agenda.