

CEB and Cassa depositi e prestiti sign €350 million loan agreement to support Italy's earthquake-stricken areas

Rome, 12 January 2018 – The Vice-Governor for Financial Strategy of the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB), Mr Carlo Monticelli, and the Chief Executive Officer of Cassa depositi e prestiti (CDP), Mr Fabio Gallia, signed today a €350 million loan agreement to support reconstruction projects in central Italy areas struck by devastating earthquakes in 2016 and 2017.

The powerful earthquakes that hit the Central Italian regions of Abruzzo, Lazio, Marche and Umbria between August 2016 and January 2017 killed 299 persons, left another 40 thousand persons homeless and caused considerable damage to over 60 thousand dwellings in an area spanning 80 thousand km².

The funds provided by the CEB will contribute to ongoing reconstruction efforts. They will be channelled through financial intermediaries under CDP's "*Plafond Sisma Centro Italia*" APEX facility to individuals and companies that suffered damage, in order to finance repair, restoration and reconstruction work.

The agreement was signed in the presence of Italy's Minister of Economy and Finance, Mr **Pier Carlo Padoan**, and the Extraordinary Commissioner for Reconstruction, Ms **Paola De Micheli**, at the Ministry of Economy and Finance in Rome.

"This loan reaffirms the CEB's firm commitment to supporting vulnerable people in need," said CEB Vice-Governor **Monticelli**. "Providing aid to the victims of natural disasters and responding in an effective way to emergency situations is at the heart of the CEB's social mandate and in line with the Bank's activity as an instrument of European solidarity. Working with CDP, a valuable CEB partner in Italy, will ensure that the funds provided by the Bank will reach thousands of earthquake victims in remote areas of central Italy, helping those affected to return to normality as soon as possible."

We, at the CEB, look forward to continuing our excellent cooperation with CDP and the Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance in the future.”

Cassa depositi e prestiti Chief Executive Officer **Gallia** stressed: “With the agreement signed today, CDP strengthens its commitment to helping families and businesses from Central Italy hurt by the earthquakes. We’ve allocated around €5 billion for the reconstruction of damaged buildings and guarantee more financial flexibility for the companies, allowing for the delay of tax payments. The agreement, developed in close collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance, reinforces the efficiency of these initiatives, by taking advantage of sharing national and European resources. An initiative in the context of growing collaboration with CEB in the development of CDP’s support of social economy.”

With this agreement, the CEB and CDP are strengthening their cooperation aimed at supporting social development projects in Italy. In 2016, the Bank approved a €150 million loan in support of CDP’s APEX facility *“Plafond Beni Strumentali”* for MSME productive asset financing.

For further information

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CEB: Set up in 1956 as a major instrument of solidarity in Europe, the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) today has 41 member states. The Bank finances social projects by making available funds raised in conditions reflecting its excellent rating. It grants loans to national governments, financial institutions, and local authorities in its member states for the financing of projects in the social sector, in accordance with its social mandate. www.coebank.org

CDP: Cassa depositi e prestiti (CDP) is the National Promotional Institution that has supported the Italian economy since 1850. It finances public investments, nurtures international cooperation and is the catalyst for the country’s infrastructure growth. It backs Italian enterprises, helping them innovate and grow, while fostering their exports and international expansion. As the primary operator in social and affordable housing, CDP contributes to the growth of the Italian real estate sector and promotes urban transformation. CDP’s important stimulative role in Italy’s economy is evident in its 2016-2020 Business Plan. During this five-year period, CDP will inject EUR 160 billion, plus over EUR 100 billion through public and private funds, into the economy to help drive Italian growth. More info: en.cdp.it

CEB e Cassa depositi e prestiti siglano accordo da 350 milioni di euro per supportare le aree del centro Italia colpite dagli ultimi terremoti

Roma, 12 gennaio 2018 – Il Vice Governatore per la Strategia Finanziaria della Banca di Sviluppo del Consiglio d'Europa (CEB), **Carlo Monticelli**, e l'Amministratore Delegato della Cassa depositi e prestiti (CDP), **Fabio Gallia**, hanno siglato oggi a Roma presso il Ministero dell'Economia e delle Finanze (MEF), alla presenza del Ministro **Pier Carlo Padoan** e del Commissario straordinario per la ricostruzione **Paola De Micheli**, un accordo di **finanziamento da 350 milioni di euro** per supportare i progetti di **ricostruzione delle aree del centro Italia colpite dai terremoti del 2016 e 2017**.

Le risorse, messe a disposizione da CEB, confluiranno nel Plafond Sisma Centro Italia di CDP e saranno destinate, attraverso intermediari finanziari, a famiglie e imprese per i lavori di riparazione, restauro e ricostruzione dei territori colpiti.

L'accordo rafforza ulteriormente la collaborazione tra CEB e CDP a supporto di progetti di sviluppo sociale in Italia. Già nel 2016, CEB ha approvato un finanziamento da 150 milioni di euro per ampliare la dotazione del Plafond Beni Strumentali di CDP destinato al finanziamento delle attività produttive delle micro, piccole e medie imprese italiane.

“Questo finanziamento conferma l'impegno della CEB a sostenere le fasce più deboli della popolazione”, ha dichiarato il Vice Governatore per la Strategia Finanziaria di CEB **Monticelli**. “Fornire aiuto alle vittime dei disastri naturali e dare una risposta efficace alle situazioni di emergenza rappresentano l'attività principale della CEB, in linea con il suo mandato sociale di strumento di solidarietà a livello europeo. La collaborazione con CDP, nostro rilevante partner in Italia, permetterà alle risorse stanziate di raggiungere migliaia di vittime dei recenti terremoti nell'Italia centrale, dando un aiuto concreto al ripristino della normalità. Noi di CEB ci auguriamo di rinnovare in futuro questa eccellente collaborazione con CDP e con il MEF”.

L'AD di Cassa depositi e prestiti **Gallia** ha evidenziato che “con l'accordo firmato oggi, CDP rafforza il proprio impegno a supporto di famiglie e imprese del centro Italia colpita dal terremoto. Abbiamo stanziato circa 5 miliardi di euro per ricostruire gli edifici danneggiati e garantire maggiore flessibilità finanziaria alle imprese, consentendo il rinvio del pagamento dei tributi.

L'accordo, sviluppato in stretto coordinamento con il MEF, rafforza l'efficacia di questi interventi, facendo leva sulla condivisione di risorse nazionali ed europee. Un'iniziativa che si colloca nel quadro di una crescente collaborazione con la CEB nello sviluppo della strategia di CDP a supporto dell'economia sociale”.

Per maggiori informazioni

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