

Italy in the European Chips Initiative

Round table at the Chips JU 2024 Information Day

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Enrico Macii

Politecnico di Torino

enrico.macii@polito.it

Round Table: Italy in the European Chips Initiative

- **Panelists:**
 - Luca De Angelis (MIMIT)
 - Francesca Galli (MUR)
 - Jari Kinaret (Chips JU)
 - Alessandro Matera (ANIE)
 - Enrico Sangiorgi (UniBo)
- **Moderator:**
 - Enrico Macii (PoliTo)
- **Format:**
 - 1 common question to all panelists
 - 2 specific questions to each panelist
 - 3 minutes for each answer
 - Final Q&A session (15 minutes)

Question to all panelists

The EU Chips Act offers a unique opportunity to European companies and RTOs to acquire a leading position in the world's semiconductor market.

- In your view, what should be the number one goal to be achieved by 2030 and the number one mistake to be avoided?

Specific questions to individual panelists

- Two rounds, 3 minutes per panelist.
- Order:
 - Jari Kinaret (Chips JU)
 - Luca De Angelis (MIMIT)
 - Francesca Galli (MUR)
 - Alessandro Matera (ANIE)
 - Enrico Sangiorgi (UniBo)

The Chips JU widens its scope w.r.t. its predecessors (KDT, ECSEL), becoming the point of reference of the entire European R&D&I landscape in semiconductors and microelectronics.

- Would the tri-partite funding scheme work for all the instruments that the JU will feature or a different approach may be needed?
- In particular, as the Chips JU perimeter will include also the initiatives formerly supported directly by the EC through the calls of the FP and targeting the lower TRLs, is a single funding model the most appropriate path to follow or alternatives should/will be considered?

Italy is making a significant effort to keep a central role in the development of all Chips Act initiatives.

- Do you think that our current legislation is sufficient to allow an effective implementation of instruments such as the PLs, the DP and the CCs?

The MUR will contribute to the funding of the PL.

- What are the plans for the more traditional activities (R&D projects), in particular, for what concerns RTOs and universities?

The Chips Act features an unprecedented amount of financial resources to support the growth and increase the competitiveness of the European enterprises in the semiconductor market.

- What are the real expectations of the industrial sector from the execution of the Chips Act?

CHIPS-IT, the new foundation for microelectronics design, established at the end of 2023 in Pavia, represents a unique opportunity for the Italian microelectronics ecosystem to boost its capabilities, both at the industrial and at the research level.

- What is the model that you plan to implement in order to involve as much as possible the players of such ecosystem?

Among the new instruments that the Chips JU is launching, the PLs are those that require the biggest investments by EC and Member States.

- How are PLs going to interact with/ and involve the industrial sector?

For the PLs, the DP and the CCs, the roadmap for financially sustaining the effort seems quite well defined.

- What are the plans for the more traditional activities (R&D projects), in particular, for what concerns the industrial sector?

The new calls for proposals by the Chips JU are even more complex than the already complex calls by the KDT JU.

- How is the MUR planning to face such an increased complexity in order to facilitate the participation of a larger number of Italian universities and RTOs?

Over 15 years of JTIs in the microelectronics sector have shown a limited involvement of industry, especially SMEs, in the funded projects.

- What actions, if any, are foreseen for enlarging the base of the beneficiaries of the Chips JU funding initiatives?

The recent call for Pilot Lines, and the upcoming call for the management of the European Design Platform, point to a virtuous model in which different players of the national R&D landscape are clustering together to aggregate the critical mass needed to face the challenges represented by large, pan-European initiatives.

- Are these single event occurrences or can they represent the birth of a stable collaboration model in which complementarity and synergy are featured by multiple actors of the Italian microelectronics ecosystem?

Questions/comments from the audience?

Thank you for attending the round table!!