



UK - Italy Springboard

Competition

The Department for International Trade would like to invite Italian start-ups and scale-ups to apply for UK - Italy Springboard.

Organised in collaboration with Intesa San Paolo and ITA Italian Trade Agency (ICE), UK-Italy Springboard is a business competition open to all innovative Italian start-ups willing to use the UK as a springboard to grow on the global stage.

With its dynamic business ecosystem and a strong start-up culture, the UK market offers outstanding opportunities to Italian companies and represents the stepping stone to international markets.

*The competition will be open until **Thursday 23 November 2017**.*

How to enter

To enter the competition, companies need to:

- Fill the application form (attached)
- Send an executive business plan no longer than ten pages. The Business Plan should include:
 - Date of incorporation
 - Mission Statement
 - Turnover from 2013 to 2017
 - Team structure and internal competences
 - Growth & Internationalisation strategy and reasons why your company is interested in the UK.

The competition is open to all Italian companies incorporated from 1 January 2012. An established presence or the interest to pursue business in the UK is an essential prerequisite.

The first round of selection will take place before Friday 24 November 2017. Shortlisted companies will be invited to attend the Business Bootcamp, a two-day mentoring programme to be held in Italy the fourth week of January 2018.

The final event will take place in London Tuesday 20 February 2018. Finalists will be invited to showcase their company and projects in front of an international jury which will choose three winners in three categories:

- **SETsquared Partnership Prize – Europe’s N°1 Incubator**

The prize includes a year’s membership of SETsquared supported through our University of Southampton centre at the Science Park. Membership will provide the winner with access to the extensive network of investors, corporates, world leading academic research for R&D and the opportunity to be selected for investment and open innovation programmes. SETsquared will help to springboard your business into the UK market, gain access to investment to grow your business and engage the corporates and partners with your products.

- **Italian Trade Agency Prize**

The prize entitles the winner to access exclusive Italian Trade Agency services for Italian investors in the UK.

- **DIT Creative Industries Prize**

The Department for International Trade Industries Prize includes:

- A tailor-made programme of business meetings in the UK with potential partners, competences and R&D centres.
- Sector specific market researches by DIT sectors specialists and experts.
- Information and support on incentives and funding opportunities in the UK (R&D, Patent box).

Terms and conditions

Participation to the programme is free of charge and is subject to a selection. All transport and accommodation costs will have to be covered by participants, unless otherwise described. The boot camp is not mandatory to move forward with the selection but it is an opportunity for participants to refine their business plans and get ready to pitch in front of international investors. All participants’ business plans will be considered for DIT Business support services. All applicants will receive an email confirming whether or not they have been selected.

The Department for International Trade reserves the rights to change the Initiative terms and conditions and in particular the description of the prizes offered due to changes of circumstances and to adapt the prizes to the need of the winner(s). DIT has also the right to extend and amend dates and deadlines as deemed necessary.

To submit your application please write to
ukitalyspringboard2018@gmail.com



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Privacy Statement.

We will process any personal data you provide in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. We will also comply with the Privacy and Electronic Communications (EC Directive) Regulations 2003. Under this legislation, we have a legal duty to protect any information we collect from you. We use leading technologies and encryption software to safeguard your data, and keep strict security standards to prevent any unauthorised access to it. We don't pass on your details to any third party or government department unless you give us permission.

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