



## RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES

### ALMOST 70 MILLION TO THE INFN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES

Eight research facilities affiliated with INFN, as applicant or partner, will receive almost 70 million euros in total funding from the PON [Italy's National Operational Programme for Research and

Competitiveness] "Research and Innovation 2014-2020" fund, as part of Italy's Ministry of Education, Universities and Research's (MIUR) National Programme for Research Infrastructure (PNIR).

In particular, the four projects that INFN applied and won funding for concern the research of rare events at the Gran Sasso National Laboratories, the development of underwater equipment for research in neutrinos physics and for biology and geophysics interdisciplinary studies, the development of infrastructure for managing scientific calculation and big data, and the development of a facility for the production of high intensity ion beams. INFN's partner facilities will mainly be concerned with environmental research activities: from studies into atmospheric pollution, to the study of marine ecosystems, to the distributed management of biodiversity data, to computation in bioinformatics.

PNIR, which is an integral part of the National Research Programme (PNR), provides investment in research infrastructure in order to further support basic research. PNIR thus influences the "research system" in supporting the development of competitive facilities, not only in relation to scientific and technological challenges but also economic and social ones, improving the overall quality of national research and increasing its competitiveness on the international scene. ■