

## Third Italian Nanotechnology Census

### Foreword

The strategic importance of nanotechnologies is recognized also in Italy since some time and the present AIRI/Nanotec IT Census of nanotechnology in Italy follows those published in 2004 and 2006, which provided a detailed overview of the rather intense and growing R&D activity in this field, involving both public research institutions and private enterprises.

This 3rd Census, reporting data for the period 2006-2009, confirms those findings and, in particular, the growing commitment in the field of industry. Private organizations now represent some 45% of all structures listed in the Census, up from the 20% of the first Census in 2004.

The picture does not pretend to be exhaustive, but certainly it's highly representative since the large part of those working in this field are present, so making of this document a source of information of reference for anybody working in this sector or simply willing to know what is going on.

It provides also the necessary knowledge base to build any action aimed to promote and support the development of these enabling technologies. The role of nanotechnologies in promoting innovation is recognized worldwide, and therefore it is fundamental that also in Italy there is a convinced and effective commitment at all levels to build a strong competitive position in the field.

AIRI/Nanotec IT wishes to thank all those that participated at the Census.

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