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## Italy

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### **Italian CREA receives ‘Human Resources Excellence in Research’ Award**

**Report Categories:**

Biotechnology - GE Plants and Animals  
Agriculture in the News

**Approved By:**

Fred Giles

**Prepared By:**

Ornella Bettini

**Report Highlights:**

On March 21, 2018, the Italian Council for Agricultural Research and Analysis of Agrarian Economy (CREA) received the Human Resources Excellence in Research award. The European Commission selected CREA for progress in aligning its human resource policies with the principles set out in the [European Charter of Researchers and the Code of Conduct of Researchers](#) adopted by the European Commission in 2005 to enhance working conditions for researchers across Europe.

## **Italian CREA receives ‘Human Resources Excellence in Research’ Award**

On March 21, 2018, the Italian Council for Agricultural Research and Analysis of Agrarian Economy ([CREA](#) – in Italian) received the Human Resources Excellence in Research award. The European Commission selected CREA for progress in aligning its human resource policies with the principles set out in the [European Charter of Researchers and the Code of Conduct of Researchers](#) adopted by the European Commission in 2005 to enhance working conditions for researchers across Europe.

CREA endorsed the EU Charter and Code in July 2016. Since then, it has been working to put those principles into practice by submitting a national [action plan](#) and [gap analysis](#) (on June 30, 2017), and a [strategy for open, transparent, and merit-based recruitment](#) (on October 11, 2017) to the European Commission for review and evaluation.

The award recognition reflects CREA’s commitment to make agricultural research an attractive career, crucial to boost Italy’s economic and job growth.

CREA is Italy’s largest agricultural research institute formed in June 2015 by a merger between the National Agricultural Research Council (CRA) and the National Institute of Agricultural Economics (INEA). CREA comprises 12 main research centers; 2,300 staff members; and, 5,300 hectares of experimental farms. The twelve research centers focus respectively on: genomics and bioinformatics; agriculture and environment; seed quality and certification; engineering and agri-food processing; food and nutrition; bioeconomy; grains and oilseeds; fruit trees, citrus, and olives; viticulture and enology; horticulture and nursery; zootechny and aquaculture; forestry and wood production. For more information, please see [GAIN Italian Agricultural Research System Overview](#) and [GAIN Agricultural Biotechnology Annual 2017](#).