

NOTA DE PRENSA

From Renewable Growth to Investment Viability: Italy Faces a Defining Moment in Its Energy Transition

More than 1000 professionals gathered in Energyyear Italy, Milan to discuss investment challenges, grid constraints and the growing role of battery storage in Italy's energy transition.

Madrid, 19 October 2026. The sixth edition of [Energyyear Italia](#) concluded on 15 October at UNA HOTELS Expo Fiera Milano, bringing together more than 1,000 professionals from across the renewable energy industry. For the first time, the event expanded to a three-day format, providing a platform for developers, investors, utilities, technology providers and financial institutions to address the challenges and opportunities shaping Italy's energy market.

Throughout the conference, discussions highlighted a common challenge: while Italy continues to attract significant renewable energy investment, translating project pipelines into operational assets increasingly depends on regulatory certainty, grid availability and sustainable business models.

Project Bankability and Grid Access Remain Critical Challenges

One of the central themes was the growing importance of project bankability in an increasingly competitive market. Higher financing costs, electricity price volatility and pressure on project margins are reshaping investment decisions, with developers and financial institutions placing greater emphasis on revenue predictability, construction costs and grid connection timelines.

Industry discussions highlighted that securing permits is no longer sufficient to guarantee project viability. Grid constraints, connection uncertainty and evolving regulatory frameworks remain significant obstacles to project execution.

The increasing penetration of solar energy has also intensified concerns about price cannibalization, reinforcing the importance of long-term Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs), portfolio diversification and hybrid solar-plus-storage projects.

At the same time, advances in solar tracking, agrivoltaics, engineering and digital asset management are helping the industry improve operational efficiency and protect long-term investment value.

Battery Storage Emerges as Strategic Energy Infrastructure

Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) took center stage during the second day, reflecting their growing importance in supporting renewable integration, grid flexibility and electricity system stability.

A major focus was Italy's MACSE mechanism, designed to accelerate the deployment of large-scale storage through long-term capacity contracts. Following the first auction in 2025, which awarded approximately 10 GWh of capacity, the upcoming [MACSE](#) auction scheduled for 24 November 2026 will target 16 GWh of storage capacity for delivery in 2029.

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The new auction represents an important milestone for Italy's storage market, with participants closely monitoring its potential impact on investment decisions, competition and future revenue expectations.

Beyond regulated mechanisms, discussions explored the growing relevance of merchant strategies, tolling agreements, energy arbitrage and ancillary services as complementary revenue streams.

However, industry representatives emphasized that regulatory visibility, reliable grid connection timelines and effective risk allocation remain essential to securing financing and delivering projects successfully.

Technology and Electricity Demand Shape the Next Phase

Technological innovation and the changing electricity demand landscape also featured prominently in the conference agenda.

Digitalization, advanced battery management systems and asset optimization tools are increasingly important for improving renewable energy performance and ensuring long-term operational reliability.

The event also addressed the growing electricity needs of industrial consumers and data centers, alongside the role of corporate PPAs, on-site generation and energy storage in securing reliable and competitive power supply.

Against a backdrop of electricity price volatility and continued exposure to gas markets, improving energy competitiveness while accelerating decarbonization remains a central challenge for Italy.

Three Days of Industry Collaboration and Networking

Beyond the conference programme, [Energyyear Italia 2026](https://energyyear.com/en/italia/) strengthened its role as a meeting point for the renewable energy community through dedicated networking areas, private business meetings, workshops and exclusive activities for sponsors.

The three-day format created further opportunities to exchange knowledge, establish strategic partnerships and explore new business opportunities across the energy value chain.

With more than 1,000 participants, the event closed an edition that reflected both the momentum of Italy's energy transition and the importance of collaboration in overcoming its remaining challenges. Energyyear Italia will return to Milan on 19–21 October 2027.

About Energyyear

Energyyear is an international networking and events platform dedicated to renewable energy and the energy transition. Its conferences bring together industry leaders to discuss market developments, strengthen strategic partnerships and support the growth of the global clean energy sector.

More information: <https://energyyear.com/en/italia/>

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