

An unprecedented budget for Fondazione Bruno Kessler

January 10, 2025

For the first time since its establishment, Fondazione Bruno Kessler has exceeded 100 million euros for its budget. The funding obtained will enable FBK to invest in new facilities and people: clean room and young talent are the priorities for the coming years.

Historic financial results for Fondazione Bruno Kessler (FBK), which for the first time since its establishment has exceeded 100 million euros in its forecast budget for 2025: an important milestone, reflecting its growth and solidity.

Ferruccio Resta, Fondazione Bruno Kessler's President emphasized, *"Thanks to the quality of our research work, leveraging the strategic initiatives of the European Commission and an increasingly strong network of national and international companies, today we are approving a budget of over 100 million euros, with more than 60 percent of funding coming from external sources. A psychological ceiling that shows the value of Fondazione Bruno Kessler's research and the work of our researchers. This result allows us to make significant investments to consolidate our position on advanced technologies, such as photonics and superconductors.*

The most significant investment – **82 million euros** – will be allocated to the growth of the **institute's Clean room**, which will expand from the current **1,400 square meters** to **2,000 square meters**, with the new infrastructure expected to be in place within 30 months. Currently among the first in Italy, FBK's clean room will be among the best in Europe, along with those of CEA LETI, Fraunhofer Group for Microelectronics and IMEC, in terms of budget, self-financing capacity, employees and clean room size.

The foundation's growth projects will consolidate its role as a reference for small and medium-sized companies as well, strengthening its role as a partner through which they can test high value-added solutions and processes, accelerating innovation and facilitating access to frontier technology solutions.

Finally, with the start of the new year, there will be plenty of investment in staff development, the growth of which will enable, especially young people, to face the challenges of the future with the right tools and, at the same time, enable FBK to strengthen its recognizability.

With these goals in mind, the Foundation intends to establish an innovative project dedicated to talents, the **Talent Development program by FBK**, designed for doctoral and post-doctoral students in particular, researchers, technologists, and young talents hired by the Foundation and involved in higher education, research, technology transfer and innovation projects. Through four customized professional growth, learning and development paths, the program will offer opportunities, experiences and content for personal fulfillment and the acquisition of new and distinctive technical and soft skills.

THE CLEAN ROOM

FBK's Clean room is a laboratory within the Micro Nano Facility, which specializes in the production of state-of-the-art sensors and is equipped with analysis, testing and development laboratories, where silicon slices are processed from which researchers obtain radiation detectors used in fundamental physics experiments for materials characterization and micro-nano-fabrication.

FONDAZIONE BRUNO KESSLER

Fondazione Bruno Kessler (FBK) is a research institute specializing in technology, innovation, humanities and social sciences, based in Trento, Italy.

FBK is a research infrastructure that has grown from the year of its establishment to the present day to accommodate a staff of more than 600 researchers and support staff, 180 doctoral students, 200 visiting professors and doctoral candidates, and 700 affiliates and accredited students.

Fbk hosts more than 70 foreign researchers coming not only from major European countries but also from non-European countries such as the United States, China and India, Brazil and Argentina, Algeria, Iran, Pakistan, Australia and Russia.

With the contribution of nearly 80 experienced researchers, FBK has directed its research toward experimenting with integrative, widespread and verifiable artificial intelligence.

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