



AL-Invest 5.0



PROMOS



CAMERA DI
COMMERCIO
MILANO



eurochile
FUNDACIÓN EMPRESARIAL



ProCórdoba
AGENCIA PARA LA PROMOCIÓN DE LAS EXPORTACIONES



SI.CAMERA

SISTEMA CAMERALE SERVIZI

EUROCHILE PRESENTS RESULTS OF THE MISSION TO ITALY

About the European Programme AL-Invest 5.0

The mission to Italy is framed within the "AL-Invest 5.0: integrating growth for social cohesion in Latin America" Programme, financed by the European Commission and led by CAINCO, Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Services and Tourism of Santa Cruz, Bolivia. The Programme, which is aimed at reducing poverty in Latin America through productivity growth and promotion of MSMEs sustainability, also seeks to support the development of Latin American MSMEs' associative and productive skills through interregional integration processes and social inclusion.

In particular, the mission to Rome and Milan was developed in the framework of the "AL-Invest 5.0 - Cross Clustering Initiative: A Strategy for the Development of Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) from Argentina and Chile in the mechanical and metallurgical sector", a project funded by the European Commission and jointly implemented by PROMOS - Chamber of Commerce of Milan, Si Camera - Sistema Camerale Servizi, Eurochile, the Argentine Agency PROCÓRDOBA and Eurocámara Argentina, which pursues the development of MSMEs and business organizations' productive, entrepreneurial, technological and associative skills in the advanced manufacturing applied to energy, mining, etc. and related fields.

Eurochile presented the results and lessons learnt from this mission during two seminars held in Santiago and Valparaíso.

Two seminars were held in Santiago and Valparaíso in the framework of "AL-Invest 5.0 - Cross Clustering Initiative: A Strategy for the Development of Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) from Argentina and Chile in the mechanical and metallurgical sector".

Increasing the bond between companies and universities to foster technological transfer and the importance of digitalization in production processes were two of the lessons learnt in a recent mission to Italy.

Eurochile presented the results of the mission to companies, entrepreneurs and local entrepreneurial organizations during two seminars, organized together with representatives of Adolfo Ibáñez University and ASEXMA (Exporters and Manufacturing Association) and held in Santiago and Valparaíso on 28th and 30th August, respectively.

The mission to Italy took place from 10th to 14th July 2017 and involved Chilean representatives in the study tour of clusters, industrial districts and incubators located in Rome and Milan. The mission to Italy had the objective to understand the functioning of the clusters system, industrial districts and cross clustering as part of the business structure of this European country, but also to establish contacts with companies and institutions and learn about technological innovation of the industry.

Ivonne Palma, Studies Director of Eurochile and participant to the mission, underlined the relevance which is given in Italy to the promotion of aggregation between universities, technological and research centres and productive sectors.

"In Italy, it is really important that research and technologies can reach the market and gain applicability", affirmed Palma. An example for that is "the fact that incubators are focused on determined sectors, allowing the actors involved to gather in one place".

This view was also shared by Luis Nilo, Project and Intellectual Property Office Director at Adolfo Ibáñez University - also participant to the mission to Italy - , who added that, apart from the differences in terms of connections between research centres, universities and companies, the organization is similar to Chile.

"Innovation and technological transfer patterns in Chile are recent and, clearly, aggregation with companies is still missing. To reach this objective there are technological transfer and licensing offices, technological transfer hubs in the universities, along with piloting centres. In Chile, the structure in terms of innovation is present, what is missing is the ability to occupy it", concluded Nilo.

In the end, Daniel Vargas, Technology Director of ASEXMA, underlined the necessity to include new technologies in order to optimize companies' internal processes. "For better or worse, industry 4.0 already arrived", said Vargas, emphasizing the necessity for companies to update their production processes transforming them from traditional to innovative, by including 3D technologies, simulations, etc. "Advanced processes are shorter and allow to spare time and money spent on raw materials and human resources, which can be used to improve productivity", affirmed Vargas.

Ivonne Palma also underlined that the mission to Italy gave participants the possibility to get an insight into the European cross clustering experience, which allowed SMEs from manufacturing sectors to work together within the clusters.