

WiFi4EU in Italy — EU-Funded Public Wi-Fi Reaches Over 1,000 Municipalities as the Scheme Nears Its 2026 Sunset

Digital Inclusion · Good practice · Italy

Quality score: 68/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

The EU's WiFi4EU scheme gave municipalities €15,000 vouchers for free public Wi-Fi; 5,051 Italian towns applied and about 1,010 installed hotspots at hospitals and schools. An independent study flagged patchy allocation rules as the EU-wide programme now winds down.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Innovation level	2/5
Sustainability (ongoing)	0/1
Evaluation evidence	1/1
Demonstrated reach	1/1
Documented learning	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-12

[European Commission \(DG CNECT / HaDEA\) with Italian municipalities](#) — accessed 2026-09-12

[European Commission — WiFi4EU country page: Italy](#) — accessed 2026-09-12

[European Commission — WiFi4EU for Municipalities \(EU-wide statistics\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-12

[Techno-economic analysis of WiFi4EU \(Telecommunications Policy, via ScienceDirect\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-12

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