## Il sesto programma quadro della ricerca europea ed il ruolo dell'Italia

F.P. Schena

## In brief

The sixth Framework Programme of the European Community for research activities is founded on two new elements, which are essential for the realisation of the European Research Area. They are the Networks of Excellence and the Integrated Projects. The Italian Government has recently approved the new Guidelines for the scientific and technological policy. They are based on four Axes, which involve basic and applied research for a total funding of 14.175 million €uro in three years. If this Programme is carried out, the Italian Research Community will further improve, both qualitatively and quantitatively, its scientific productivity. It should be pointed out that, in a recent review, the Institute for Scientific Information included Italy at 7th place in the international classification of medical research.