



# Financial needs in the agriculture and agri-food sectors in Italy

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Supply-side Analysis

Surveys with farmers and agrifood enterprises

Supply-side Analysis Interviews with banks

#### **Financing GAP**

Unmet financing demand, from viable enterprises:

- √ (i) lending applied for but not obtained
- ✓ (ii) lending offers refused by the potential borrower
- √ (iii) lending not applied for due to expected rejection

Calculation of the

Interviews with agriculture/agrifood stakeholders

- ✓ Telephone (CATI)
  survey 351 farmers
- ✓ Telephone (CATI) survey 200 agri-food enterprises
- √ 18 stakeholders interviewed

Financing Gap

By farmer/enterprise

Discouraged Refused

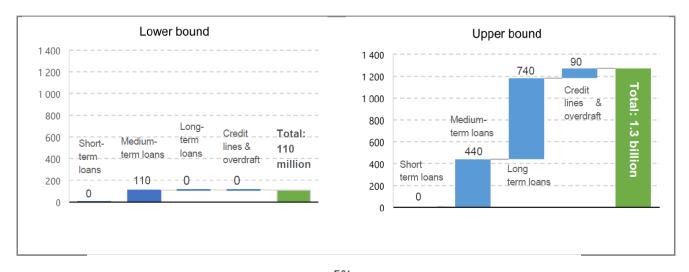
By bank Rejected

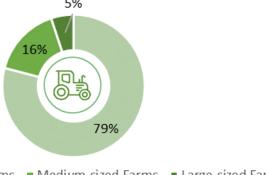




## Financing gap - Agriculture







■ Small-sized Farms ■ Medium-sized Farms ■ Large-sized Farms





### Main obstacles



#### Lack of collateral

 Small size, low capitalisation. New entrants and young farmers particularly disadvantaged

### Lack of financial accounting, credit history, Business Plan quality

Small enterprises and new entrants

#### **Limited financial education**

 Discourages farmers from applying for finance, or makes more likely the rejection of their loan application

#### Lack of agricultural expertise within the banking sector

 Absence of specific rating models and most banks' generally low competencies in agriculture financing also drive the gap (farmers tend to be placed in the highest risk category and requested to pledge substantial personal collateral to secure loans)







## Recommendations - Agriculture



- A larger share of RDP funds in future programming periods to be allocated to financial instruments as opposed to grant-based investment support
- Support from financial instruments could be coupled with technical support to enhance farmers' financial, managerial and technical skills, and to support generational renewal in agriculture
- Financial instruments could also support the offer of flexible financial products for agriculture.

Procedures to access, manage and use financial instruments need to be streamlined and simplified













