

ITA Reports on Opportunities for U.S. Companies in Italy Bioplastics Market

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According to a January 24, 2023, [item](#) published by the U.S. International Trade Administration (ITA), the demand for new bioplastic materials and innovative processing technologies is high, contributing to the European and Italian plastics circular economy policy. According to ITA, European demand for bioplastics (compostable, bio-attributed, and bio-based) grew more than 23 percent annually from 2019 to 2021, increasing from 210,000 to 320,000 tons. ITA states that significant investments for biorefineries and to achieve stakeholders' other development objectives should lead to production of another 100 kilotons of totally and/or partially renewable polymers by **2030** in Europe. In Italy, in 2021, the biodegradable and compostable plastics industry was made up of 275 companies (five chemical producers, 20 granule producers and distributors, and 250 processors) with 2,895 employees and €1 billion in revenue. ITA states that the volume of bioplastics produced in 2020 increased 13.2 percent, compared to the previous year.

According to ITA, large investments and U.S. export opportunities for companies are expected in Europe, "as the trend in consumption indicates a demand that is far greater than the production capacity installed in Europe." The demand for new materials and innovative processing technologies is high, contributing to the European and Italian plastics circular economy policy. ITA states that U.S. companies interested in connecting with Italian distributors, seeking representation and information on how the U.S. Commercial Service can assist U.S. companies, should reach out to Commercial Specialist kira.migliorini@trade.gov.

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