open fiber

COMPANY PROFILE

THE BACKGROUND

Open Fiber was established to develop **an ultra-high-speed fiber-optic communication network** exceeding 1 Gigabit per second, covering the entire Italian territory, thus helping Italy bridge Italy's digital divide with the rest of Europe by enabling next-generation digital services. Founded in 2017 following the merger of Enel Open Fiber and Metroweb, the company is now owned by Open Fiber Holdings, with a 60% stake held by **CDP Equity (CDPE)** and 40% by **Macquarie Asset Management (MAM)**.

Gigabit connectivity lies at the heart of both the European Union's and Italy's digital development strategies. With its **Digital Compass 2030** plan, the European Union has set clear targets for Member States: access to a fixed ultra-fast network (minimum 1 Gbps) in every household and 5G mobile coverage across populated areas by 2030. To this end, the Italian government has launched the **Italia 1 Giga** plan aimed to ensure nationwide connection speeds of at least 1 Gbps download and 200 Mbps upload by 2026.

THE ACTIVITY PLAN

Open Fiber aims to ensure **coverage of Italy's major cities and to connect rural and industrial areas** with a reliable, ultra-fast fiber-optic network capable of delivering increasingly **advanced services and functionalities to citizens, businesses, and Public Administrations**. The company does not sell fiber-optic services directly to end users but operates exclusively in the wholesale market (**wholesale only**), offering all interested operators equal access to its network. Open Fiber's industrial plan involves the deployment of a fiber-optic infrastructure across all types of areas into which the Italian territory is classified as follows:

1. **Black areas** that include the main urban centres. Here, Open Fiber invests privately to build a fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) network that directly reaches homes and offices.

2. **White areas**, i.e. rural and outlying zones where no operators have declared interest in investing: Open Fiber was awarded all three public tenders launched by Infratel (a company owned by the Ministry of Enterprises and Made in Italy—MIMIT) to build and operate an ultra-broadband network that remains publicly owned under a 20-year concession.

3. **Grey areas** within the scope of the Italia 1 Giga plan, the government has issued **public tenders** to support the rollout of ultra-fast broadband. Open Fiber has secured 8 awarded lots, covering **3881 municipalities across 9 Regions**.

Open Fiber's overall plan, combining public and private investment, **is valued at approximately EUR 17 billion - EUR circa 11 billion already invested between 2017 and 2025, and a further EUR 6 billion allocated for 2026–2035.**
As of September 2026, Open Fiber had made more than 17,5 million **FTTH (Fiber To The Home)** property units available for sale, confirming its position **as by far the leading FTTH operator in**

Italy, one of the market leaders in Europe, and **the top wholesale-only provider on the continent.**
More than 300 national and international providers have already signed **commercial agreements** to use its ultra-broadband network. Open Fiber's rollout plan across all Italian Regions is a powerful driver of economic growth: each day, the company **engages around 13.000 people, including company employees and partner company staffers**.

BLACK AREAS

Open Fiber operates in 250 large and mid-sized cities, and more than EUR 4 billion has been invested in network construction and development.

WHITE AREAS

Open Fiber was awarded all three **Infratel tenders** to build a fiber-optic network in areas where no operators had expressed interest in investing. The network in these zones remains publicly owned and will be operated by Open Fiber under a 20-year concession. In total, Open Fiber will reach approximately **6,030 municipalities** across all 20 Italian regions, bringing FTTH fibre-optic coverage to about **6,5 million** property units, including homes, businesses, and public administration offices. By September 2026, Open Fiber had completed work in around 6000 municipalities.

GREY AREAS

As defined by the European Commission, grey areas are those where only one network operator is present, and it is unlikely that a competing network will be rolled out in the near future.

FIBER TO THE HOME (FTTH)

Open Fiber's ultra-fast network is built using **Fiber to the Home (FTTH)** technology, literally meaning "fiber to the home". The entire route, from the exchange to the customer's home, is fiber optics. This provides top-level performance up to **10 Gigabits per second (Gbps)**. It is a truly "future-proof" solution, capable of supporting the full potential of next-generation technologies in the years to come. The fixed network is connected by laying an underground cable that connects the user's home or business to the so-called switching box, which, in turn, is connected to the local exchange. **With ADSL**, on the other hand, the cables used in the two sections are entirely in copper, while with **FTTC**, one connection is in copper and the other in fiber-optic. **With FTTH, connections are entirely fiber-optic**, providing unachievable performance levels compared to

copper (ADSL) or fiber/copper (FTTC) networks. The FTTH network is the only one certified with the **AGCOM green label** as “true fiber.”

Greater Reliability

Fiber-optic connections are more stable and efficient and less susceptible to interruptions and technical faults than copper-based networks. Their maintenance cost is lower, and they provide a higher quality of service to end-users.

High performance

Fiber-optic networks are ‘ultra-broad’, like a 100-lane highway with virtually no traffic jams, allowing data to flow quickly and efficiently. Additionally, FTTH always ensures access speeds.

Improved Efficiency

Next-generation networks (NGN) rely on fiber-optic cables for their telecommunications infrastructure, as they ensure a long infrastructure lifetime and significantly higher transmission speeds than traditional copper or mixed fiber-copper technologies.

Inclination towards New Technologies

Fiber optics is the only “**future-proof**” solution, with an ongoing evolving transmission capacity that already today reaches 10 Gbps. With FTTH, the fiber directly reaches homes, making it compatible with all digital services developed over the years.

THE BENEFITS OF FIBER-OPTIC TECHNOLOGY FOR RESIDENTS, BUSINESSES AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Fiber-optic connectivity makes the involved territories more competitive across multiple sectors - from smart homes (home automation, streaming, video conferencing, and gaming) to tourism, from remote working, and telemedicine. Its widespread adoption accelerates Italy's digital transformation, simplifying and improving interactions between citizens and the Public Administration, between students, schools, and universities, as well as boosting business productivity and competitiveness of businesses and the efficiency of the Public Administration.

Benefits and Services for Residents

The expansion of fiber-optic technology enables residents to access the online services provided by the Public Administration and favours the health sector's digitalisation with applications such as telemedicine, Electronic Health Records and drug allocation. Fiber is increasingly becoming crucial in our homes. It makes the spread of home automation easier, enabling people to work and study remotely, play online games and enjoy high-performance streaming services.

Benefits and Services for Public Institutions and the Public Administration

Fiber-optic technology also has a significant impact on our towns and villages. An ultra-fast and stable connection favours the spread of services in sustainable mobility in municipal areas, including electronic control of city LTZ accesses, digital parking systems, traffic flow management and EV recharging. Security and territorial monitoring benefits include also: video surveillance and environmental remote sensing, efficient management of public lighting, and digitisation of tourist, museum, and cultural services. The Public Administration can also benefit from ultra-broadband development for e-invoicing in commercial transactions and access to online services through SPID (Public Digital Identity System).

Benefits and Services for Businesses

Fiber-optic technology offers several benefits and advanced services to businesses. Think of remote working and telecommuting, digitisation and process innovation, and cloud-based data storage and sharing (cloud computing). Fiber-optic technology also makes e-commerce and export operations much easier, making Italian companies more competitive in international markets.

SUSTAINABILITY

Open Fiber works daily to generate shared value, address environmental challenges, meet current and future social needs, and lead Italy to a position among the most technologically advanced countries in the world.

- **Sustainability Policy**: The Sustainability Policy translates the mission into ten commitments that reflect the company's values, the ethical and social principles of the Code of Ethics, the core principles of the Global Compact, and the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations 2030 Agenda.
- **Stakeholder Engagement Policy**: In line with its stakeholder engagement strategy, Open Fiber has formalized a policy to establish a structured approach to engagement and ongoing dialogue with its stakeholders.
- **Sustainable Procurement Policy**: With the aim of adopting a procurement model that incorporates ESG criteria, Open Fiber has formalized a Sustainable Procurement Policy, outlining the principles and commitments designed to ensure that sustainability is integrated throughout all stages of the procurement process.
- **Sustainability Report**: Since 2021, Open Fiber has voluntarily published an annual report outlining its approach to sustainable business practices and its contribution to technological innovation.
- **Sustainability Plan and Strategy**: For each pillar of the Strategy—through which the Company is committed to create value over the medium and long term—the Sustainability Plan identifies 21 ESG objectives and 66 actions, which have been validated by the Sustainability Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.
- **Net Zero Plan**: Approved at the end of 2023, the Net Zero Plan is an ambitious corporate strategy to achieve net-zero emissions by 2040 and applies not only to the operations directly managed and controlled by Open Fiber, but also to its value chain. The decarbonization targets are validated and publicly recognized by the Science Based Targets initiative, thereby ensuring their alignment with climate science and global warming mitigation scenarios.
- **Beyond Value Chain Mitigation strategy**: To help accelerate the global transition to net-zero emissions, Open Fiber implements mitigation measures outside its own value chain by funding climate action and supporting other economic and social actors in reducing or removing greenhouse gas emissions. Since 2024, the Company has been purchasing carbon credits to offset its residual Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions. The proper offsetting is verified by an independent third-party entity.
- **UN Global Compact Membership**: In 2024, Open Fiber joined a network of companies committed to align their strategies and operations with ten universal principles regarding human rights, labor, environment, and fight against corruption, and to take action in support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

A CERTIFIED COMMITMENT

Open Fiber has always been committed to improve its performance and management processes, taking responsibility for its actions to build a more sustainable digital future. The certifications obtained represent an objective and impartial recognition of the Company's commitment to its stakeholders:

- **ISO 9001:2015** – Quality Management System Certification
- **ISO 14001:2015** – Environmental Management System Certification

- **ISO 45001:2023** – Occupational Health and Safety Management System Certification
- **ISO 39001:2012** – Road Traffic Safety Management System Certification
- **ISO 50001:2018** – Energy Management System Certification
- **UNI/PdR 125:2022** – Gender Equality Management System Certification
- **ISO/IEC 27001:2022** – Information Security Management System Certification
- **ISO 14064-1:2018** – Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Inventory Certification

Furthermore, Open Fiber has adhered to the ESG ratings **Open-es**[1], **EcoVadis**[2], **GRESB** (Global Real Estate Sustainability Benchmark) [3] e **CDP Climate Change** [4] to assess its sustainability performance transparently and objectively.

[1] A digital platform that helps companies to monitor, improve, and share their ESG performance, fostering collaboration and transparency throughout the value chain.
[2] An ESG vendor rating platform that uses an assessment to evaluate corporate performance across four areas: environment, ethics, labor practices and human rights, and sustainable procurement.
[3] An international assessment developed to evaluate ESG performance and management processes.
[4] A questionnaire that allows for the evaluation of risks, impacts, and opportunities related to business operations, the supply chain, product and service offerings, and financial decisions, and to understand how these are connected to climate change topic.