

Bruno Quarta

Born in France, on November 6, 1968

He is currently appointed **Strategy and Operations Director** of the **Common Strategic Task Force** (CSTF). The latter is a less than a year-old entity co-developed by Compagnia di San Paolo (<http://www.compagnia.torino.it/>) and University of Torino (www.unito.it). Its goals include the development and funding of public research, knowledge transfer and trained researcher transfer towards the public and private sectors. Initially planned as a regional platform for sharing resources and strategies, the Task Force is now getting interest from some national public institutions. The organisation is based on a particular human resource model where partner institutions detach their own personnel to the Hub (the CSTF central office) and also nominate Spokes, acting as CSTF correspondents. in their research departments or organisations. To-date, a network of 60 Spokes is collaborating with 12 CSTF Hub staff members.

Previously, starting in 2004, he acted for more than 6 years **Research Office Head** (at the **Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna in Italy**).

The University of Bologna is probably the oldest teaching and research institution of the western world. Its oldest documents date back to 1088., and it is presently a large institution with more than 95,000 enrolled undergraduate students, 5 operating sites, 3,200 permanent research staff, 3,000 post graduate students and young researchers, and 2,700 administrative staff.

During his collaboration, Bologna University became in 2007 the leading Italian University in the THES ranking (173 overall), and in 2010, for Framework Program 7, it ranked 27th for EU research grants (1st Italian, and 53rd among overall beneficiaries).

These results were obtained after 6 years-of defining, proposing and implementing a new research strategy along with an appropriate service framework for university researchers. The research office grew from 17 people to 90, covering activities such as EU research development, knowledge transfer, legal, communication and other added value activities.

From 1997 to 2004., Bruno Quarta was employed by Microsoft, initially as Senior Consultant in France, and later as University Relation Manager in Cambridge, UK. His role within Microsoft Research lab was to organize and create collaboration between leading researchers in southern Europe and the companies, anticipating on the today well-known and implemented cluster concept. The rationale was to set an industry-research bidirectional path allowing research outputs, industry needs and implemented technologies to circulate and *de facto* create a knowledge-based collaboration and economy. Finally, he participated to an internal Microsoft Research spin-off based on embedded radio devices that entered the US market as MSN Direct product line.

He started his carrier as a young entrepreneur, creating, immediately after his French Postgraduate Business School (*Grande Ecole*) where he specialized in organization, a start-up on telework activities and consultancy. He lead the activity 6 years before winding up the company as the French telework market was not ready yet.