

Press Release

BCC Iccrea Group: signed a strategic partnership with Equita.

Planned a commercial agreement to develop areas of collaboration, with a focus on services to SME clients of the Group, and the entry of the parent company Iccrea Banca into Equita's capital with a 15% stake.

Rome, March 12th, 2026

The Board of Directors of Iccrea Banca has approved the signing of a strategic partnership with Equita Group, which provides the signing of a commercial agreement to develop potential areas of collaboration with the BCC Iccrea Group, Italy's largest cooperative banking group, and the entry of the parent company Iccrea Banca into Equita's share capital with a minority stake.

More specifically, the partnership aims to establish relationships in the main business areas in which Equita operates – from Investment Banking to Global Markets, from Alternative Asset Management to Research – based on the high degree of strategic complementarity that characterises the two partners.

The agreements signed today provide for Iccrea Banca to acquire a minority stake in Equita of approximately 15% through the subscription of a capital increase reserved for Iccrea Banca with the issue of approximately 3.4 million shares and the purchase of 5.1 million shares from some manager-shareholders of the Equita Group¹. Following the completion of

¹ The issue price agreed between the parties is €5.8253 per share. The agreed price was determined based on the arithmetic mean of the average daily prices (VWAP) of EQUITA shares in the six months prior to 2 March 2026.

the transaction, the Equita shares that will be held by Iccrea Banca will be subject to lock-up restrictions for three years after the closing date.

‘The agreement reached with Equita confirms our commitment in favour of all the cooperative banks of the BCC Iccrea Group and the territories they serve,’ commented Mauro Pastore, General Manager of the BCC Iccrea Group. ‘In partnership with Equita, we will be able to expand the tools available to our SME clients to meet their financial, advisory, and growth needs.’

The closing of the transaction is expected in the second half of 2026 and is subject, *inter alia*, to authorisation by the Bank of Italy.

The BCC Iccrea Group is the largest cooperative banking group in Italy and the 9th largest worldwide in terms of revenue. It is also the only national banking group with entirely Italian capital, the second in terms of number of branches and one of the seven systemically important institutions. The Group, at the top of the system in terms of capital strength, currently comprises 111 cooperative credit banks, operating in over 1,700 Italian municipalities with over 2,400 branches, and other banking, financial and instrumental companies controlled by BCC Banca Iccrea. The Group is affiliated with Tertio Millennio ETS Foundation, a nonprofit organization established in 2002 within the Cooperative Credit system, dedicated to promoting social solidarity activities in Italy and abroad.

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