Italy ranked 19th in the HRI 2011, improving one position from 2010. Based on the patterns of its scores, Italy is classified as a Group 3 donor, “Aspiring Actors”. Donors in this group tend to have more limited capacity to engage with the humanitarian system at the field level, but often aspire to take on a greater role in the sector. They generally focus on a few core strengths, such as in the area of prevention, preparedness and risk reduction, or on specific geographic regions. Other donors in the group include Australia, Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg and Spain.

Italy scored below the OECD/DAC and Group 3 averages in all pillars, with the exception of Pillar 2, where it scored above both averages, and Pillar 5 (Learning and accountability), where it was below the OECD/DAC average yet above the Group 3 average.

Italy did best compared to its OECD/DAC peers in the indicators on Funding accountability initiatives and Funding reconstruction and prevention. Its scores were relatively the lowest in indicators on Participating in accountability initiatives, Funding UN and RC/RC appeals, Funding NGOs, Un-earmarked funding and Reducing climate-related vulnerability.