

# network enterprise europe



Business Support on Your Doorstep

## COUNTRY FACT SHEET

Portugal



The **Enterprise Europe Network** has 9 offices in **Portugal**. This Consortium involves the following partners:

- ♦ **IAPMEI** – Portuguese Institute for SME and Innovation (Coordinator)  
[<http://www.iapmei.pt/>]
- ♦ **ACIF/CCIM** - Business Association of Funchal / Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Madeira  
[[eenetwork@acif-ccim.pt](mailto:eenetwork@acif-ccim.pt)]
- ♦ **ADI** - Portuguese Innovation Agency  
[<http://www.adi.pt/>]
- ♦ **AIDA** - Business Association for the District of Aveiro  
[[eenetwork@aida.pt](mailto:eenetwork@aida.pt)]
- ♦ **AIMinho** – Business Association of Minho Region  
[[eenetwork@aiminho.pt](mailto:eenetwork@aiminho.pt)]
- ♦ **CCDR-Algarve** - The Regional Development and Coordinating Commission of the Algarve  
[[eenetwork@ccdr-alg.pt](mailto:eenetwork@ccdr-alg.pt)]
- ♦ **CCIPD** - Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Ponta Delgada  
[[eenetwork@ccipd.pt](mailto:eenetwork@ccipd.pt)]
- ♦ **CEC/CCIC** - Entrepreneurial Council of Centro - Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Centro  
[[eenetwork@cec.org.pt](mailto:eenetwork@cec.org.pt)]
- ♦ **INPI** - Portuguese Patent and Trademark Institute  
[[eenetwork@inpi.pt](mailto:eenetwork@inpi.pt)]



### BASIC DATA

- ♦ Official name: Republic of Portugal
- ♦ Date of establishment: 1139
- ♦ EU accession: 1<sup>st</sup> January 1986
- ♦ Official Language: Portuguese
- ♦ Time zone:
  - ♦ GTM + 0:00 hours (Winter)
  - ♦ GTM + 01:00 hours (Summer)
- ♦ Capital city: Lisbon
- ♦ Neighbouring countries:
  - ♦ Spain (north and east)
  - ♦ Atlantic Ocean (west and south)
- ♦ Area: 92,090 km<sup>2</sup>
- ♦ Population: 10,617,575 (2008)
- ♦ Population density: 115,3/km<sup>2</sup> (2008)

- ♦ Population growth rate (2007): 0,17%
- ♦ Territorial divisions: 18 districts

### Ethnic groups:

- ♦ Cape Verdean: 16,66%
- ♦ Brazilian: 14,26%
- ♦ Ukrainian: 8,7%
- ♦ Angolan: 7,8%
- ♦ British: 6,05%
- ♦ Guinean: 5,68%
- ♦ Spanish: 4,62%
- ♦ Romanian: 4,41%
- ♦ Others: 32,76%

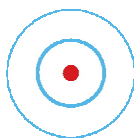
### Economic Data:

- ♦ Currency: Euro (EUR)
- ♦ GDP (\$billion): 263100 (2009 Estimation)
- ♦ GDP per capita (\$): 24,694 (2009 Estimation)
- ♦ Real GDP growth (2009 Estimation): 0,1
- ♦ Structure of GDP (2008)
  - ♦ Agriculture: 0,2 %
  - ♦ Industry: 37,8%
  - ♦ Services: 62%
- ♦ Inflation (2009 estimation): 2,1%
- ♦ Current-account balance (% of GDP): -8,3% (2009 Estimation)
- ♦ FDI inflows (% of GDP): 0,02% (2007)



## Key Industries:

- ♦ Agriculture, forestry and fishing
- ♦ Chemical industry
- ♦ Electrical and electronic industry
- ♦ Energy sources
- ♦ Information technologies
- ♦ Metalworking
- ♦ Mining
- ♦ Motor vehicles and components industry
- ♦ Oil refining
- ♦ Paper and wood pulp industry
- ♦ Pharmaceutical industry
- ♦ Textile, clothing and footwear industry
- ♦ Tourism
- ♦ Wine
- ♦ Wood and cork industry



## Political Data:

- ♦ State Organisation: Republic
- ♦ Political System: Democracy
- ♦ President: Aníbal Cavaco Silva
- ♦ Prime Minister: José Sócrates
- ♦ Membership of international organisations: UN (1945), NATO (1949), NEA (1958), IBRD (1960), OECD (1960), IEA (1981), EU (1986), WTO (1995), CPLP (1996)

## WHY INVEST IN PORTUGAL?

### 1. Location Advantage & Climate

Portugal has a geographical **strategic position**, being the southernmost country in Europe; it offers a rapid access to the eastern coast of the American continent and to Africa.

The country offers a high potential for **tourism**, its geographical position with an extensive coastline, its singular beauty that gathers in the same space seaside, countryside and city landscapes, offers excellent conditions to Tourism. Portugal has the highest number of sunshine hours per year in Europe (220 days of sunshine a year).

### 2. Portuguese Infrastructures

Gifted with a large aggregation of infrastructures, makes Portugal a place with excellent living and working conditions.

Portugal has one of the most developed **Road infrastructures** in Europe (more than 22,000Km), comprised of motorways, main roads, complementary roads, national roads and municipal routes.

The **Rail network** provides the connection across the country (north-south and east-west) with 3.600km.

Portugal is endowed with of 14 **Airports**, three of them are the international airports located at Lisbon, Porto and Faro.

The geographical position of Portugal, with an extensive coastline, offers excellent conditions to promote and develop maritime connections.

Portugal has 9 major **Ports** distributed by mainland coast and islands. The harbour infrastructure is primarily geared to the transportation of goods. Because of its deep water, the port of Sines is the principal gateway for goods (principally petroleum derivatives, coal and natural gas) and cargo container.

In the last years, **Technological infrastructures** relating to the telecommunications sector were substantially improved and modernized, allowing Portugal to stand in a comfortable spot among its European partners. In this area there are three types of systems: a voice system (Internet access) and video service (TV signal), and three types of networks: traditional, fixed network, mobile network and TV distribution by satellite, cable and other radio-electric means. The deregulation of fixed and mobile networks and the entry of new telecommunications operators in the Portuguese market increased competition, improved quality and reduce charged.

The presence of education and research institutes contributes for an essentially dynamic and future oriented population.

### 3. Economical Advantage

Excellent conditions and infrastructures make Portugal a strong dynamic economy. Following the trend of its European partners, the weight of Portuguese **services sector** has increased significantly in recent decades. The services sector employed 57,90% of the working population and generated 69,20% of gross value-added (2007).

Apart from the greater focus on services there has been significant change in **manufacturing**. The traditional manufacturing has change dramatically moving from high dependence on textiles, footwear and others to one where the sectors offer dynamic growth and involve a larger **incorporation of technology**: motor vehicles and components, electronics, pharmaceuticals and new technologies.

The mild Mediterranean climate moderated by the influence of the Atlantic Ocean together with its extensive coastline drives the growth of the **tourism industry**.

## INVESTMENT INCENTIVES

System of Incentives for business investment is one of the fundamental public policy of economic, particularly in terms of promoting innovation and regional development. In order to promote business investment, the entrepreneur has at its disposal a set of tools to support investment projects, focusing on increasing productivity and business competitiveness, innovation and skills and the added value created in Portugal:

- ♦ Tax incentives
- ♦ SI I&DT - System of Incentives for Research and Technological Development in Business
- ♦ SI Inovação - System of Incentives for Innovation
- ♦ SI Qualificação PME - System of Incentives for Qualification and Internationalization of SMEs

### AIMinho

This regional and multisectorial association was established in 1975 and today still performing as a key player in the business environment.

AIMinho has over 1500 affiliated companies aiming to foster homogeneous development on the 2 districts included in the Minho Region of Portugal (Braga e Viana do Castelo).

Among the AIMinho's main goals concerning SME support services are: dissemination of qualified information, promotion of entrepreneurship, inter-firm cooperation, internationalization and innovation (process and products).



**Associação Industrial do Minho**  
Av. Dr. Francisco Pires Gonçalves, 45  
4711-954 Braga – PORTUGAL  
Telephone: +351 253 202500  
Fax: +351 253 276601  
E-mail: [eenetwork@aiminho.pt](mailto:eenetwork@aiminho.pt)  
WWW-Address: [www.aiminho.pt](http://www.aiminho.pt)

### Sources:

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