

# Portuguese Development Cooperation

## Development policies

Portuguese development cooperation aims to contribute to a better coordination between different national actors to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of its activities. An important element within its foreign policy is the promotion and protection of the Portuguese language and culture.

The key themes within Portuguese development assistance are sustainable economic development, human security and the active involvement of Portugal in international debates on related topics. The Portuguese government aims to increase its collaboration with civil society organizations in the dialogue around development cooperation. Furthermore, Portugal will undertake more partnerships with the private sector, other bilateral donors and multilateral organizations in order to increase the effectiveness of its policies. In 2009, Portuguese ODA reached 0.23% of GNI.

## Priority countries

Portuguese development assistance focuses especially on Portuguese speaking countries in Africa (Angola, Cape Verde and Mozambique, among others) and Macau and East Timor in Asia, as well as other countries with which Portugal historically has had tight relations.

UNECE member States have not been selected as priority countries. Still, some have received bilateral assistance from Portugal in recent years: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Montenegro, Republic of Moldova, Slovenia, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey.

## Priority areas

The Portuguese government has selected the following priority sectors:

- Education
- Health
- Rural development
- Protection of the environment and sustainable use of natural resources
- Economic growth, private sector development and stimulating entrepreneurship

Cross-sectoral topics of priority are good governance, gender and democracy. Throughout its development policies Portugal further gives priority to the protection of the Portuguese language and culture.

## Coordination and implementation

The Directorate-General of External Policy of the Portuguese Ministry of Foreign Affairs is responsible for the formulation of the development cooperation strategy.

Since 2003, however, the Portuguese Institute for Development (IPAD) is the implementing and coordinating agency of Portuguese development cooperation policies in Portuguese speaking countries. More and more tasks have been carried over from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the IPAD, which now is coordinating and supervising most of Portuguese development assistance activities, both bilateral and multilateral. The IPAD falls under the stewardship of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

For more information, please see: [www.mne.gov.pt/mne/en/infopolitica/cdesenvolv/](http://www.mne.gov.pt/mne/en/infopolitica/cdesenvolv/)

For information about IPAD, please visit: [www.ipad.mne.gov.pt](http://www.ipad.mne.gov.pt) (in Portuguese only)