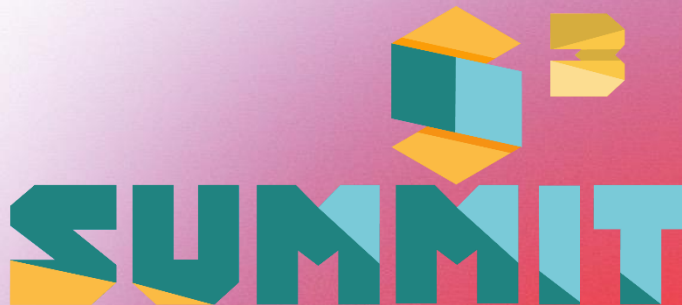




Fundação
para a Ciência
e a Tecnologia



SMART SPECIALIZATION STRATEGY PONTA DELGADA AZORES 2025

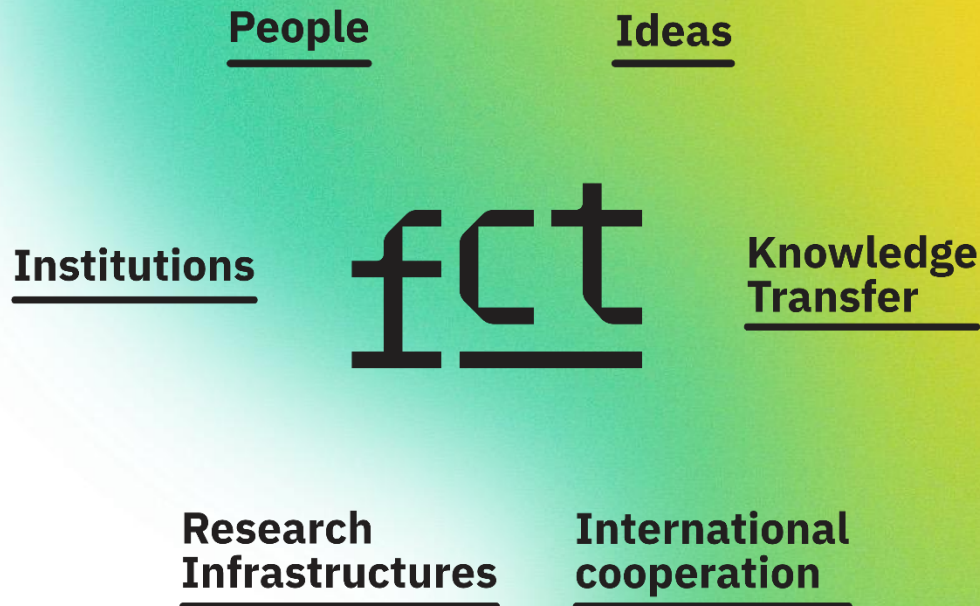
INOVAÇÃO
COM PROPÓSITO

António Bob Santos
Board Member
May 2025

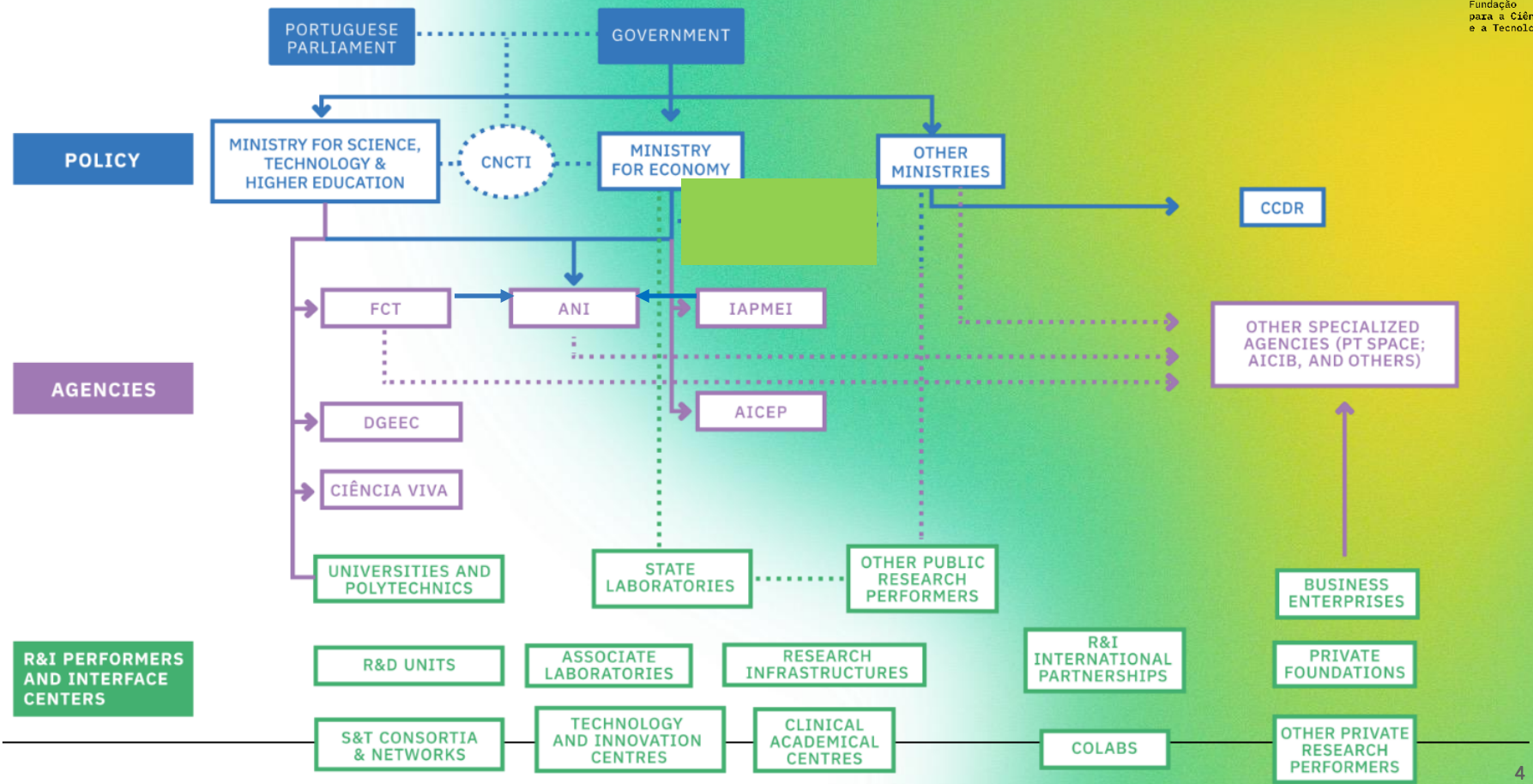
Açores, Ponta Delgada

We are the **Portuguese public agency for funding and supporting research in science, technology and innovation** in all areas of knowledge, operating under the guardianship of the Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation.

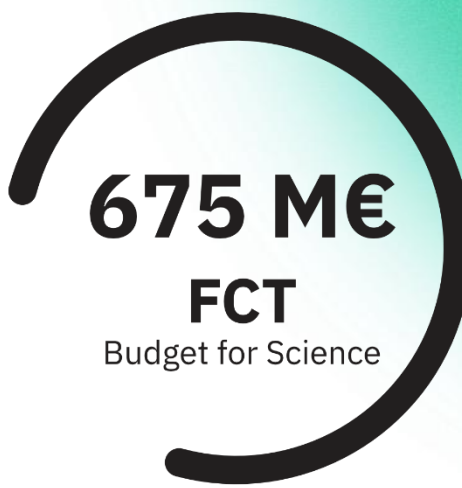
FCT supports the scientific community in Portugal



Schematic organizational chart of the National Science and Technology System



FCT' budget in 2024



675 M€

FCT

Budget for Science

National State Budget	460 M€
European Union	209 M€
Other	6 M€

Execution: €833M

Funding

Annual call for PhD Studentships 2025

1.550
open positions

1.000

Studentships in academic
environment in all scientific domains

85,8 M€

550

Specific Line for Studentships in a
Non-academic Environment

47,2 M €

PhD Studentships

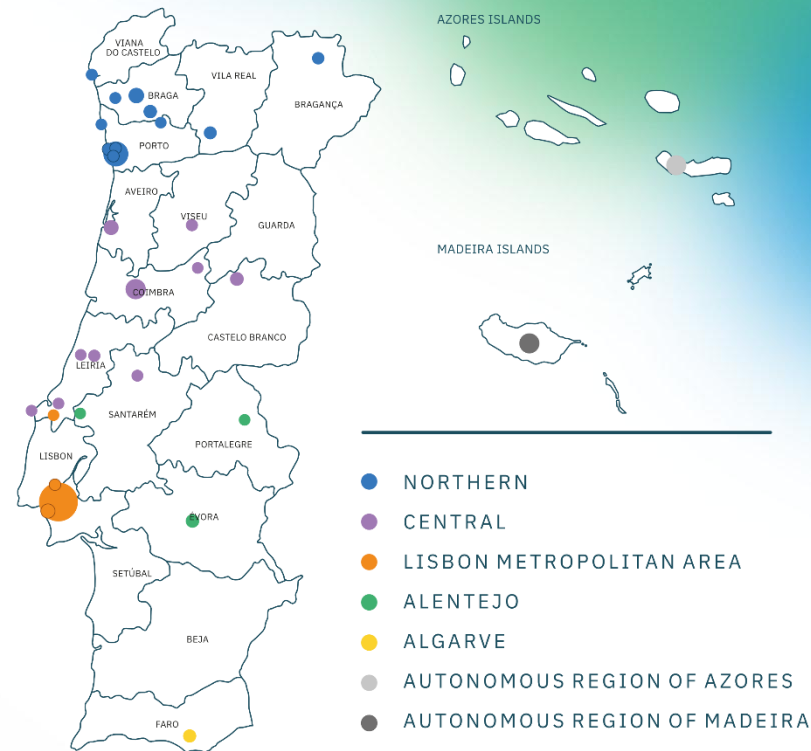
Other lines:

- Studentships Maria de Sousa (virological research)
- Studentships Fulbright for research and doctoral studies
- Studentships in the scope of protocols and partnerships (AIR Centre; Ciência LP; International Partnerships with US Universities; European Universities; PALOPs; etc)

R&D Units

R&D, training and scientific and technological dissemination entities

They are the foundation of the organization of the national scientific and technological system



R&D Units

312

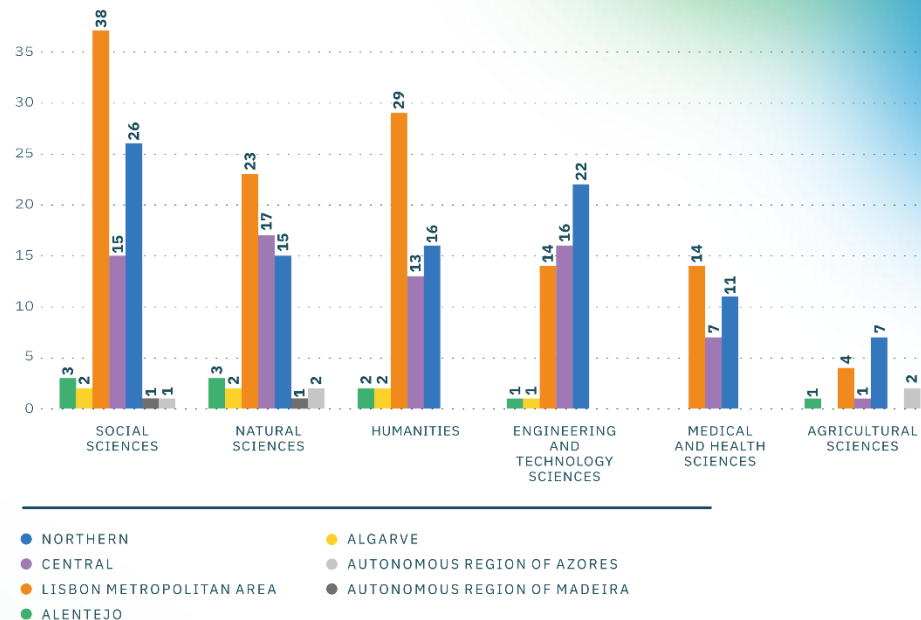
522 M€

2019 > 2024

313

**635 M€
(€110M PRR)**

2025 > 2030



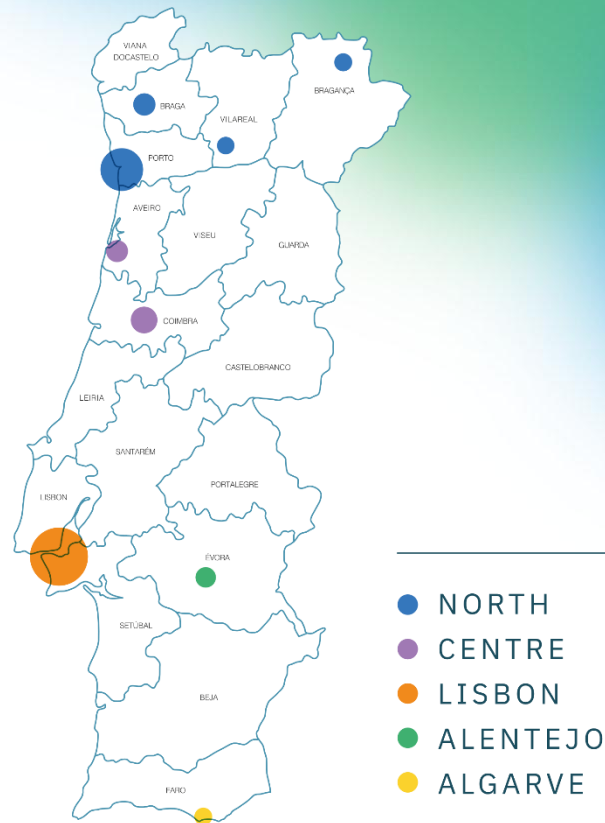
Associate Laboratories

2021 > 2030

40
Institutions

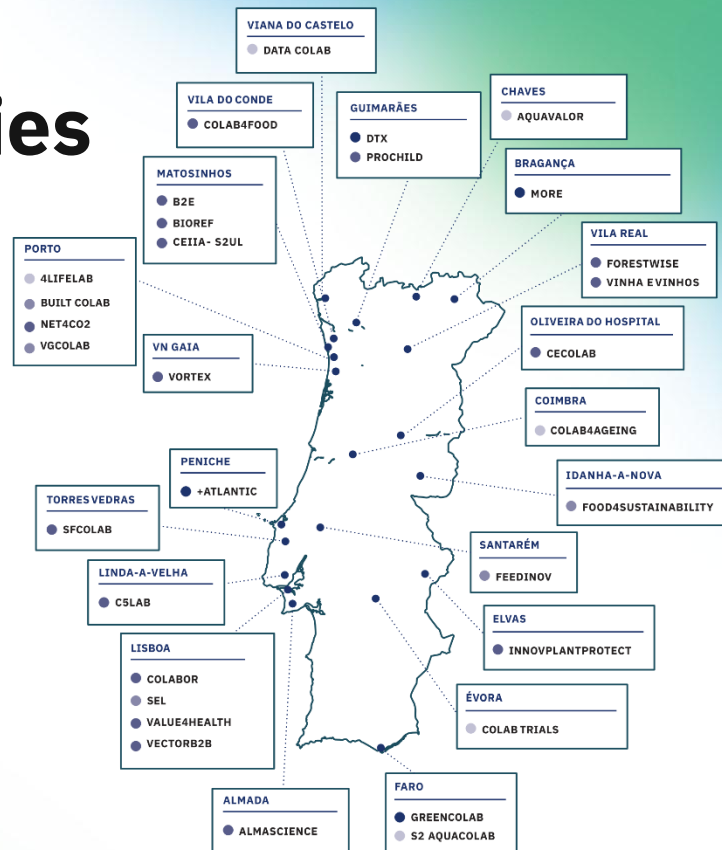
118,5M€

first 5-year period



Collaborative Laboratories (CoLAB)

41
Institutions



Scientific Employment

FCT-Tenure | 1st Edition (2024)

115 **Applications** submitted
by institutions, currently
under evaluation

2.211 **Permanent positions**
proposed for funding

Results

1.104

Permanent positions for
PhD researchers funded by
FCT have been approved

190 M €

Scientific Employment

FCT-Tenure | 2nd Edition (2026)

400

**Additional permanent positions for
PhD researchers to be funded by FCT**

Other funding opportunities

ERC-Portugal Program

7 Projects funded
(1,75M€)

R&D Projets – all scientific domains

2018 > 2024

4.267

Projects

713.7M€

Funding

377

R&D institutions
supported

Digital Services



FCT digital services

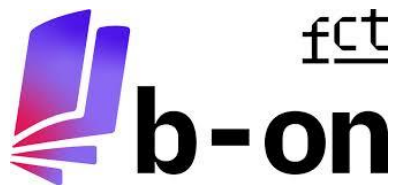
20+

Digital services

600.000

Students, researchers
and staff are users

FCT digital services



Computing / IA

Call for projects for Advanced Computing



PME
Startups

CNCA

Centro Nacional
de Computação Avançada

**Learn about our
supercomputers:
Deucalion,
MareNostrum, and all
RNCA supercomputers**



International Cooperation



FCT supports the internationalization of the national scientific and technological community through:

- Following and representing Portugal in **relevant R&I forums** of the EU and the **European Research Area**;
- Representing Portugal and monitoring the participation of the scientific community;
 - In relevant **international S&T policy forums**
 - In **international organizations** and **research infrastructures**
 - In **multilateral programs** and **scientific networks**

- Negotiation and operationalization of **bilateral and multilateral agreements, instruments** and **initiatives** for international cooperation in R&I within the European and extra-European scope
- **Funding R&I and researchers' mobility projects** under agreements, partnerships or international networks of which FCT is part.

European Cooperation in Research and Innovation

European Research Area (ERA)

Horizon Europe

European Cooperation in Research and Innovation

18 European Partnerships

10.7 M€ State budget + **4.4 M€** Cofund

Cooperation with International organizations, networks and research infrastructures

Strengthening scientific and technological cooperation through actions that promote scientific exchange



ESRF



goPortugal - Global Science and Technology Partnerships

- National program to encourage the process of internationalization of S&T research in Portugal
- Promotes international mobility of students, teachers, researchers and non-teaching staff

**Carnegie
Mellon
Portugal** 

MIT Portugal

 **UT Austin
Portugal**


AKDN


Fundação "la Caixa"

 **Fraunhofer**
PORTUGAL

parsuk
portuguese association
of researchers and
students in the UK 

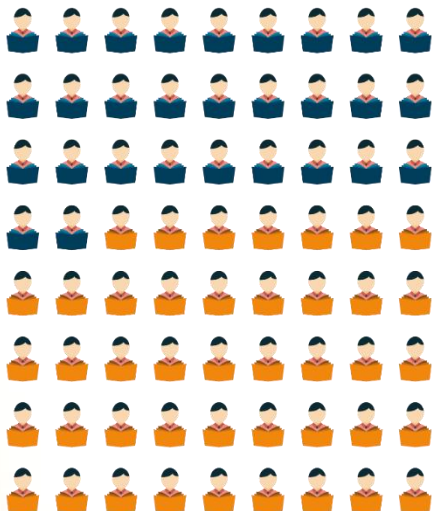
**STUDY & RESEARCH
IN PORTUGAL**

Results



Fundação
para a Ciência
e a Tecnologia

PhD Studentships in progress



7.306
in total

57.31%
Attributed to
women (4.187)



523.9 M€
Estimated investment

Source: FCT February 2024

PhD Studentships

Hosted in a non-academic
environment

1.312

Studentships

93.6M€

Estimated investment

Source: FCT february 2024

Scientific Employment

2.986

contracts funded

696 M€

payments executed since 2015

1.888

funded jobs currently taking place in
Scientific Employment Stimulus Call
(Institutional and Individual)

Source: FCT February 2024

Research Institutions

403

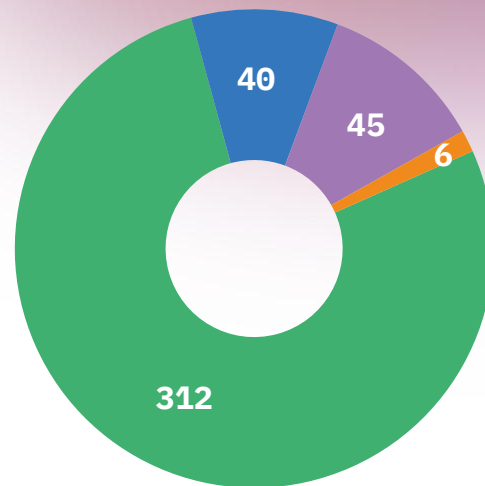
Institutions currently
funded

771 M€

Payments executed
since 2015

75%

Execution rate



R&D Unit

Associated Laboratories

Research Infrastructures

Clinical Academic Centers

Source: FCT february 2024

R&D projects

- **26.874** evaluated proposals
- **4.871** supported projects
- **890.4 M€** conceded grants
- **510** research institutions supported
- **> 1000** patents
- **2.641** laboratory prototypes
- **4.540** computer applications
- **51.715** published articles

Source: FCT february 2024

Unicorns and start-ups from the “goPortugal - Global Science and Technology Partnerships”



Source: FCT february 2024

Smart Specialization – *porque é importante fazer escolhas na política de Inovação?*

- **Identificar as áreas de maior potencial competitivo** de uma região ou país;
- **Focar os investimentos públicos e privados** em áreas estratégicas;
- **Promover a inovação baseada nos pontos fortes territoriais**, combinando conhecimento científico, tecnológico e empresarial, bem como a colaboração entre universidades, empresas e governo (modelo tripla hélice).
- **Introduz maior seletividade nos Fundos Europeus** (critério obrigatório para acesso a fundos estruturais da UE (ex: FEDER, Horizonte Europa), garantindo que os investimentos tenham impacto estratégico).

Política de Inovação: sim, devemos fazer escolhas!

- ✓ Espaço (ESA, ESO, Portugal Space...)
- ✓ Parcerias Internacionais C&T (2006)
- ✓ INL (2007)
- ✓ Energias Renováveis (2006)
- ✓ Reconhecimento de Clusters de Competitividade (2009; 2026; 2024)
- ✓ Agendas Mobilizadoras (2021)
- ✓ PRR (2021-2026)

Estratégia de Especialização Inteligente – ENEI/EREI (2014; 2020...) – É ainda pertinente? Que desafios?



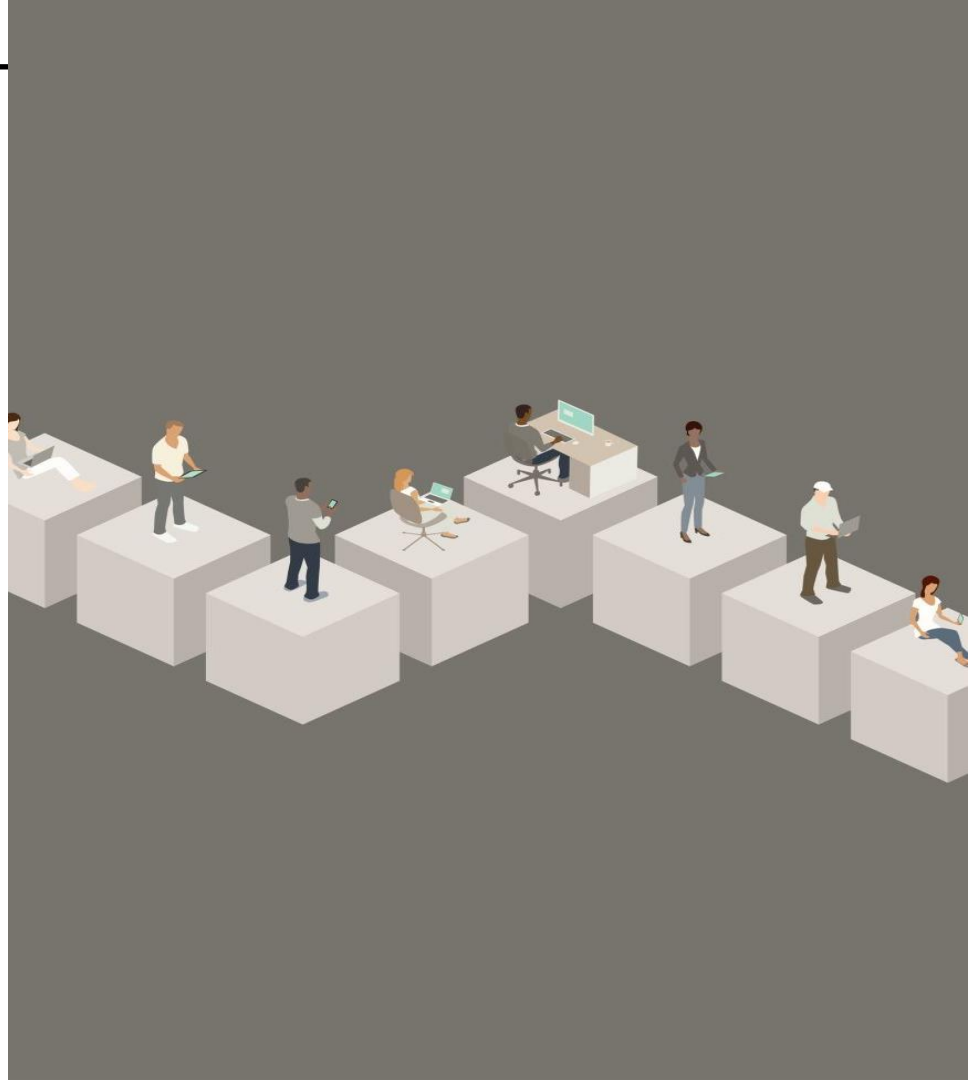
Protocolo de Cooperação entre a FCT e os Açores

Parceria para o reforço da investigação
científica e inovação na Região Autónoma dos
Açores.

Enquadramento

Acordo celebrado entre a FCT e o Governo Regional dos Açores, com o objetivo de:

- Reforçar a capacidade científica da Universidade dos Açores.
- Promover projetos de I&D em áreas estratégicas.
- Estimular a fixação de talento científico na região.



Instrumentos de Financiamento

- 3 projetos anuais de 250.000€, totalizando 2.250.000€ até 2027.
- 12 bolsas de doutoramento.
- Contratos de emprego científico



Temáticas Estratégicas



- Ciências do Espaço e Atmosfera.



- Geosfera e Hidrosfera.



- Sustentabilidade e inovação tecnológica.

Mecanismos de Implementação

- A FCT atua como entidade avaliadora dos projetos.

- A DRCT (Direção Regional da Ciência e Tecnologia) organiza os concursos.

- A FCT presta apoio logístico e administrativo aos painéis de avaliação.



Fundação
para a Ciência
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Desafios e Perspetivas Futuras



Possíveis melhorias e adaptações

Identificação de Áreas de Melhoria e Adaptações Necessárias

Analisar os programas atuais da FCT para identificar áreas que precisem de adaptações específicas que podem ser implementadas para aumentar a eficácia do apoio à I&D e inovação nos Açores.

Colaboração Multidisciplinar

Fomentar a colaboração entre diferentes áreas de investigação é essencial para impulsionar a inovação.

Financiamento Sustentável

O desenvolvimento de modelos de financiamento sustentável para a Ciência é crucial robustecer a I&D nos Açores e acelerar o processo de inovação.

Thank you!
