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EIT-Food Startup Guide Portugal



Contact

EIT Food accelerates innovation to build a future-fit food system that produces healthy and sustainable food for all.

We believe inclusive systems innovation, which enables all people and places to participate and benefit, is essential to a strong food system that is better for everyone. With teams on the ground across Europe, we bridge the gap between countries and regions with low innovation capacity and those leading the way. And we put consumers at the heart of our work, helping build trust by reconnecting them to the origins of their food, directly involving them in the innovation process, and working with the food sector to increase transparency. Collaboration is central to all our work, which spans the whole food value chain, and is vital to meet the big challenges we face. Together with our community, we will build an innovative and resilient food system that in turn creates a healthier society and planet.

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for EIT Food CLC South S.L.**

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Disclaimer: The guide is intended to help entrepreneurs and startups. However, it does not replace seeking professional advice and guidance. As such, although EIT Food has made every effort to ensure that the information in this book is useful, they do not assume any responsibility for the outcome of your business.



EIT Food CLC South

C/Serrano Anguita 13
28004 (Madrid) Spain

T: +34 944 719 409
E: clcsouth@eitfood.eu
W: www.eitfood.eu

In collaboration with



Building Global Innovators

Rua António Champalimaud, N° 1,
Edifício CID, 1600-514 Carnide, Lisboa
E: geral@bgi.pt
W: www.bgi.pt

Editor-in-chief:

Gonçalo Amorim (Building Global Innovators)

Supervision:

Enky Consulting Team

- Marcin Dominiak, Michał Janowicz

Graphic design:

Magdalena Olszyńska

Pictures:

freepik.com pexels.com stock.adobe.com

Dear reader,

If you have this guide in your hands it is because you're probably a savvy and curious entrepreneur who wants to make a positive impact within the agrifood industry, so I would like to congratulate you on the work you are doing towards achieving a better world!

Over the last four years, at EIT Food South we have been working towards a more sustainable, trustworthy and healthy agrifood industry and we do so by creating connections across the agrifood system that stimulate new ideas and inventions to drive change. As one of EIT Food Co-Location Centres, EIT Food South was established in the second half of 2017 to build bridges among leading businesses, universities and research centres. One of our priorities is to ensure that new ideas and technologies - which often emerge in startups or young entrepreneurs - can be transferred to the market, that they are scalable at European level and that no great idea falls by the wayside for lack of resources or support.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the overgrowing consequences of global warming that are so evidently changing our environment have once more exposed the need for an urgent change towards sustainable economic development. This poses an opportunity for startups to help industry players addressing the markets change, moving faster than ever before.

There is no single recipe to build a successful startup ecosystem; in the case of southern Europe, several factors need to be considered including cultural and institutional diversity, geographical position, and political context of each country within this region. Every country has its own unique identity and culture, so it is crucial to understand how business is conducted in these markets.

The agrifood sector still constitutes a big proportion of Southern European countries' economies. As we shared in the [Food Foresight report](#) published in March 2021, there is still room to increase the digitalisation and automation of different agrifood processes, especially the most relevant ones to reduce the environmental impact of agrifood businesses.

The internationalisation of startups is a natural step as a response to the environmental and technological challenges that we are facing. Each country is unique, with its own culture and customs, its own regulations and bureaucracy and new customers surely can seem overwhelming for companies that land in a new country. Therefore, finding partners to expand your network is key if you want to be successful on your journey towards a new market.

With the aim of achieving this goal, we have devised this guide to make sure that the process of establishing your company in Southern Europe is as smooth as possible, starting from the legal and bureaucratic steps that have to be taken to operate in region to funding opportunities and support groups, as well as an overall look of the main stakeholders in the local Agrifood industry within each country in which we operate (Spain, Portugal, Italy, Greece, Cyprus, Malta, Turkey and Israel). This guide will show you, among other things, how to set up a legal entity in Portugal, the required permits for agrifood businesses, funding opportunities and other useful information to make your arrival into the country the next step towards a successful international expansion of your business.

I really hope that this information helps you start your journey in the country and set the base for a strong and long trajectory towards creating an innovative and strong Agrifood ecosystem that trespasses frontiers and builds a better future for everyone.

Begoña Pérez-Villarreal
EIT Food CLC South Director

EIT-Food Startup Guide Portugal 2022

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Foreign direct investment (FDI), outward, 2019, as % of GDP: **21.7%** (source: OECD)

Foreign direct investment (FDI), inward, 2019, as % of GDP: **65.8%** (source: OECD)

Gross public debt, 2019, as % of GDP: **116.6%**

Gross domestic product (GDP), 2019, thousands of EUR: **214,374,620**

Real GDP per capita, 2019, EUR: **18,670** (EUROSTAT)

Unemployment rate, 2019, %: **6.6** (INE)

Number of people employed in agriculture, 2019, thousands: **133.9**

Registered start-ups in Portugal, 2021: **+2,150**

Number of Portuguese unicorns: **7**

19th most innovative country in the EU (2021), according to the European Innovation Scoreboard

LOCAL AGRIFOOD MARKET INSIGHTS



1



1.1. Introduction

For the last few years, Portugal has been a hot spot for European and international entrepreneurs attracted to our relative ease of doing business – according to the World Bank, the average time that it takes to start a business in Portugal is 6.5 days, well below the world average of 20. Although still small, the Portuguese start-up ecosystem has been steadily rising and already represents 1.1% of the country's GDP and is responsible for more than 25,000 jobs. In fact, Portugal is becoming so attractive to foreign companies and investment that 2021 was the second consecutive year in which the country featured in EY's TOP 10 most attractive economies in terms of foreign investment.

In regard to the agrifood sector itself, the government has also been making efforts to foster innovation in the country: for example, it aims to use 93 million euros from the Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP) to invest in R&D and innovation projects, in the scope of the Innovation for Agriculture Agenda 2020–2030. The goal is to promote the sustainable growth of the Portuguese agrifood sector, making it more innovative.

That being said, if you're thinking of starting an agrifood business in Portugal or becoming self-employed as a foreign resident in the country, you will need to understand the business climate for start-ups, what types of registered companies you can set up and what the Portuguese business culture is like.



1.2. Simplified overview of the Portuguese agrifood industry

In Portugal, the agrifood sector plays an important role: taking into account not only agriculture, but food manufacturing and commerce as well, the industry represents almost 10% of the national GAV, 13.8% of the total number of companies and 12.7% of employment. It is relevant to also highlight the predominance of the agrifood sector when it comes to international trade of Portuguese goods, as agrifood products represent more than 10% of total exports.

Looking at the demographics of the agrifood industry, SMEs represent 99.1% of all enterprises and are responsible for 57.5% of the total revenue generated as well as 75.2% of all employment. Based on these data from the Banco de Portugal (2020), it is safe to assume that the Portuguese agrifood industry is run almost entirely by SMEs, although these only generate little more than half of the revenue of the sector. This also indicates that the scale effect is very important when it comes to thriving in this sector, which can be challenging for smaller and newer enterprises, which cannot benefit from economies of scale.

With regard to agricultural production, Portugal is competitive in the production of certain crops: the country is the EU's largest producer of tomatoes, the fourth-largest producer of wine and the EU's largest exporter of olives. However, the food production sector as a whole needs great improvement – Portugal only contributes to about 2% of the total agricultural output of the EU (EUROSTAT, 2020).

According to the Portuguese State of the Environment Portal, in 2019, 293,000 hectares were occupied by organic farming methods, including pastures (62%), permanent crops (21%) and temporary crops (18%). The increase in the land area used for organic farming was accompanied by an increase in the number of operators using organic production methods, which in 2020 stood at 6,795, some 90% of which were engaged in agricultural activities. The rise of organic production methods is also evident in the food and beverage industry. In 2020, there were 1,019 firms using organic methods in the processing of foodstuffs, with the largest number operating in the sectors of fruit and vegetables, oils and fats, as well as other food products such as sugar, chocolate, coffee and tea, condiments and pre-cooked foods.

Finally, it is useful to analyse the eating habits of the Portuguese. According to EUROSTAT (2017), Portugal is the second-highest EU country in terms of the consumption of fruit and the fourth when it comes to vegetables. The Portuguese are also the biggest consumers of fisheries and aquaculture products (EUMOFA, 2017), with an annual consumption per capita 2.5 times higher than that of the average EU citizen. Despite these seemingly healthy eating habits, the truth is that more than half of the Portuguese population does not comply with World Health Organization recommendations when it comes to the consumption of vegetables and fruits, as well as meat and salt. However, health and sustainability awareness is rising in Portugal, which is translated into the increase of organic production – between 2009 and 2019, certified organic agriculture holdings tripled.

**MAIN
STAKEHOLDERS IN
THE LOCAL AGRIFOOD
INDUSTRY**

2



2.1. Key Portuguese companies

The Portuguese food industry is highly competitive, being one of the leading employers in the country. Despite having many international agrifood companies operating in its territory, Portugal is also home to native food producers, retailers and distributors capable of actively competing with foreign companies.

Company name	Range of the activity	Revenue in 2019, million EUR (€)
Sonae MC 	Sonae MC is the leading company in the food retail sector in Portugal, owning one of the biggest supermarket chains in the country: Continente.	4,700
Jerónimo Martins 	Jerónimo Martins is a Portugal-based international group operating in the food distribution and specialized retail sectors. It is the owner of one of the biggest supermarket chains in the country: Pingo Doce.	18,600
Sumol+Compal 	Sumol+Compal is the biggest Portuguese non-alcoholic drinks group, created in 1945. It has a portfolio of 16 brands and specializes in fruit and vegetables, creating juices, nectars, and doses of fruit, vegetables and tomato derivatives.	300

Equanto		Equanto is specialized in food production and distribution, focusing on organic, vegetarian, gluten-free and lactose-free food. Founded in 1995, it now has more than 100 references of superfoods, flours, sugars, grains and home-made ice creams.	6
Mendes Gonçalves		Mendes Gonçalves is a Portuguese company, founded in 1982, dedicated to the production of seasonings: vinegars, sauces and piri-piris. Their products are sold on a national and international level.	36
Soja de Portugal		Founded in 1943 (Ovar, Portugal), Soja de Portugal is a Portuguese agri-industrial group that includes some of the biggest companies in the industry, such as Sorgal, Avicasal and Savinor. The company operates in various business areas, focusing on animal nutrition, poultry meat and the collection/processing/enhancement of animal by-products.	170
Lactogal		Founded in 1996, Lactogal is a Portuguese agrifood company specialized in dairy products and one of the largest national producers of consumer goods. With a portfolio of 13 brands, it produces milk, yogurts, cheeses, butter, cream, water and juices.	Unknown
Delta Cafés		Founded in 1961, Delta Cafés is a company specialized in the roasting and commercialization of coffee. It is the national leader in the sector and exports to different markets around the world.	340 (year unknown)
Lusiaves Group		Lusiaves Group, founded in 1986, operates at all stages of the animal production value chain, due to its investment in the verticalization of the poultry sector. Employing 3,000 direct employees and with 36 units, the group produces over 100 million eggs, chicks and broilers per year as well as 450,000 tons of feed annually.	452 (2018)

Ribeirvalves

Ribeirvalves is a Portuguese company founded in 1985 that focuses on codfish production. It owns the biggest codfish factory in the world and produces the equivalent of 8–10 % of the codfish caught worldwide.

148 (2014)

2.2. Public institutions

The Portuguese government actively works to support the agrifood sector and innovation within it. This is mainly done through the Ministry of Agriculture, in the case of all matters related to the agrifood industry in the country, as well as through ANI (the National Innovation Agency), which supports entrepreneurial activities and innovation in all sectors of the economy.

Ministry of Agriculture

<https://agricultura.gov.pt/en/>

The Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for the formulation, conduct, implementation and evaluation of policies in the sectors of agriculture, agrifood and rural development. It also plans and coordinates the application of national and European funds for agriculture and rural development, proceeding with the respective definition of strategy and priorities.

ANI – Agência Nacional para a Inovação

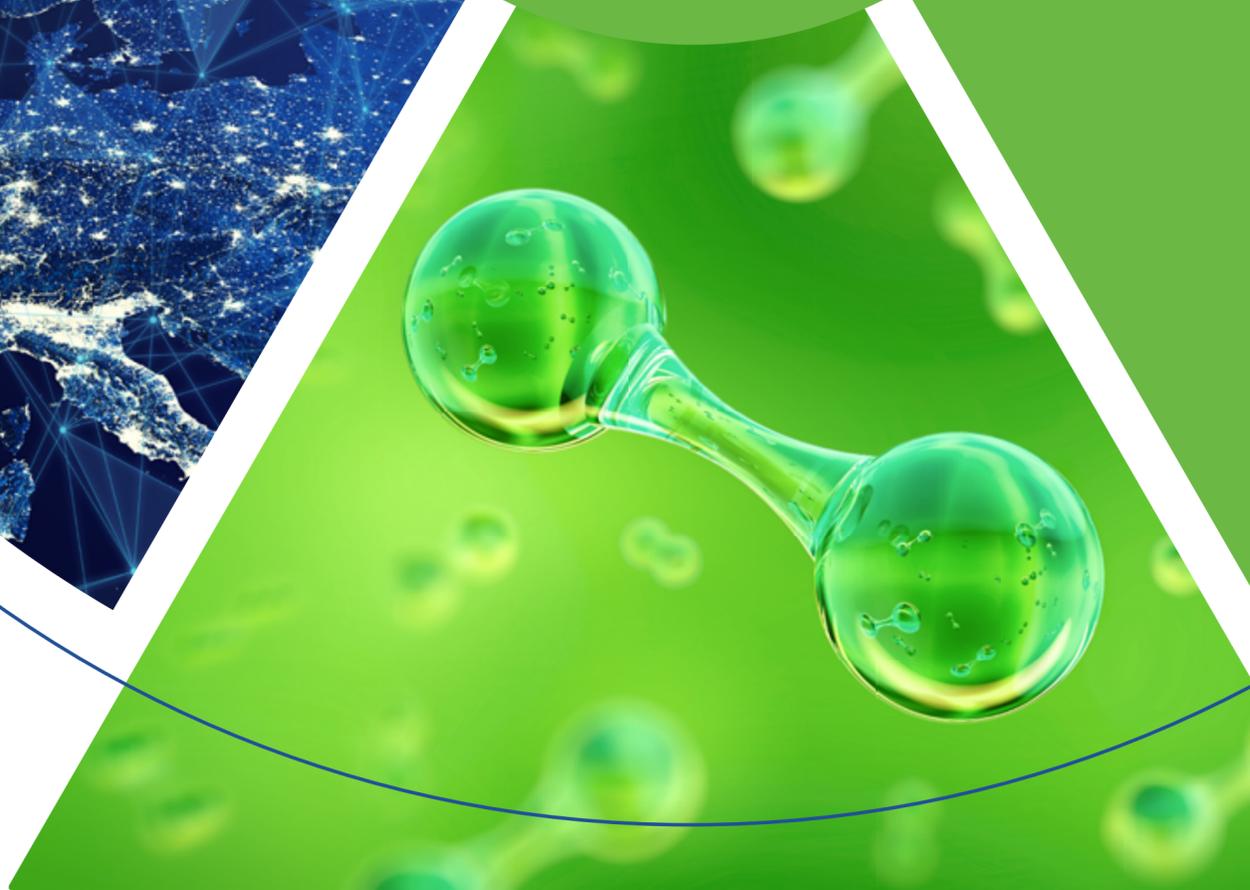
<https://www.ani.pt/en/>

The National Innovation Agency (ANI) has the mission of catalysing and enhancing innovation in Portugal by promoting the transfer of knowledge, in order to create value for the national economy. It establishes priorities and defines indicators focused on supporting the adoption of knowledge and technology by companies and society. ANI is the platform that ensures the alignment of technology-based R&D, innovation and entrepreneurship policies.

The agri-food sector has contributed positively to the growth of the Portuguese economy with a weight in GDP around 6%, in terms of turnover, and the agri-food and beverage industry has a weight of approximately 19% in the national manufacturing industry. This is a sector that is distinguished by factors such as a focus on innovation and technological modernity, excellence and quality products, production and export capacity, with agri-food exports recording an increase despite the pandemic crisis. It is a sector that bases its management strategy on strong competitive factors such as R&D and internationalization. Currently, the sector has a high reputation in external markets and is recognized for the quality and innovation of Portuguese agri-food products, including wine, olive oil, fruit, canned fish, tomato and pastry. In terms of challenges, the sector is preparing robustly for the green and digital transition, and is outlining the marketing strategy that allows strong and organized Portugal brand communication.

Teresa Carvalho,
Knowledge Division Coordinator at PortugalFoods

AGRIFOOD ECOSYSTEM



3.1. Funding opportunities for agrifood start-ups

Entrepreneurs and start-ups can seek financial support from various VC funds, as well as taking part in dedicated acceleration and incubation programmes organized by leading entrepreneurial institutions.

Name of opportunity/ investor/ organisation	Type of support (venture capital [VC] funding, angel investors, government funding, EU funding, startup loans, incubator/accelerator funding, competition with prize money, etc.)	Short description of opportunity, target group (vertical and stage), eligibility requirement, and funding amount or average ticket size	Link	Timeline (application deadline, important dates, etc.)
Bynd Ventures	Venture capital funding	Portuguese venture capital firm operating since 2010, with focus on seed/early-stage technology companies connected to Iberia, having made 40+ investments across verticals and geographies.	bynd.vc/en	N/A
ECOTROPHELIA Portugal	Competition with prize money	The ECOTROPHELIA Prize aims to promote innovation and entrepreneurship in the agrifood sector through the organization of national and European competitions where higher education students must develop eco-innovative and sustainable food products.	ecotropheliaportugal.com/	Annual applications, usually between February and May
EIT Food EWA – Empowering Women in Agrifood	Accelerator funding	EWA is an EIT Food programme aimed at women with talent and passion for entrepreneurship in the agrifood sector. It seeks to find innovative solutions that solve the problems faced by the food system.	bgi.pt/eit-food-ewa	Annual applications, usually between April and June

From Start to Table	Accelerator funding	Acceleration programme for businesses linked to the restaurant ecosystem for solutions within five years and in one of two categories: technology for restoration or catering concepts and sustainable food & beverage products.	fromstart-to-table.com/	Annual applications, usually between August and October
Indico	Venture capital funding	Venture capital firm in Portugal. The Portuguese ecosystem has a quite impressive backbone of engineering talent, especially in enterprise tech and digital companies. To continue to enhance the engineering talent, Indico mostly invests in local-going-global sustainable technology companies. They invest from €200k to €5 million in areas like blockchain, AI, big data, enterprise SaaS, fintech and marketplaces, among others.	indicocapital.com/	N/A
Portugal Ventures	Venture capital funding	Born in 2012 to assume a decisive role in funding and growing the national entrepreneurship ecosystem. Its main goal is to bring global success to Portuguese companies, helping them achieve competitive goals in all stages of development. In their eight years of life they have mentored more than 100 start-ups in over 20 different sectors.	portugalventures.pt/en/	N/A
Agrotech Challenge	Accelerator funding	Acceleration programme from the city of Fundão, to support the development of integrated and customized solutions for agriculture.	movetofundao.pt/agrochallenge/	Annual applications, usually between April and June
Gomarket	Accelerator	Acceleration programme for start-ups and business projects for the agrifood, transport and logistics industries promoted by Loures Inova.	gomarket.louresinova.pt/	Annual applications between May and September

3.2. Local incubators and accelerators that support agrifood start-ups

BGI – Building Global Innovators

<https://www.bgi.pt/>

BGI was founded in 2009 from a public-private partnership between the Portuguese Foundation of Technology, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and ISCTE (University Institute of Lisbon) to foster the transference of knowledge from research and universities to the market. With several acceleration and innovation programmes in the food industry, BGI is also the EIT Food RIS Hub in Portugal.

Impact Hub Lisboa

<https://lisbon.impacthub.net/>

In Lisbon since 2016, Impact Hub has supported the start, growth and scaling of entrepreneurs through its innovation programmes and collaborative co-working spaces. It has also built a wider ecosystem of diverse impact actors in key areas such as female entrepreneurship, diversity and circularity. It is part of the Impact Hub global network of nearly 25,000 entrepreneurs and innovators in more than 100 locations worldwide.

Startup Lisboa

<https://www.startuplisboa.com/>

Startup Lisboa is a start-up incubator based in Lisbon that currently has one building with workspaces and a residence to welcome entrepreneurs and start-ups. Created in 2012, it is a private non-profit association that supports the development and growth of incubated start-ups, helping them attract customers and investors, scale up and become global. Its incubation model includes the provision of workspaces at below market value.

Startup Portugal

<https://startupportugal.com/>

Public-private think tank that operates as a link between the government, entrepreneurs, incubators and accelerators. It helps in designing and implementing public policies and private initiatives to serve the ecosystem and attract new investors. It has different initiatives and programmes for early-stage ideas and projects as well as events to help entrepreneurs.

Loures Innovation Hub

<https://www.louresinnovationhub.pt/>

Loures Innovation Hub is a business centre that has an incubator and a unique value proposition focused on agrifood and logistics clusters. This centre provides access to around 900 operators, business support to companies and entrepreneurs, and targeted acceleration programmes.



HOW TO SET UP A COMPANY IN PORTUGAL



4



4.1. Setting up a legal entity in Portugal

The first step in setting up a legal entity in Portugal is to ensure that you meet the legal requirements to trade as self-employed in the country. You need:

- A Portuguese residency card
- A tax number from the Portuguese Tax Office
- A social security number from the Portuguese Social Security

Once you have completed these steps, which should take no more than around 15 days, you can start running your business in Portugal. First check if your area of business activity has any additional requirements, such as a licence or certain qualifications. In fact, for some businesses, it is illegal to start activity without official status in Portugal.

There are three ways of setting up a company in Portugal. Two simplified methods (online and on the spot) and the traditional method.

1

Setting up online (Empresa Online)

This allows certain types of Portuguese businesses to be set up and registered over the Internet within one or two days for a cost of €360. An electronic certificate is necessary. The Portal de Empresa website for doing this can be found [here](#).

2

Setting up on the spot (Empresa de Hora)

Sole traders and limited companies can be created in an hour for €360 via this government scheme. All partners should be present along with all necessary documentation and any legal representatives. Details of how to set up using Empresa de Hora can also be found [here](#).

3

If you are unable or unwilling to start up your Portuguese business using Empresa Online or Empresa de Hora, you can set up using the traditional method (Criação da Empresa) by following the steps below:

- Obtain a [Certificate of Admissibility](#) to formally identify your Portuguese company name. This is possible through the Institute of Registries and Notaries (IRN)
- Apply for a company card and a collective card (the main business ID) from the IRN
- Open a business bank account and deposit the initial capital
- Declare the commencement of activity at the [local tax office](#)
- Register your Portuguese business at a commercial registry office
- [Register as an employer](#) at the local social security office

4.2. Opening a limited liability company

If you are considering opening a business by yourself and without the help of a co-founder, it is important to be aware of your options when it comes to companies owned by one sole individual. A single-member limited company is usually the option chosen by entrepreneurs (due to its advantages when it comes to incorporation and liability), and below you will find a brief overview of all single-member commercial companies.

Single-member limited company (Sociedade Unipessoal por Quotas):

- Most common individually owned company type in Portugal;
- Has a single quota holder, which can be an individual person or another company;
- Liability is limited and therefore your personal assets will not be liable for the company's debts;
- This type of company is taxed under the IRC;
- It is required to hire the services of a chartered accountant (TOC);
- As regards share capital: the minimum to open this type of company is €1;
- You will need to open a bank account for your company;
- You will have to obtain an admissibility certificate, deposit the share capital and carry out the company's constitutive act;
- To open your company you will have to register it, and after the name it must mention "Unipessoal" or "Sociedade Unipessoal", followed by "Limitada" or "Lda"
- Open an activity at a tax office and register with social security;
- After your company's registration process, you can request your company card;
- A sole proprietorship is a more complex scheme, but it can compensate in relation to being a sole proprietor when the invoicing level is higher and the business is high risk.

Individual (Empresário em Nome Individual):

- It is owned by a single individual;
- The commercial name has to be the full or abbreviated name of the owner;
- There is no mandatory minimum amount of share capital;
- There is no separation between business and personal assets and the liability is unlimited; therefore, the owner is liable for the company's debts;
- To become an individual entrepreneur, you have to submit a self-employment registration certificate to the tax office.

Individual limited liability establishment (Estabelecimento Individual de Responsabilidade Limitada):

- It is owned by a single individual;
- The designation must be composed of the owner's full or abbreviated name;
- The minimum share capital is €5,000 and two-thirds of it has to be paid in cash, while the remaining amount can also be paid in goods or rights that may be subject to attachment;
- There is separation between business and personal assets and the liability is limited; therefore, only the assets associated with the activity are liable for the debts;
- To open the establishment you have to contact the IRN and obtain an admissibility certificate, a written constitution document and a chartered accountant report (the latter only if part of the share capital was paid in kind).



4.3. Opening a public limited company

If you have a business partner that will open the company with you, it is important to be aware of your options when it comes to companies owned by two or more individuals. Private and public limited companies are usually the options chosen by entrepreneurs (due to their advantages when it comes to incorporation and liability), and below you will find a brief overview of all commercial companies owned by several members.

Private limited liability company (Sociedade por Quotas):

- One of the most common company types in Portugal;
- Company with two or more partners and a minimum capital investment of €1 per shareholder;
- Shareholders are jointly responsible for everything agreed in the articles of association;
- Liability is limited and therefore shareholders are liable for debts up to the amounts covered by business assets;
- The shareholders need to open a bank account for the company;
- The shareholders may declare in the incorporation document that the share capital will be deposited in the company's bank account until the end of the first fiscal year;
- The shareholders have to obtain an admissibility certificate and carry out the company's constitutive act;
- The name of the company must include "Limitada" or "Lda";
- The company must open an activity at a tax office and register with social security;
- After your company's registration process has been completed, you can request your company card.

Public limited company (Sociedade Anonima):

- One of the most common company types in Portugal;
- A company that requires at least five shareholders and a minimum capital investment of €50,000;
- Each share must be of equal value and with a minimum amount of €0,01;
- Liability of debts is limited to business assets and shareholders are liable for amounts up to their share value;
- The company, in addition to the name and expression relating to the business, must then include "Sociedade Anónima" or "S.A."
- To open a public limited company it is necessary, among other actions, to: obtain an admissibility certificate and company card; deposit the share capital in the company's bank account; carry out the company's constitutive act; open an activity at a tax office; and register with social security.

Limited liability partnership (Sociedade em Comandita):

- Limited liability partnerships have two types of partners: limited partners and general partners;
- Limited partners have limited liability and therefore, in the case of company debts, are only liable for their capital contribution;
- Limited liability partnerships can be of two types: simple limited partnerships or limited partnerships with shared capital;
- Simple limited partnerships need to have a minimum of two partners, while limited partnerships with shared capital need to have at least five limited partners;
- General partners have unlimited liability and are therefore liable for the company's debts;
- The company, in addition to the name of one of the partners, must contain "Em Comandita" (simple limited partnership) or "Comandita por Ações" (limited partnership with shared capital).

Partnership (Sociedade em Nome Coletivo):

- Partnerships need to have a minimum of two partners and industry partners are allowed;
- The liability is unlimited and therefore partners are liable for debts for the amount of their share value as well as for their personal assets;
- There is no minimum amount of share capital required;
- The company's name must contain "e Companhia", "Cia" or another reference to more partners.

Currently, Portugal is one of the most attractive European countries for an entrepreneur/start-up to create their company. The creation of a company in Portugal can be done online and at the moment through the portal www.eportugal.gov.pt. One of the ways to create a company online is to establish a company on the spot, which will allow the creation of a company in an even faster way and expedited for only €360. Any individual or legal person can establish a company on the spot. The establishment of a company on the spot, in addition to the creation of the company, also allows, if desired, to acquire a registered trademark. To do this, you must choose the brand and company from a list of companies and brands already approved and available for purchase. In addition to the aforementioned values, in the constitution of a company with a brand associated with a class of products or services, there is a fee of €100. Portugal has several accelerator programs and incentives for entrepreneurs and start-ups, some of which can be consulted at www.iapmei.pt.

Luís Caixinhas, Trademark and Patent Attorney at Inventa

4.4. Support from the government in opening a company

For anyone who wants to know how to start a business, this list of financial programmes that encourage job creation provides important help:

- [Support for self-employment](#)
for those who are entitled to unemployment benefits and wish to receive the benefits all at once;
- [Support for business creation](#)
for those who are unemployed or looking for their first job. Grants loans with a grace period and subsidized interest rates;
- [National Microcredit Programme](#)
for those who have difficulty entering the job market and micro-enterprises and social economy cooperatives. Grants loans with a grace period and subsidized interest rates;
- [Investe Jovem](#)
for unemployed people up to 30 years of age. Supports up to 75% of the required investment;
- [Installation of Young Farmers](#)
for those under 40 years old. Grants a non-refundable subsidy of up to 40,000 euros;
- [ADN Start-Up](#)
for micro-enterprises. It supports the granting of loans at subsidized rates.

4.5. Organizations providing support in setting up company in Portugal

If you would like to obtain more information about running a business in Portugal, here are two Institutions that you should know about:

IAPMEI

<https://www.iapmei.pt/Paginas/StartUP-Visa-en.aspx>

IAPMEI is the Portuguese Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation, whose mission is to promote competitiveness and business growth. It does this by supporting the design, implementation and evaluation of policies aimed at industrial activity, in order to reinforce innovation, entrepreneurship and business investment. It is also responsible for the programme “Startup Visa”, for foreign entrepreneurs who intend to develop an entrepreneurial and/or innovative business in Portugal, granting a visa or residence permit to these foreign entrepreneurs.

AICEP Portugal Global

<https://www.portugalglobal.pt/EN/Pages/Index.aspx>

AICEP Portugal Global – Trade & Investment Agency has a global network in over 50 countries and is focused on the development of a competitive business environment that contributes to the globalization of the Portuguese economy. Among other things, this agency welcomes international investment projects in Portugal in order to promote sustainable economic growth.

Portuguese Industrial Association (AIP)

<http://www.aip.pt/?lang=pt>

The Portuguese Industrial Association is a Portuguese Chamber of Commerce and Industry based in Lisbon whose mission is to boost the Portuguese business fabric, contribute to the strengthening of business associations and provide high-quality services to companies. Among other things, this association ensures the representation and interests of Portuguese companies at local, national and international levels.

Portuguese Business Association (AEP)

<https://www.aeportugal.pt/>

The AEP is the largest business association in Portugal, with the status of Chamber of Commerce and Industry, based in the north region. The entity's mission since the beginning has been to support Portuguese business activity in several sectors and defend and promote the interests of the business community.

4.6. Contact details for the hub organization EIT Food RIS Hub in Portugal

BGI – Building Global Innovators,
Rua António Champalimaud, 1, CID Building,
1600-514 Carnide, Lisbon

Website:	www.bgi.pt/eit-food
Email:	geral@bgi.pt goncalo.amorim@bgi.pt
Project leader:	Cláudia Carocha
Project manager:	Diogo Ramalho
Director:	Gonçalo Amorim

4.7. Other important information

National events about entrepreneurship, sustainability and the agrifood industry are increasingly important to help any entrepreneur on their way to success. Therefore, here is a selection of the main events in these areas for entrepreneurs:

- [National Agro-Innovation Summit 2022](#)
next edition: Santarém, 2023
- [Lisbon Food Affair](#)
next edition: Lisbon, February 2023
- [Lisbon Agri Conferences](#)
next edition: Lisbon, 2023
- [Websummit](#)
next edition: Lisbon, November 2022
- [ESB Innovation Day 2022: Emergent Technologies in \(Bio\)Products Innovation](#)
Porto, 2022
- [Greenfest](#)
next edition: Carcavelos, September 2022
- [Feira Nacional de Agricultura \(FNA\)](#)
next edition: Santarém, 2023



SOURCES

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<https://www.oecd.org/investment/investment-policy/FDI-in-Figures-April-2022.pdf>

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