

## **PORTUGUESE HUB ICT**

The PORTUGUESE HUB ICT project has the North and Center Region as its scope of intervention (NUTS II) and aims to promote the international visibility of Portuguese companies in the Information, Communication and Electronics Technologies.

This project, operated by the Fraunhofer Portugal Research Association and Inova Ria, has as its main focus the Industry, Digital Health and Smartcities subsectors and aims to create the right conditions for adequate training of human resources, innovation, cooperation between the various agents and dynamization of promotional actions in foreign markets that make it possible to respond to the insufficient and inadequate external visibility of the national sector of Information and Communication Technologies.

Internationalization is strategic for companies in this sector, allowing them to diversify markets and reduce the risk of their activity.

The objectives are to provide access to new skills, good practices and knowledge generated in spaces with a strong innovation dynamic, seeking to internalize and integrate them in a creative way in the companies operational activities. Help to reinforce the presence in foreign markets, as an alternative to the reduction of the national market share. Strengthen cooperation networks, relationships established with other companies and R&I research centers. Promote international partnerships (chambers of commerce, business associations, importers, among others).

In this sense, several contacts have been made with companies from other countries, with the aim of identifying the needs and trends in international markets in the most relevant ICT subsectors, gaining access to new knowledge and establishing collaboration agreements with international reference agents in the indicated subsectors.

The degree of technological and productive specialization in the ICT sector in Portugal is comparable to any other country worldwide. With more opportunities, SMEs will be able to achieve a direct impact in terms of creating more jobs and wealth.

## PORTUGAL ICT SECTOR SUMMARY

Mature, Dynamic, Resilient and Exporting Sector;

Composed of almost 23 thousand companies that employ more than 148 thousand workers, with sales in excess of 20.440 million Euros;

Of the 23,000 companies, more than 5,600 are exporters representing 6,600 million Euros in sales:

Small companies: 92.3% of companies have less than 10 employees

Development of new innovative products and services.