Portugal – National Embedment

1. RI Definition	
In which points does the National Roadmap deviate from the ESFRI Roadmap?	
Categories	**National Roadmap**
Funding	
Categorisation of RI	
Access to RI	
Organisation within national procedure	

RI Definition from the Evaluation guidelines (call for RI to be included in the Roadmap, 2013): "A Research Infrastructure (RI) is here defined as an organizational system used by the scientific community to conduct top-level research and innovation in their respective fields. It may include large scientific equipment or sets of scientific instruments, collections and other knowledge based resources, data files and scientific data, computational and programming systems, communication networks that promote digital open access as well as other infrastructures of a unique nature, essential to achieve excellence in research. Research infrastructures can be single-sited or distributed as organized resource networks. To be included in the Roadmap, a Research Infrastructure must have: professional management that guarantees implementation of an action plan and the accomplishment of the specific aims there defined, with an efficient and transparent internal management of resources; capacity to relate with, and provide services to, the scientific, educational, business and industrial communities; clear, well defined and widely advertised policy of access conditions to national and international researchers external to the infrastructure, integrated in their aims and action plan."

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2. RI players in the national R&I system

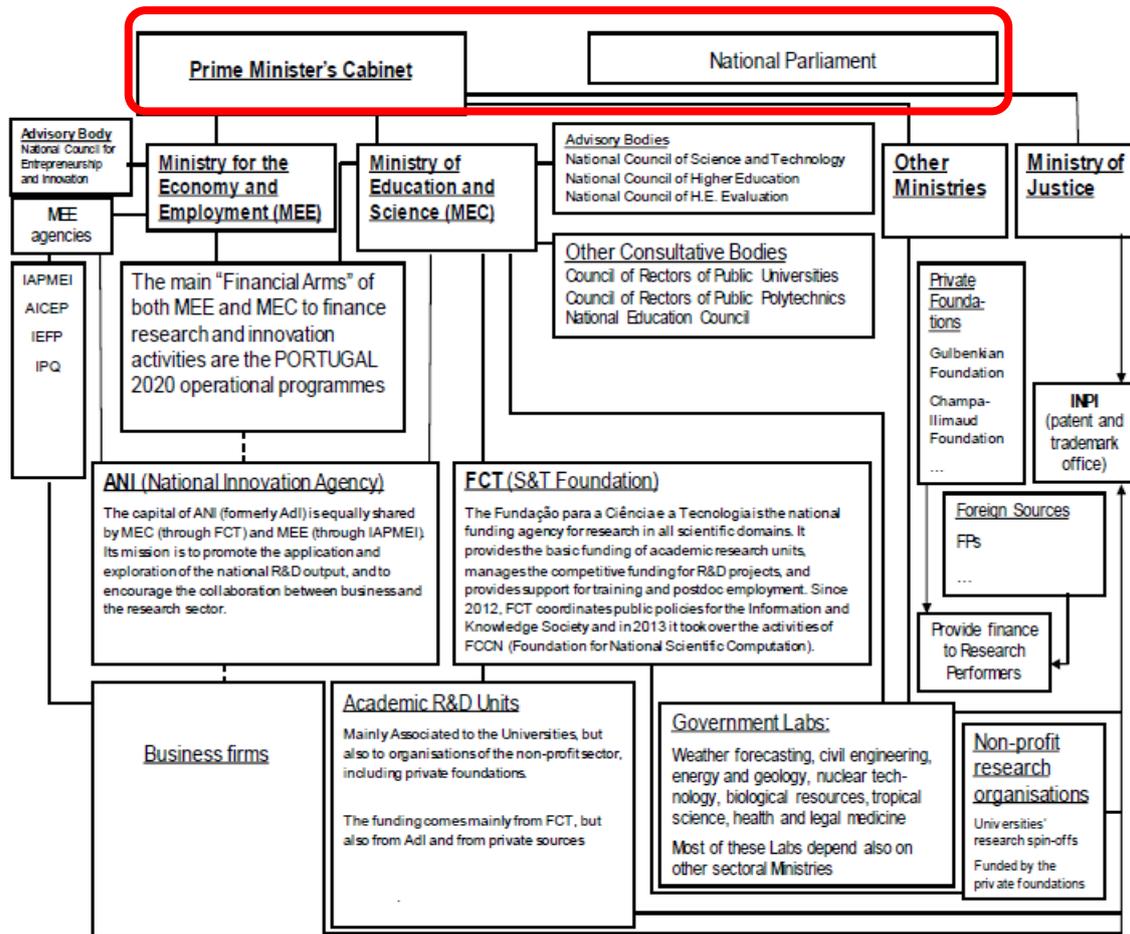The RI players within the R&I system are displayed in figure 19.

Figure 19: Organisational chart of the R&I system of Portugal (Godinho et al. 2016, p. 17). Red colour indicates the bodies with the main decision power regarding RI.

National relevance of RI

Formally there is a well-structured consultation system with several bodies (see the organisation chart above), though their activity and actual impact have been quite uneven. The National Council of S&T has been active and on a few circumstances, has made public its views, reflecting different perspectives existing within the research community. In contrast, the National Council for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, though having within its composition representatives of some of the most dynamic R&D performing firms, seems to be less active in promoting its activities. Beyond these two National Councils, there are no other formal channels to seek advice of professional, regional or scientific associations. Further, the degree of organisation and networking of these types of groups is also limited, which may account for their weak involvement in the policy-making process.

The main funding agency providing support for academic research has been FCT (The Foundation for Science & Technology). FCT has performed a role as research council, providing funding for the academic research units, support for research projects and also for advanced training, mainly at the PhD and postdoc levels. In parallel, the *Agência Nacional de Inovação* (formerly *Agência de Inovação*), has also had a role in funding applied research and innovation activities. In contrast to FCT, which is more oriented towards academic research, this entity has managed policy tools

directly related with support to innovation-driven research. Despite no multiannual budgeting being in place, the resources that are allocated through the OPs of the national reference framework Portugal 2020 allow for a certain coordination and predictability of public expenditure on R&D, though several factors have historically interfered with the execution of the OPs.

Embedding of RI in the national R&I system
As displayed in the chart, **the research system is organised in three levels**. **The first level (the political level)** contains the Prime Minister's Office and the main ministries in charge of supporting R&D: the Ministry for Education and Science and the Ministry for the Economy. Other sectorial ministries, including the Agriculture, Health, Environment, Foreign Affairs and Defence ministries, also allocate funds for R&D, but their importance in R&D funding is not comparable.

The second level (the operational level) is comprised of the managing bodies of the main operational programmes that provide funds for research, together with the major executive agencies.

Finally, **the third level (research performers)** displays those entities that actually perform R&D activities, namely academic R&D units and public laboratories. The entities that provide advice to the 18 Ministry for Education and Science are also displayed. The Parliament is not formally connected in the organisation chart with the remaining sectors, as this political body has had a limited role in discussing and defining policy objectives in the area of S&T.

3.   RI in the National R&I System

The research system has been marked by a high degree of centralisation, through fund allocation and political coordination. **The regions have had a minor role in the allocation of research funds.**

4.   Major national strategies for international cooperation in R&I and strategic integration of RI

The Operational Programmes under the Portugal 2020 Partnership Agreement started to be implemented and several measures have reached cruise speed. The 2013 evaluation of the research units carried out by FCT was finished in May 2015. The October 2015 election led to the establishment of a new government in December, with changes expected in relation to research policy; a new FCT President was already nominated.

References

- European Commission (2015), Country Report Portugal 2015, Brussels, European Commission, COM(2015) 41 final, 26.2.2015, [Last access: 21/07/2017.].
- Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (2013). Evaluation guidelines: FCT call for national roadmap of research infrastructures of strategic relevance <http://www.fct.pt/apoios/equipamento/roteiro/2013/docs/guiaoavaliacao_2013.pdf>. [Last access: 07/2017.].
- Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (2013). Evaluation guidelines: FCT call for national roadmap of research infrastructures of strategic relevance <http://www.fct.pt/apoios/equipamento/roteiro/2013/docs/guiaoavaliacao_2013.pdf>. [Last access: 06/2017].
- Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (2014). *Portuguese roadmap of Research Infrastructures 2014 – 2020*. http://www.fct.pt/apoios/equipamento/roteiro/2013/docs/Portuguese_Roadmap_of_Research_Infrastructures.pdf>. [Last access: 07/2017.].
- Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (2014). Portuguese roadmap of Research Infrastructures 2014 – 2020.

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<http://www.fct.pt/apoios/equipamento/roteiro/2013/docs/Portuguese_Roadmap_of_Research_Infrastructures.pdf>. [Last access: 02/06/2017].

- Godinho, M., Vítor Corado Simões and Jana Zifciakova (2016), RIO COUNTRY REPORT 2015: Portugal. Brussels: European Commission. [Last access: 07/2017.]
- Information included in the InRoad Consultation (survey sent on 02/05/2017).

Further links

- 2013 call for the National Roadmap of Research Infrastructures of Strategic Relevance <http://www.fct.pt/apoios/equipamento/roteiro/2013/index.phtml.en> [Last access: 07/2017.]
- Research Infrastructures Roadmap information <http://www.fct.pt/apoios/equipamento/roteiro/index.phtml.en> [Last access: 07/2017.]
- Detailed call information for research infrastructure projects <http://www.poci-compete2020.pt/concursos/detalhe/AAC-01-SAICT-2016> [Last access: 07/2017.]

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