



SICE - Internationalization of SMEs

(Individual operations)

STAR.T.PME
Start smart.

PORTUGAL
2030

SICE - Internationalization of SMEs (Individual operations)

Areas of intervention

Support can be given to operations to internationalize the business models of SMEs with a view to adopting more advanced business strategies and increasing their capacity to integrate into global value chains, through actions in the field of:

- a)** Knowledge, prospecting and presence in foreign markets;
- b)** International marketing;
- c)** Online presence and e-commerce;
- d)** Creation and international promotion of brands;
- e)** Organizational innovation related to commercial practices or external relations;
- f)** Quality and specific certification for foreign markets.

Geographical area

Type of Operation Mainland NUTS II regions (North; Center; Lisbon; Alentejo; Algarve).

To support business training operations aimed at internationalizing business models through the adoption of more advanced business strategies that increase the capacity to integrate into global value chains.

Greater focus on operations that aim to produce tradable and internationalizable goods and services, within the framework of production sectors and broader value chains that generate greater added value, helping to strengthen the export orientation and external competitiveness of the Portuguese economy.

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Financing rate

- Maximum co-financing rate (ERDF)

COMPETE2030 - 40%

LISBOA2030 - 40%

ALGARVE2030 - 40%

- Total budget allocation - 32.000.000 €

COMPETE2030 - 20.000.000 €

LISBOA2030 - 10.000.000 €

ALGARVE2030 - 2.000.000 €

- Maximum incentive:

315,000 euros (with the exception of the Algarve).

Minimum and Maximum Investment

Operations eligible for support must have a **minimum total eligible expenditure of 200,000 euros.**

Eligible Entities

Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

Note: Register an individual export level (international turnover) of **more than 200,000 euros** in the pre-project year.

Eligible Expenses

The following costs are eligible, provided they are directly related to the development of the operation:

a) Salary costs incurred in hiring qualified human resources, including the basic salary and compulsory social charges by the employer, and subsistence allowances are not accepted;

b) Costs incurred in participating in fairs and exhibitions abroad, including space rental, construction and operation of the stand;

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c) Costs of specialized consultancy services, provided by external consultants, which do not constitute a continuous or periodic activity, nor are related to the normal functioning of the beneficiaries, including expenses with the intervention of certified accountants or statutory auditors, in the validation of the expenditure of payment requests, costs associated with the certification of products, processes or services, costs of designing and registering new brands, costs associated with the domiciliation and subscription of applications, adherence to electronic platforms or inclusion in directories and search engines;

d) Other costs of specialized consultancy services provided by external consultants, including expenses aimed at incorporating ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) principles into companies with a view to adopting environmental, social and corporate governance practices, including services related to auditing processes and obtaining certifications for systems, services and products in the environmental area, such as obtaining the Ecolabel and the eco-management and audit system (EMAS);

e) Other expenses related to promoting internationalization, including prospecting and attracting new clients and promotional activities carried out in foreign markets.

Note: There are specific rules or limits on the eligibility of expenditure.

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PORTALEGRE	Rua 1º de Maio, Nº 81, Loja E, Piso 1, 7300-205 Portalegre
FARO	Campus da Penha, 8000-139, Faro
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