



PRR - BPF

Business Innovation: Tech Foundry Portugal - Deep Tech Edition

STARTE_PME
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BPF Banco Português
de Fomento

Intervention Areas

This line aims to support science- and technology-based startups in the development and validation of Deep Tech innovations, through an investment program in equity or quasi-equity instruments under a co-investment scheme with private investors.

It also includes a national acceleration program for the validation and preparation for industrialization of emerging technologies, enabling faster and more collaborative development. This program is being designed by Startup Portugal – the Portuguese Association for the Promotion of Entrepreneurship.

Specifically, this line aims to support investment projects that:

- Have a validated proof of concept (TRL ≥ 4) and hold protected or formally protected intellectual property, including patents, utility models, registered software, trade secrets, confidential scientific and technical know-how, or exclusive exploitation licenses from scientific or technological institutions;

- Demonstrate an effective connection to the National Scientific and Technological System, namely through institutional origin, co-founding, or valorization of R&D results;
- Develop technologies framed within one of the following domains:
 - Biotechnology and life sciences
 - Nanotechnology and advanced materials
 - Clean and advanced climate technologies (storage, grid, production)
 - Advanced digital technologies (semiconductors, quantum technologies, advanced communications, robotics, next-generation AI)
 - Advanced and sustainable mobility (space, aeronautics, autonomous systems, defense)

Geographic Area

Mainland Portugal

Beneficiary Entities

Startups

Funding Rate

a) Financing of up to €750,000

through equity or quasi-equity instruments under a co-investment scheme with private investors, ensuring a minimum private co-investment threshold of 30%:

- Equity instruments, including ordinary or preferred shares, without taking, at the time of the initial investment, holdings equal to or greater than 50% of the share capital or voting rights of the invested company;
- Quasi-equity instruments, including convertible bonds (or other hybrid instruments such as participative loans).

b) Possibility of access to an acceleration program, currently being planned by Startup Portugal, focused on concept validation, prototype development, and go-to-market strategy.

Eligible Expenses

Eligible expenses include equity or quasi-equity investments in startups.

- Such investments are only considered eligible if there is no conflict of interest between private investors, Banco Português de Fomento (BPF), and the supported startup.
- Also eligible are expenses related to centers of excellence for the validation and industrialization of emerging technologies.

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