

STATE AND SECTOR OPPORTUNITIES

Portugal has been very active in pursuing important reforms to improve business and economic performance countrywide. These include cutting unnecessary red tape for businesses through Simplex and Simplex+ programmes, improving the firm restructuring and insolvency framework (Capitalizar programme), facilitating innovation collaborations (Interface programme), amending labour regulations to reduce duality and promoting greater use of digital services among the population (INCoDe 2030 and Partnership Digital Skills+ programmes).

The Portuguese economy continues to improve and grow. Its aggregate ease of doing business score is 76.55 in 2019 according to the [World Bank Doing Business Report](#). It scores 90.89 for starting a business and 100.00 for trading across borders. Sectors such as tourism and real estate have been the main motors of economic recovery, but they are not the only ones. If you are considering moving to or investing in Portugal, these are the sectors which have benefited most from the economic cycle:

- ❖ **Tourism** - Tourism, in particular, plays an important and rapidly increasing role in the Portuguese economy: in 2018, it grew by 8.1% and gave employment to 21.8% of the workforce. [Visit Portugal](#) and the National Tourism Authority is working to promote innovation in the tourism sector by facilitating innovation and technology as well as promoting access to funding.
- ❖ **Agriculture** - The agricultural sector comprises around [2.1% of Portugal's GDP and employs 6%](#) of the active population. The main crops produced include cereals, fruits, vegetables, wine and cork.
- ❖ **Industry** - The industrial sector employs 24% of the workforce and contributes to 19.2% of Portugal's GDP. Its main sectors of activity are metallurgy, machinery, electrical and electronics industries, mechanical engineering, textiles and construction.
- ❖ **Services** - The services sector comprises 65.3% of GDP and employs nearly 69% of the active population.

To find the actors in Portugal's startup ecosystem working in these various sectors, you can consult the [Startup Hub](#). The Startup Hub will provide you with a platform to identify and geolocate startups and incubators, benchmark public and private initiatives promoting entrepreneurship, and have a thorough insight of the Portuguese startup scene. It is a tool for matchmaking, networking and to further promote and nourish the startup scene in Portugal.