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SID Banka and Banco Português de Fomento join forces to boost economic cooperation between Portugal and Slovenia

Bilateral agreement creates new opportunities for companies in both countries

Banco Português de Fomento (BPF) and SID Banka, respectively Portugal's and Slovenia's national promotional banks, **have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** that establishes a **strategic partnership aimed at strengthening bilateral investment and economic cooperation between the two countries.**

The agreement sets the foundation for **joint efforts to support the internationalization of Portuguese and Slovenian companies** through **co-designed financial instruments, shared technical expertise** and enhanced **access to new markets**. BPF will act as a gateway for Slovenian companies seeking to invest in Portugal, while SID Banka will serve as a key partner for Portuguese companies expanding into Slovenia.

"This agreement reflects our shared commitment to promoting sustainable investment and marks a decisive step toward unlocking new business opportunities and reinforcing economic ties between Portugal and Slovenia. By combining our expertise with SID Banka, we strengthen our support for companies seeking to expand internationally, access new markets, and drive innovation. This partnership will create lasting value for both economies and help boost Europe's overall competitiveness," explains Luís Guimarães, Chief Commercial and International Officer of Banco Português de Fomento.

Borut Jamnik, President of the Management Board: *"This partnership with Banco Português de Fomento is an important step in strengthening economic and investment cooperation between Slovenia and Portugal. Both institutions share the goal of supporting sustainable growth, innovation and international competitiveness. The Memorandum of Understanding creates a framework for joint financial instruments, shared expertise and cross-border investments that will open new markets for companies in both countries. Together we aim to deliver tangible results for businesses, contribute to Europe's green and digital transition and strengthen a more resilient and connected European economy."*

Strategic cooperation in high-potential sectors

With over three decades of experience in promoting investment and supporting economic development in their respective countries, both institutions are committed to fostering **collaboration in high-value sectors**, including (but not limited to):

- Renewable energy and environmental technologies
- Automotive and sustainable mobility
- Information and communication technologies (ICT)

- Pharmaceuticals and biotechnology
- Education, tourism, and sustainable agriculture

These sectors reflect the strategic priorities for both countries and offer strong potential for innovation and cross-border partnerships. Both institutions **encourage and invite companies operating in these areas to explore new opportunities for cooperation and investment**, backed by the institutional and financial support from BPF and SID Banka.

The MoU also establishes the groundwork for broader cooperation between BPF and SID Banka, enabling **joint support for internationalization efforts through export operations, co-investments and acquisitions** - not only bilaterally, but also in third-country markets. By combining public and private financing instruments, both institutions aim to reduce investment risks through local market knowledge and due diligence, increase investor confidence, and unlock larger-scale, cross-border opportunities, particularly in the emerging and strategic sectors mentioned above.

This partnership aligns with the goals of [Portugal's Internationalise 2030 strategy programme](#), which promotes market diversification, increased foreign direct investment and the strengthening of European value chains. It represents a concrete step toward building a more connected, resilient, and competitive European economy.

With this partnership, SID banka deepens the objectives of the [Development Strategy 2025 – 2027](#) in the field of promoting competitiveness and responding to the needs of the Slovenian economy, and strengthens international cooperation through the exchange of good international practices.

For further information, please contact:

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About SID Banka

SID Banka is a promotional development and export Bank which is 100% owned by the Republic of Slovenia with a primary aim to promote economic and social development. Pursuant to the law, SID banka supports economic, structural, social and other policies by offering financial and insurance services, while serving long-term benefit to society. SID Banka's products effectively supplement a range of services provided by commercial banks and thus eliminate market deficiencies arising whenever there is an insufficient supply of financial services by private sector (especially in respect

of supporting competitive economy, development of knowledge society and innovative entrepreneurship, development of an environmentally friendly society and production, and regional economic and social development).

Learn more at: <https://www.sid.si/en>

About Banco Português de Fomento

Banco Português de Fomento (BPF) is Portugal's Sovereign Development Bank, serving companies, the economy, and the country. With financial solutions focused on growth, innovation, and the climate and digital transition, it supports companies of all sizes and sectors in accessing the necessary financing to invest, modernize, create jobs, and compete globally.

Promoting entrepreneurship, internationalization, and innovation—with an emphasis on job creation, green and digital transition, and economic recovery—is at the core of its mission.

BPF is the exclusive national Implementing Partner of the European InvestEU programme, certified by the European Commission, mobilizing over €3.6 billion to promote investments. It also plays a crucial role in implementing Portugal's national Recovery and Resilience Plan (PRR), structuring or distributing capital and quasi-capital solutions with a total amount of €1.425 billion, including the Capitalization and Resilience Fund (€1.3 billion) and the Azores Business Capitalization Fund (€125 million).

Learn more at: <https://www.bpfomento.pt/>