

Portugal

New guidelines are being developed to strengthen policy coherence in support of SDG implementation, building on existing legislation. The 2030 Agenda has created new momentum for policy coherence at the highest level of government. Political commitment, as anchored in existing legislation and mechanisms to promote policy coherence for development (PCD), is being reaffirmed with the introduction of new intra-governmental guidelines aligned to the 2030 Agenda. Since 2010, the Council of Ministers Resolution 82/2010 has provided a legal framework for ensuring coherence between national policies that may impact on other countries, while the Strategic Concept for Portuguese Co-operation 2014-2020 has promoted policy coherence with regard to development co-operation. Following the adoption in 2015 of the 2030 Agenda, in 2016 the Council of Ministers adopted intra-governmental guidelines that take into account the need to closely align domestic and international dimensions of SDG implementation. These guidelines will further enhance PCSD, as will the importance attributed to PCSD in Portugal's 2017 Voluntary National Review.

Institutional mechanisms are being adapted to better co-ordinate the internal and external dimensions of SDG implementation and foster policy integration. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs co-ordinates overall implementation of the SDGs, together with the Ministry of Planning and Infrastructures, in line with intra-governmental guidelines adopted in 2016. Two supporting bodies are responsible for co-ordinating the internal and external dimensions, respectively: the Interministerial Commission of Foreign Policy (CIPE) and the Interministerial Commission for Co-operation Policy (CIC). A network of focal points from different government departments, led by the Institute for Co-operation and Language (Camões I.P.), seeks to facilitate information sharing on policy implications; mainstream policy coherence concerns into sectoral policies; and identify potential synergies and trade-offs between different policy objectives. Ongoing efforts to establish PCSD priorities, together with a National Plan for Policy Coherence for Development, will further strengthen cross-sectoral collaboration and integration.

The National Institute for Statistics (Statistics Portugal) identifies appropriate data sources and helps facilitate consistency across different levels of monitoring and reporting. Statistics Portugal works closely with the statistical departments of different ministries and other national authorities involved in SDG implementation at the national level. It also monitors regional and global SDG initiatives, together with e.g. the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and Eurostat. These processes have enabled national and international mapping of available indicators and data sources for monitoring the SDGs in Portugal. All existing information is made available on a single SDG platform on Statistic Portugal's website in order to give the public easy access and an overview of identified indicators.

Table 3.14 Institutional mechanisms for PCSD in Portugal

Building Block	Portugal
Political commitment	The Council of Ministers Resolution 82/2010 provides a legal framework for policy coherence for development (PCD). Mechanisms have been in place for PCD since 2010. This legal framework recognises the need to ensure coherence between national policies which directly or indirectly affect developing countries. The Strategic Concept for Portuguese Cooperation 2014-2020 also states a political commitment to PCD. The importance of PCSD is affirmed in Portugal's 2017 VNR.
Policy integration	The government's overall legislative procedure contributes to policy integration, whereby Council of Ministers' Resolutions and Resolutions of Secretaries of State are circulated by all ministries. The Institute for Co-operation and Language (Camões I.P.) leads a network of focal points from all ministries in order to stimulate information-sharing and interministerial dialogue around policy implications, synergies and trade-offs. Ongoing efforts to establish PCSD priorities aim to strengthen integrated policy analysis.
Intergenerational timeframe	Political commitment towards the SDGs is long-term and goes beyond electoral cycles, with public scrutiny supporting this ambition. In the context of Portuguese development co-operation, long-term geographical commitments are safeguarded so as to support structural reforms in partner countries.
Policy effects	Camões I.P. is responsible for signalling potential negative effects. It does this through existing mechanisms of dialogue and co-ordination and by promoting conciliatory measures with the ministry responsible for the policy in question. The aforementioned efforts to establish PCSD priorities are also expected to facilitate the identification of negative impacts.
Co-ordination	The Ministry of Foreign Affairs assumed overall responsibility for co-ordinating and developing intra-governmental guidelines for implementation of the 2030 Agenda, adopted in 2016, together with the Ministry of Planning and Infrastructures. The Interministerial Commission for Foreign Policy (ICFP) is responsible for co-ordinating domestic implementation, while the Interministerial Commission for Cooperation (ICC) – with a clear mandate for PCD – is responsible for co-ordinating the external dimension related to Development Cooperation policy. Additionally, each SDG has been allocated to a co-ordinating ministry responsible for its implementation, monitoring and review.
Local involvement	Portugal's 2017 VNR recognises the importance of local authorities for implementing the 2030 Agenda within their territory through various initiatives with local autonomy. Portugal has set as one of its priorities the development of innovative partnerships with different actors, including local authorities (Ministry of Foreign Affairs Portugal, 2017[1]).
Stakeholder participation	The preparation of the 2017 VNR benefited from a public consultation on implementation of the 2030 Agenda held in 2016. This process, which was led by a group of non-governmental CSOs with the support of Camões I.P. and the UN regional Information Centre for Western Europe, collected input on the operationalisation, evaluation and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda for the purpose of preparing periodical "shadow reports". Several multi-stakeholder workshops and seminars, as well as an online enquiry to reach more citizens, have also been organised.
Monitoring and reporting	The National Institute for Statistics (Statistics Portugal, INE) is the central institution for the production and dissemination of official statistics. In this capacity, it co-ordinates closely with other ministries' statistical departments and other national authorities involved in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. A continuously updated SDG file is available on Statistics Portugal's website to allow an easy overview of SDG indicators.

Source: OECD (2018), "Country profiles: Institutional mechanisms for policy coherence", in *Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development 2018: Towards Sustainable and Resilient Societies*, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264301061-6-en>.