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DO QREN

Strengthening of the institutional framework: key challenges

Duarte Rodrigues

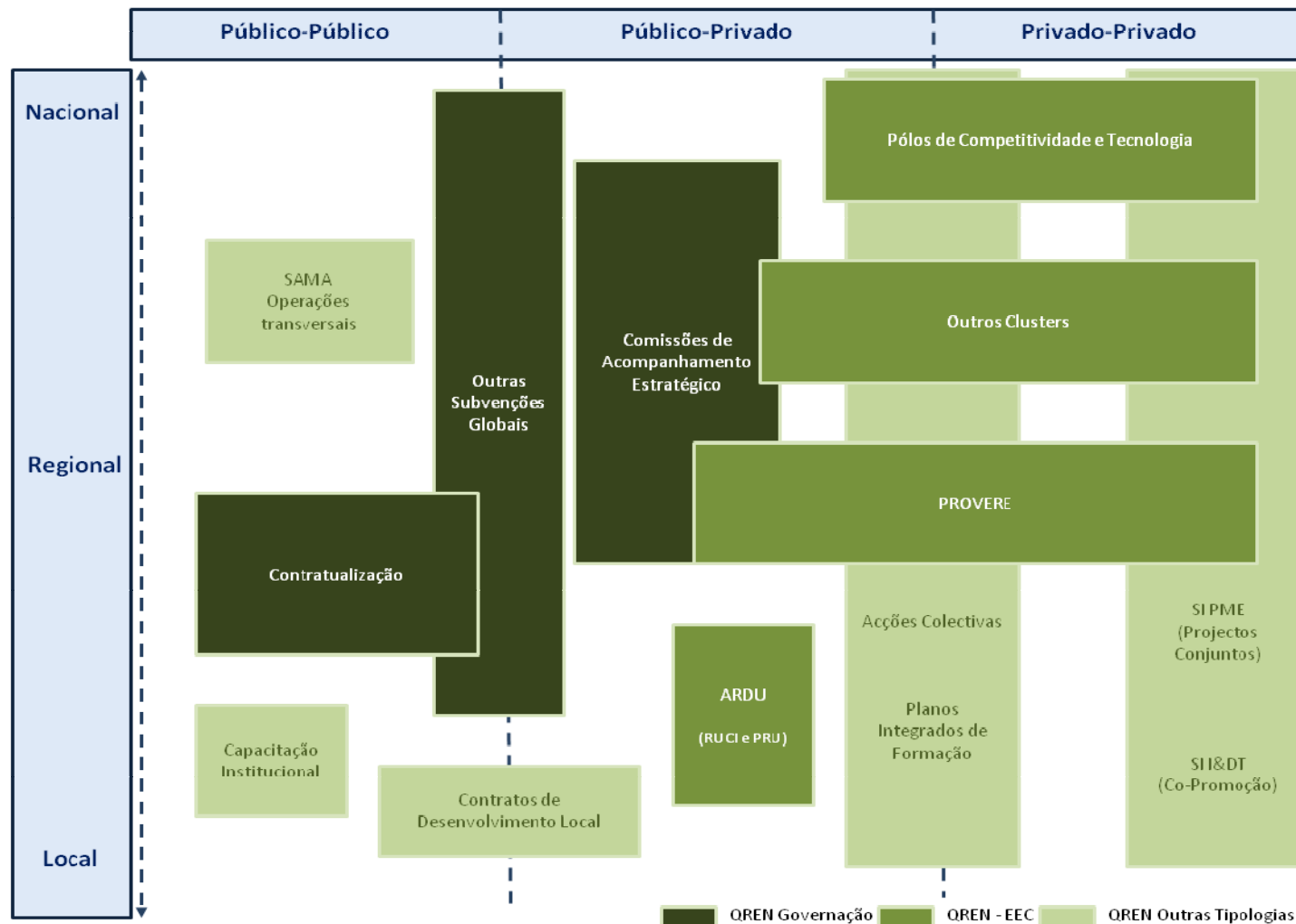
Deputy Coordinator – Portuguese NSRF Observatory

OECD WORKSHOP: "IMPROVING PRODUCTIVITY IN LAGGING REGIONS"

Session 3: Institutions and Policy Discussions

Paris, 28 June 2010

Portuguese NSRF tools for promoting institutional cooperation



Challenges during the design phase



- Incremental vs. exhaustive approach for the new policy instruments;
- Based on institutions with democratic legitimacy vs. creating new institutions;
- Transactional vs. relational contracts

Challenges during the implementation phase



- The capacity building for weaker institutions;
- The right balance between flexibility in procedures and rigorous assessment of the outcomes;
- Political will and persistency . . . learning by doing;
- Avoiding the risk of institutional fatigue;
- The role of monitoring and evaluation.

Extra challenges from current fiscal framework



- The right balance between short-term “survival” and long-term strategy;
- How to introduce flexibility in the contracts to guarantee its implementation in the framework of financial shortage;
- The pressure to show short-term results, even for mechanisms that are clearly long-term oriented.



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