TECHNOLOGY PROSPECTING ABROAD



3.16 PORTUGAL

ortugal has a GDP of 6.90 billion Escudos (approximately C\$53.27 billion) and a population of 10.4 million.

The key industrial sectors are: textile, clothing and footwear, timber, cork and paper pulp and machinery.

The expenditures on R&D are 47.36 billion Escudos (approximately C\$365 million) or 0.68% of GDP.

TECHNOLOGY TRENDS/STRENGTHS

Total expenditure on R&D for 1986 was US\$256.9 million (current purchasing power parity basis) or 0.45% of GDP. The state financed 63.5% of the total, while the companies paid 26.8% and the universities and private not-for-profit organizations made up the remainder. Since 1986, the picture has not changed significantly. R&D expenditures by the state in 1986 concentrated on "natural and exact sciences" (29.7%), "engineering" (30.0%) and "agriculture, forestry, livestock, hunting and fisheries" (18.9%). Enterprises, in turn, concentrated heavily on "manufacturing" (68.2%) with "services (transport, communications, banking, etc.)" a fair second (20.9%).

KEY ORGANIZATIONS/ PROGRAMS

The state's direct contribution involves practically all of the state institutes which in 1990 will receive from the government budget a total of 18,108 million Escudos (approximately C\$140 Million), to cover their R&D expenditures. The largest single share (5,230 million Escudos) will go to the National Board for Scientific and Technological Research (7NICT) which, among other things, is responsible for supporting "the implementation of programs and projects relating to scientific research, experimental development, and innovation". A rather distant second is the National Laboratory of Engineering and Industrial

Technology (LNETI) with 3,608 million Escudos followed by the National Institutes of Agricultural Research (INIA) with 2,555 million Escudos.

As in other sectors, EC funding plays a significant role. In fact, 2,000 of JNICT's 5,230 million Escudos (above) are earmarked as Portugal's "counterpart" in the new "CIENCIA" program. CIENCIA received government approval in June 1989 and will be expected, in 1990-1993, to "mobilize funding" at levels not previously experienced. It will support "quality" R&D in areas of great interest to the country, and will marshall the energies of the "Portugese scientific community in the country and abroad".

CONDITIONS OF ACCESS

Portugal is open to co-operation with foreign firms and research organizations provided that they meet the requirements established by the EC which is that the Canadian entity have a local "presence".

TECHNOLOGICAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR CANADIANS

Opportunities exist in the fisheries and the clothing industry.

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