Geneva, April 2015
Communicating effectively about migrants and migration
Portugal as a host society for immigrants

**Immigrant population today in Portugal:**

- 401,320 foreign residents;
- about 4.5% of the resident population;
- about 8% of the working population;
- representing more than 170 nationalities, namely:
  - Brazil;
  - Ukraine;
  - Cape Verde;
  - Romania and
  - Angola
Recognising the importance of having a coherent integration policy for immigrants, Portugal created in 1996 a state cabinet with the main mission of promoting the integration of immigrants and the intercultural dialogue, that in 2007 became a public institute with the official name: High Commission for Immigration and Intercultural Dialogue (ACIDI).

In March 2014, ACIDI became ACM – HIGH COMMISSION FOR MIGRATION with a new mission particularly in the area of immigrants attraction and emigration.
I - Informing in order to defend rights and fulfill duties;

II - Solutions to resolve problems;

III - Getting to know more so as to act better;

IV - Outreach with immigrants;

V - Raising Public awareness of welcoming and integration and Promotion of Interculturality;

VI – Consultative Commissions and Council that function within ACM;
• **Mission:** to promote the social inclusion of children and youngsters coming from vulnerable socio-economical contexts, with a view on reinforcing equality of opportunities and social cohesion;

• **Strategy:** Empowerment and accountability of civil society;

• National programme that funds, supports and evaluates more than 100 projects throughout the country (72 municipalities);

• Funded by the national budget (ISS, IEPF, ME) and European Social Fund;

• Co-produced with local resources.
Among its various activities, the High Commission for Migrations has dedicated particular attention to the conception, implementation and evaluation of public immigration policies, on the basis of essential strategic cooperation with academy and research centres, through its Immigration Observatory.
2004 – National Immigrant Support Centres (CNAI):
The Portuguese One-Stop-Shop Experience

Other important initiatives and instruments:

- “SOS Immigrant” telephone number;

- Telephone Translation Service;
A network of 36 trainers who promote, under request of institutions, a set of actions of information and awareness-raising in the fields of citizenship and interculturality.

Objectives:
1) To promote a better understanding of diversity in society;
2) To raise awareness to the hosting and integration of immigrants in Portugal;
3) To contribute towards an intercultural citizenship.

To achieve a balance between openness to diversity and social cohesion
The Portuguese secrets for integration policy success...

Migration history
("moral obligation" to welcome immigrants in the same way that we expect the Portuguese emigrants to be welcomed abroad);

Political consensus
(convergence of political positions of the major political parties on immigration and integration);

Integration policies under the dependency of transversal ministry
(Presidency of the Council of Ministers).
Immigrants as part of the solution and not as the problem

(Portuguese policy has been based on the participation of immigrants in definition of integration policies (with COCAI) and on their active role in integration service provision (with the mediators and immigrant associations));

Positive public opinion about immigrants

(the Portuguese believe on the positive contribution of immigrants to Portuguese society (2011 Eurobarometer));
Seminário
«Média, Imigração e Diversidade»

- 2010 – quatro seminários, nas cidades de Coimbra, Porto, Faro e Lisboa
- 2011 – três seminários, nas cidades de Braga, Covilhã e Lisboa
- 2012 – um seminário, em Setúbal
- 2013 – um seminário, em Tomar
- 2014 – um seminário, em Setúbal

Estas ações contaram com um total de 322 participantes
Tools for the media
Tools for the media
Seminars for journalists

“Media, Immigration and diversity”

• 10 regional seminar
• more than 300 journalists
A new window to the world...

www.acm.gov.pt
TV and Radio

Weekly tv program
• Sunday morning
• National channel
• 40 minutes

Weekly radio program
• Saturday morning
• National station
• 20 minutes
A coleção “Imigração em Números” do Observatório das Migrações procura contribuir de forma continuada para a necessária monitorização da integração dos imigrantes no país.
International recognition of Portuguese integration policies
High Commission for Migration:
18 years working for the integration of immigrants

Immigrants Recognition!
Thank you for your attention!

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