



# National Artificial Intelligence Agenda

**AI serving society and Portugal's  
competitiveness**

January 2026



**REPÚBLICA  
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XXV GOVERNO CONSTITUCIONAL

# Executive Summary

The ANIA falls under **Action #20 of the 2026–27 Action Plan of the Portugal Digital Strategy** and serves as the main instrument for operationalising the national ambition in AI.

AI represents an opportunity to accelerate growth and increase productivity – currently at **75% of the EU average**. Rapid AI adoption could add **€18–22 billion per year to GDP** and strengthen the contribution of productivity to growth by up to **2.7 percentage points**, over the next decade.

Portugal has clear advantages: **high-quality digital infrastructure, strategic international connectivity, skilled talent, competitive renewable energy, a thriving startup ecosystem, exceptional quality of life, and a strong appetite for AI adoption.**

The objective of the ANIA is to **use AI as a driver of competitiveness at the service of society**, propelling Portugal toward the European forefront and ensuring that the use of technology translates into **economic opportunity, productivity, and public value.**

The ANIA is based on six guiding principles: **(1) Responsible innovation**, ensuring a focus on the ethical and safe use and development of technology; **(2) Focus on strategic bets**, concentrating resources on areas with the greatest potential; **(3) Public Administration as a catalyst**, leading by example; **(4) More than technology**, recognising that AI adoption is also an organisational and human effort; **(5) Product-driven AI**, with concrete, useful, and scalable use cases; and **(6) Build on what already works and ensure continuous evaluation.**

The Agenda is structured around **four areas of action: I. Infrastructure and Data** – computational capacity and a robust data economy; **II. Innovation and Adoption** – accelerating adoption across the economy, with a focus on SMEs and Public Administration; **III. Talent and Skills** – training, attracting, and retaining AI talent; and **IV. Responsibility and Ethics** – protecting citizens and promoting responsible innovation.

The ANIA is implemented through **32 initiatives**, covering the entire ecosystem – universities, research centres, companies (including startups), and Public Administration (PA).

This agenda is aligned with the **AI Continent Action Plan** and the **Apply AI** strategy, positioning Portugal to contribute to the goals and objectives of the European Union in this area.

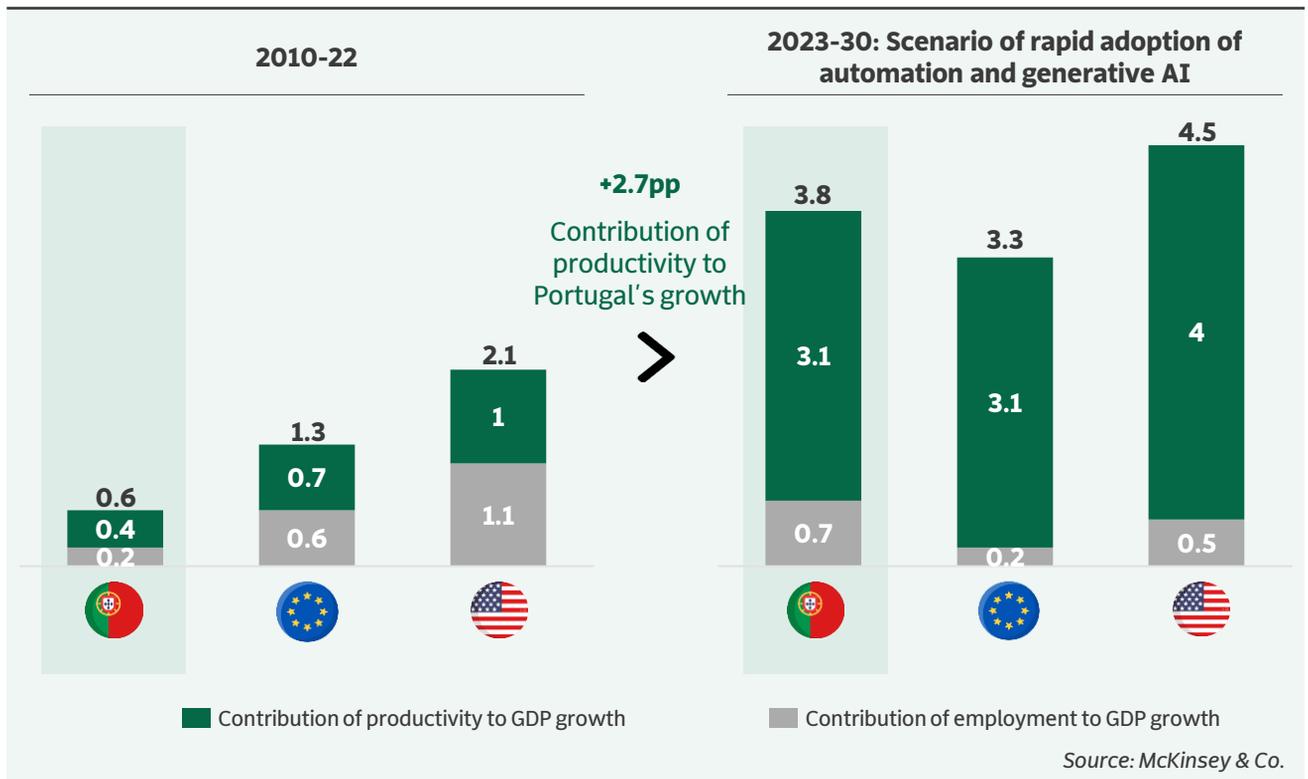
# The Opportunity

AI is a **central vector of economic and social transformation**, with the potential to redefine value chains, increase productivity and generate value for the economy and society.

Portugal is starting from a structural productivity challenge: **between 2010 and 2022, growth was systematically below that of the EU and the US**, with productivity contributing only 0.6 percentage points (p.p.) to annual growth (vs. 1.3 p.p. in the EU and 2.1 p.p. in the US). Today, **productivity per hour worked represents 75% of the European average**, constraining wages, innovation and competitiveness. **Without a structural commitment to strategic and competitive levers, such as AI, this gap is likely to widen.**

AI therefore represents a historic opportunity to reverse the productivity gap. In a scenario of rapid automation and adoption of AI, the contribution of productivity to GDP growth could **increase by up to 2.7 p.p. in the next decade**, bringing Portugal closer to the most advanced economies. AI could also **add €18-22 billion to GDP**, about **8% at peak impact**, translating into a structural leap for Portugal's economy.

## Contribution of productivity and employment to GDP growth



# The Opportunity

The current economic and political stability, **combined with the structural competitive advantages that the country holds**, create a strategic **opportunity to accelerate the Portugal's economic growth and productivity**.

## Competitive Advantages Portugal

### Fiber optic infrastructure among the best in Europe

*3<sup>rd</sup> EU country in fibre optic coverage (92% of homes) and with around 96% high-speed internet coverage (>100 Mbps)*

### Strategic international connectivity through submarine cables

*Hub of low-latency intercontinental routes (America-Europe-Africa-Asia), being the only country in the EU with a direct submarine cable to South America*

### Skilled talent

*Ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the EU in % of engineering students, with 9.6 researchers per thousand workers, above the European average (8.7)*

### Competitive energy and a highly sustainable energy mix

*63% of production comes from renewable sources, above the 45% European average*

### Quality of life

*Ranked 7<sup>th</sup> safest country in the world and 6<sup>th</sup> for quality of life – determining factors to attract talent and retain qualified professionals*

### High appetite to adopt AI

*About 90% of the Portuguese believe that AI makes their lives easier and only 8% consider that AI does not impact their daily lives*

### Thriving startup ecosystem

*5,091 companies and growth of 8% in number, 9% in turnover and 8% in employment. AI stands out: 552 companies, €181M raised in 2025 and €25MM in value, with 6 of the 7 national unicorns*

### Sustained and balanced growth

*GDP to grow around 2% in 2025 and 2.3% in 2026, supported by strong labour market dynamics (rising employment, low unemployment) and three rating upgrades in 2025*

## The Goal

ANIA aims to leverage AI, in an ethical and responsible manner, to **position Portugal closer to the forefront of European competitiveness**, ensuring that this progress translates into a positive societal impact and public value - **higher wages, better public services and improved quality of life.**

# Guiding Principles



## Responsible Innovation

*Ensure a significant focus on the development and responsible use of technology, and that principles such as ethics, security, transparency, privacy, among others, are prioritized throughout the agenda through different mechanisms in addition to regulation*



## Focus on Strategic Bets

*Channel resources into priority areas with high transformative potential, maximizing impact and return on investment, accelerating adoption, and creating scalable use cases nationally and internationally*



## Public Administration as a Catalyst

*Public Administration must lead by example, acting as a catalyst for the adoption of AI for the public good, as a cornerstone of State Reform, from licensing to services and State management, reducing entry costs, eliminating barriers, and accelerating innovation in the economy and academia*



## More than technology

*AI adoption is primarily an organizational and human challenge, where 70% of success depends on people, processes and culture, while 20% relies on data and infrastructure, and only 10% on technology, requiring new ways of working, appropriate skills and a culture of continuous innovation*



## Product-driven AI

*AI should be focus on concrete, useful and scalable products and use cases, starting from real problems, identified users and clear objectives of public or economic value, ensuring measurable impact on society*



## Build on what already works and ensure continuous evaluation

*Strengthen what already demonstrates impact, consolidating capacities and scaling good practices, preventing redundancy and fostering a culture of continuous measurement, learning, and adjustment, ensuring that ANIA remains effective, relevant and aligned with the country's needs*

# Strategic Approach

When setting the direction of the agenda, we also evaluated Portugal's strategic positioning between **AI Development** or **Application**. This choice determines the allocation of **investment and talent resources**, and implies a **critical analysis that balances cost, risk, and sovereignty**.

The **Development approach focuses on the foundational development of new AI technology, algorithms, and models**, aiming for technological sovereignty and intellectual property. It requires intensive investment in Research and Development (R&D) and hardware infrastructure, focus on fundamental research, training new foundation models or deep adaptation of existing models for strategic niches. In this scenario, the country mainly needs researchers with a PhD in Machine Learning (ML) and high-performance systems engineers and an intensive computing infrastructure.

The **Application approach focuses on the use and immediate application of existing AI technologies** to generate productivity and efficiency gains in processes. The investment is directed channelled into change management, reskilling and process reengineering within companies, focusing on the management and maintenance of models in production, ML operations and AI transformation consultants who can adapt the technology to the business. It is the fastest way for the economy to obtain returns, allowing Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to adopt the technology without significant investment in R&D.

While the **Application role is crucial for the country's immediate and aggregate hourly productivity gain**, **strategic investment in the Development role is essential for structural growth**, as it is the only avenue to generate high-leverage productivity gains through the creation of intellectual property and new products of high exportable value.

**Portugal's positioning in AI should be strategic and hybrid**, in order to **maximize its Application role to generate revenue and finance its Development role** in high-value areas where research creates proprietary and sovereign technological advantage and where there is already a competitive advantage, with unique data or critical needs (Cybersecurity, Large Language Models (LLM), AI and Robotics applied to Industry, Blue Economy, Responsible AI).

# 2026 – 2030 Action Plan

# Areas of Action

## I. Infrastructure and Data

Ensure that Portugal develops **strategic computing capacity** and a **robust data economy**, reducing external dependence

## II. Innovation and Adoption

Protect **fundamental AI research** and accelerate **AI adoption across the economy**, particularly in the Public Administration and SMEs

## III. Talent and Skills

Ensure that Portugal **trains, attracts, mobilizes and retains talent** on the scale necessary to sustain the country's competitiveness

## IV. Responsibility and Ethics

Promote the **responsible AI research and development ecosystem and an effective and efficient regulatory regime** that protects citizens and enables business innovation

ANIA is operationalized through **32 initiatives**, involving **public policies throughout the ecosystem** – universities, research centres, companies (including startups) and Public Administration.

# I. Infrastructure and Data

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- Portugal faces **limitations in computing infrastructure and data management**, which undermines competitiveness in the field of AI, in a context where the **demand for computing capacity grows 41% per year**, outpacing the European average of 21%. This growth is driven by generative AI, digitization, and research, but the current supply of computing is limited.
  - **AI factories are pivotal integrated ecosystems**, combining high-performance computing with support for research, incubation and development of startups and SMEs.
  - Within the scope of EuroHPC, Portugal has access, on the MareNostrum5 supercomputer, to about **5% of the capacity for research and will have 8-9% of the capacity for innovation in Startups, SMEs and Public Administration**, a quota that will not cover all companies and that may be insufficient in relation to the national business fabric.
  - The currently available capabilities are primarily **focused on research and early-stage development**, rather than large-scale enterprise adoption, creating the risk of dependence on foreign infrastructure if the country does not strengthen its capabilities, including through a potential European Gigafactory.
  - The challenge is exacerbated by a **deficit in the data economy**, with fragmented, inaccessible and underused national data due to bureaucratic, legal and technical barriers limiting interoperability and reuse.
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## 4 initiatives

# I. Infrastructure and Data

Objective | **Increase computing capacity and availability of high-quality data**

		Start Date	Relevant Entities
<b>I.1</b>	<p><b>Advanced Computing and AI Factory (EuroHPC)</b></p> <p>Expansion of the national supercomputing capacity, reinforcing Deucalion and aligning Portugal with the EuroHPC network, to support the training of advanced AI models and large-scale research projects.</p>	2S 2025	FCT
<b>I.2</b>	<p><b>Establish a Gigafactory in Portugal</b></p> <p>Attract and install a national gigafactory, strengthening technological autonomy, building industrial capacity for AI and reducing external dependence.</p>	2S 2025	BFP   AICEP
<b>I.3</b>	<p><b>Creating data spaces in critical areas</b></p> <p>Development of sectoral data spaces that ensure interoperability across public and private sectors, clear governance, and secure access to high-value data, enabling the training and testing of AI solutions tailored to real-world challenges (in health, education, industry and PA), in line with the European data strategy and the European Data Spaces foreseen in the Digital Europe Programme (DEP). Ensure the enhancement of data spaces through the National Data Policy.</p>	1S 2026	ARTE   ANI   PA Entities
<b>I.4</b>	<p><b>National Data Centre Plan</b></p> <p>Finalize the National Data Centre Plan, defining impact measures such as the creation of pre-defined areas with simplified licensing, reinforcement of a centralized management structure, creation of a network of suppliers and specialized partners to accelerate construction and operation, among others.</p>	2S 2025	Portuguese Government

## II. Innovation and Adoption

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- Despite advances in the technological ecosystem, the **adoption of AI in Portuguese companies remains below the European average**, with 9.4% of small companies using AI, compared to 18.2% of medium companies and 49.1% of large companies, in a country where SMEs represent 67% of value added and 76% of employment.
  - **Central sectors of the economy register low levels of adoption**, such as Industry (6.9%), Trade (5.8%), Transport (4.9%), Construction and real estate (3.3%), contrasting with ICT (52.5%), due to costs, lack of internal knowledge and regulatory uncertainty.
  - **Demand for AI exists when support is clear**, as demonstrated by the rapid depletion of the €100M BPF line for AI adoption by SMEs.
  - **Public Administration represents a structural opportunity**, with a potential gross value added of €1.2 billion, given that 74% of tasks show potential for the application of generative AI. However, adoption is limited by fragmentation, risk aversion, dispersed infrastructures and procurement complexity, despite the possibility of scaling solutions in cross-cutting functions such as licensing, financial management, or public procurement.
  - **Persistent gaps in knowledge transfer**, with only 10% of PhDs employed in companies, reinforced by the **scarcity of venture capital in deeptech and the fragmentation of the research ecosystem**. Research in this area will progressively become multidisciplinary – integrating engineering fields, with sciences such as physics, mathematics, sociology, philosophy, and ethics.
  - The objective of the XXV Constitutional Government is to **accelerate the adoption of AI in Portugal**, focusing on SMEs and with the Public Administration as a catalyst, strengthening collaboration between universities, companies and the State to **transform knowledge into economic and public impact**.
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**13 initiatives**

## II. Innovation and Adoption

### Objective | **Protect fundamental AI research**

	Start Date	Relevant Entities
<p><b>II.1</b> <b>Support for fundamental research projects, particularly those of national strategic interest</b></p> <p>Finance fundamental AI research in critical areas, ensuring autonomous scientific capacity, development of foundational knowledge, and support for projects with national strategic relevance.</p>	2S 2026	FCT   ANI
<p><b>II.2</b> <b>Strengthen collaboration with international networks &amp; attract new international research centres</b></p> <p>Structured collaboration with European and global networks to accelerate science, innovation, and technology transfer (ELLIS, CLAIRE, HumanE-AI, AI4EU, TAILOR, ADRA), reinforced by the attraction of international research centres in critical areas. The initiative will be articulated with the national data centre and supercomputing strategy, promoting co-location and scientific critical mass. Ensure alignment with the National Network of Testbeds.</p>	1S 2026	FCT   ANI   Government

### Objective | **Connect the research ecosystem with companies and Public Administration, with a focus on product development**

<p><b>II.3</b> <b>Incentives for AI research in companies</b></p> <p>Deep tech &amp; Tech Foundry (IFIC) funds and SIFIDE mechanisms, with an increase for projects that create value through AI.</p>	1S 2027	BPF   ANI
<p><b>II.4</b> <b>Expansion of non-academic PhDs and applied research projects in AI</b></p> <p>Expansion of PhD programmes in business and Public Administration, enabling highly skilled talent to develop applied AI research in a real-world context.</p>	2S 2026	FCT

## II. Innovation and Adoption

	Start Date	Relevant Entities
<p><b>II.5</b></p> <p><b>Sectoral AI Centres</b></p> <p>Aligned with the European Apply AI strategy, which transforms European Digital Innovation Hubs into AI Experience Centres, this initiative will review and simplify existing collaboration models (DIHs, CoLABs, CTIs) to leverage and establish Sectoral AI Centres in strategic sectors.. These centres will focus exclusively on product development (higher TRLs), following a consortium-based innovation model connecting academia, companies (including startups), and Public Administration. Initial focus will be on the Health, Education and Industrial sectors, and aligned with applicable AI regulatory sandboxes.</p>	2S 2026	IPAMEI   FCT   ARTE StartupPT   IPQ   ANI
<p><b>II.6</b></p> <p><b>National platform 'Opportunities in AI'</b></p> <p>Development of a national platform that connects AI talent (e.g. students and researchers) with national companies (including startups) and Public Administration, with talent needs in this area.</p>	2S 2026	IAPMEI   ARTE   Startup PT   FCT
<p><b>II.7</b></p> <p><b>AMALIA</b></p> <p>Continuation of the AMALIA project, expanding its use to new use cases and evaluating potential international and public-private partnerships to ensure its future relevance.</p>	2S 2025	ARTE   FCT
<p><b>II.8</b></p> <p><b>Review of the AI IP and patents regime</b></p> <p>Revision of the IP regime and patent criteria and regulatory framework, ensuring clearer standards for the research and business communities.</p>	1S 2026	Portuguese Government

### Objective | Increase AI adoption in SMEs

<p><b>II.9</b></p> <p><b>AI in SMEs</b></p> <p>Use of existing mechanisms, such as IFIC, to support investment in AI and reskilling of teams, facilitating the adoption of AI technologies by SMEs. Create integration mechanisms between different financial instruments to support SMEs (AI Factory) and a new sectoral programme promoting AI adoption among SMEs.</p>	2S 2025	BPF   IAPMEI   ANI
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## II. Innovation and Adoption

Start Date Relevant Entities

### "PME.IA" | National Platform of AI Products for SMEs

2S 2026

IAPMEI | ARTE | Startup PT | IPQ

II.10

Development of a national platform that provides low code/no-code AI products and solutions, adapted to the needs of SMEs and capable of accelerating the digitalisation and automation of processes. This initiative will be integrated under II.9 to facilitate adoption. Products available on the platform should demonstrate, through a clear certification or labelling system, high standards of quality, robustness, and regulatory compliance, while ensuring safety requirements and access to appropriate training.

### Objective | Increase AI adoption in Public Administration

#### AI in PA | AI Center of Excellence in PA

1S 2026

ARTE

II.11

Creation of a Center of Excellence in AI in Public Administration to develop, test and scale AI solutions in public services, focusing on cross-cutting tasks and supporting critical use cases in the areas of health, justice and defence. This will ensure transversal coordination with all entities and opportunities for strategic partnerships.

#### AI in PA | National AI Calls for PA

1S 2026

ARTE | ANI | Startup PT

II.12

Launch of annual challenges and competitions to identify innovative AI solutions applicable to PA in the most critical areas. Prioritize projects that are replicable and aligned with the EU AI Act, with centralized technical assessment.

#### AI in PA | Practical Interpretation Guide for AI-Focused Public Innovation Procurement

1S 2026

ARTE | ANI | IMPIC

II.13

Develop a practical and official guide for the interpretation of the Public Procurement Code (CCP) specifically oriented towards the procurement of AI solutions by the PA.

## III. Talent and Skills

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- Accelerated AI adoption will profoundly transform the labour market, requiring the **reskilling of around 1.3 million jobs and the potential displacement of 320,000 workers by 2030**, reflecting a structural transition in economic value creation.
- In scenarios of full adoption, automation – including generative AI – could replace **30–40% of working time in certain activities by 2030**, increasing the demand for new technological, digital, and social-cognitive skills.
- Despite high appetite of the technology, with 90% of workers approving the use of AI and 48% reporting productivity gains, the **specialized talent base remains limited**, with only 11% of professionals reporting advanced skills in AI, placing Portugal among the OECD countries with the lowest maturity in this area.
- **Demand for AI professionals is growing by more than 20% per year until 2026, while 32% of organizations face recruitment difficulties**, with processes that last about five months, delaying innovation projects.
- **The shortage of technical skills is identified by 50% of Portuguese CEOs as the main barrier to the adoption of AI**, being aggravated by brain drain, regional disparities and difficulties of SMEs in training and requalification.
- The objective of the XXV Constitutional Government is to position **AI as an engine of professional development**, promoting continuous training, more competitive salaries and the ability to attract, retain and develop talent, ensuring that this transformation generates economic progress and opportunities for all.

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## 8 initiatives

# III. Talent and Skills

## Objective | Accelerate the development of skills for workforce sustainability in the age of AI

Start  
Date

Relevant  
Entities

### AI in PA | Accelerated AI training plan in PA

1S 2026

ARTE | INA

III.1

Implementation of an advanced training program for civil servants, preparing teams and leaders to use AI in critical processes and for new work models. Continuity of the programme *Doutor AP*.

### Creation of the National Smart Skills Framework

1S 2026

FCT | IEFP |  
DGERT

III.2

Create a national skills taxonomy using AI to map existing and emerging skills. The project gathers data from universities, vocational education and training and the labour market, identifying gaps and future needs, as well as training opportunities. The objective is to guide talent and reskilling policies, align the skills supply with national demand and promote more transparency on talent demand and supply in this area, as well as reskilling opportunities.

### Recognition and expansion of Micro-credentials and Higher Technical Courses (CTESP)

1S 2026

IES | FCT

III.3

Expansion and accreditation of AI-focused Micro-credentials and CTESP, creating short and professionally oriented pathways that diversify access to the labour market and increase the supply of specialized technicians. Ensure alignment with the European Approach to Micro-credentials, prioritizing critical skills profiles.

## III. Talent and Skills

### Objective | Promote international mobility and knowledge transfer

	Start Date	Relevant Entities
<p><b>III.4</b> <b>Expansion of the goPortugal initiative</b></p> <p>Exploration, together with already formalized partnerships – MIT, UT Austin and Carnegie Mellon – the creation of ignition programs for deep tech university spin-offs, focused on AI and its applications, targeting the North American market. As a reference, the Tech Launch initiative, by INESC TEC and UT Austin, stands out. At the same time, partnerships can be developed with leading institutions that have advanced models of knowledge transfer. In the European context, these collaborations could also mobilize synergies with instruments such as Horizon Europe, the EIC, and Digital Europe, reinforcing the co-financing and TRL 3–6 technological maturation of new Portuguese spin-outs with global ambition.</p>	1S 2026	FCT   ANI
<p><b>III.5</b> <b>Creation of the AI Fast Track</b></p> <p>Creation of an accelerated visa regime to attract highly qualified researchers and professionals in critical AI areas that lack national talent.</p>	2S 2026	AIMA

### Objective | Foster talent interest and engagement in AI careers and opportunities, focusing on the responsible use of technology

<p><b>III.6</b> <b>National AI Week</b></p> <p>Create a National AI Week, featuring demonstrations, practical use cases, and public events in educational and cultural spaces across the country.</p>	2S 2026	FCT   ANI   ARTE   Startup PT   IPQ
<p><b>III.7</b> <b>“AI Generation” campaign to motivate young people towards AI careers</b></p> <p>Launch of a campaign to inspire young people to pursue careers in AI, promoting academic, technical, and professional opportunities in the technological ecosystem.</p>	2S 2026	FCT
<p><b>III.8</b> <b>AI literacy action, focusing on risk awareness and responsible use of AI for citizens</b></p> <p>Awareness campaign on AI risks, rights, regulations, and good practices, strengthening citizens’ literacy and their ability to use AI safely and responsibly.</p>	1S 2026	FCT   ANACOM   CNCS   IPQ   ARTE

## IV. Responsibility and Ethics

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- **The rapid democratization of AI accelerates innovation potential, but proportionally increases the need to ensure safety, trust, and guardrails,** shifting the focus from simply encouraging use to ensuring responsible use in line with public values.
  - **Ethical implications are now one of the main barriers to AI adoption,** with 54% of business leaders identifying them as the biggest obstacle, reflecting legal, reputational, and operational concerns.
  - Trust in organizations is limited, with **only 40% of CEOs believing they are able to implement and scale AI ethically and safely,** and many companies are not ready for the EU AI Act requirements.
  - **Compliance costs represent an obstacle for SMEs and startups,** which face difficulties in supporting certification processes, audits, and advanced testing, risking exclusion from higher-impact AI.
  - **The regulatory complexity,** resulting from the coexistence of the EU AI Act with the GDPR and sectoral legislation, creates a **fragmented and uncertain framework,** delaying decisions and increasing costs.
  - **Responsibility should be seen as a value accelerator,** by reducing legal and reputational risks, improving the performance of systems, increasing citizens' trust, and enabling responsible scaling of solutions through feedback loops, testing, and continuous adjustment.
  - The objective of the XXV Constitutional Government is to ensure **responsible and ethical development in the Portuguese AI ecosystem,** for citizens and companies, promoting research, capacity building, regulatory support, and investment in responsible AI, aiming to **lead not only in innovation and adoption, but also in protecting national values, sovereignty, and social well-being.**
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**7 initiatives**

# IV. Responsibility and Ethics

## Objective | Promote the responsible AI research and development ecosystem

	Start Date	Relevant Entities
<b>IV.1</b> <b>Incentives for Responsible AI Research</b>	2S 2026	FCT
Grants for PhDs or research projects in areas of responsible AI areas, with a special focus on interdisciplinary approaches that combine engineering with social sciences and humanities (Social Justice, Inequality and AI; Ethics and Philosophy of Technology; Cognitive Psychology and Human-AI Interaction; AI Economics and Work Impact; Metrological Quality, Traceability and Algorithm Auditing).		
<b>IV.2</b> <b>Startup acceleration program in responsible AI</b>	1S 2027	Startup Portugal   IPQ
Specialized program to support startups that develop AI solutions focused on ethics, security, transparency, and privacy, among others, promoting innovation in this area. Raise awareness about the importance of AI Quality Management Systems, encouraging voluntary certification by the Portuguese Standard NP 4595.		
<b>IV.3</b> <b>Ensure the continuity of the Center for Responsible AI</b>	1S 2026	Portuguese Government
Ensure the continuity of the Center for Responsible AI, enabling the coordination of critical ecosystem initiatives, as well as the assessment of ethical, social, and economic impacts of the technology and the dissemination of good practices and knowledge in AI, particularly in the Responsibility domain.		

## Objective | Ensure an effective and efficient regulatory framework that protects citizens and enables innovation

<b>IV.4</b> <b>Implementation of the EU AI Act</b>	1S 2026	Portuguese Government
Definition of the competent authorities, the coordination model, and the sanctioning framework. Assessment of existing resources and identification of critical needs for capacity building. Ensure alignment with AI regulatory sandboxes.		

## IV. Responsibility and Ethics

Start  
Date

Relevant  
Entities

### Definition of Regulatory Sandboxes

2S 2026

Portuguese  
Government | ANI

IV.5

Implementation of regulatory sandboxes that allow testing of AI solutions in controlled environments, improving the framework of technological free zones to accelerate innovation with legal certainty.

### Creation of an implementation guide for the EU AI Act, standards, and risk assessment tools

1S 2026

ANACOM | ARTE  
| IPQ | ANI

IV.6

Development of a practical guide to support entities in complying with the EU AI Act, including standards, technical documentation, and national risk assessment tools. Ensure alignment with AI regulatory sandboxes. Raise awareness within the ecosystem about the importance of quality management for meeting the EU AI Act requirements, for the notification procedure, and for the potential involvement of notified bodies in assessing the compliance of high-risk AI systems. Promote the creation of a compliance support infrastructure (including calibration, trials, testing, verification, and validation) for high-risk AI, ensuring accessibility of technical documentation, robustness testing, and continuous monitoring requirements.

### Strengthen international cooperation and technology diplomacy

2S 2026

Portuguese  
Government

IV.7

Enhance Portugal's participation in European and international AI forums, promoting regulatory alignment, scientific cooperation, and influence in the definition of global standards. Strengthen the national pool of AI experts involved in international standardization and regulatory initiatives. Ensure diplomatic coordination with countries that export core technologies for AI.



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