Portugal

**Policy framework**

Portugal's humanitarian assistance is coordinated by a unit in the Portuguese Institute for Development Support (IPAD) within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This small unit with limited capacity and humanitarian expertise is also responsible for relations with NGOs and the multilateral system. Portugal's financial problems have greatly affected its development budget, which includes humanitarian assistance. Its ODA/GNI ratio has gone down from 0.27% in 2008 to 0.23% in 2009, with a decrease in volume of over 22%. Humanitarian assistance represents 1.23% of ODA, a similar percentage to 2008 and 0.002% of Portugal's GNI.

Portugal formally endorsed the Good Humanitarian Donorship (GHD) Principles in 2006, but has not developed a GHD domestic implementation plan or a humanitarian policy. Most of its participation in the GHD initiative is through its membership of the Humanitarian Aid Commission of the European Commission rather than directly, in view of its limited capacity at the capital and field levels.

**Performance**

Portugal is not included in the overall ranking, as a sufficient number of survey responses were not obtained to calculate the qualitative indicators of the HRI. Based on the patterns of its scores in the HRI’s quantitative indicators, Portugal is classified as a Group 3 donor. Donors in this group tend to perform poorly in Pillar 3 (Working with humanitarian partners), Pillar 4 (Protection and international law) and Pillar 5 (Learning and accountability). Other donors in this group are Austria, Belgium, France, Italy, Japan and Spain.

In quantitative indicators Portugal scored below the OECD/DAC and the Group 3 average in Pillars 1 (Responding to needs), 2 (Prevention, risk reduction and recovery), 4 and 5. The exception was in Pillar 3 where its score was close to the OECD-DAC average and above its group average. Its highest score was in Pillar 2. Its scores for Pillar 4 and Pillar 5 were considerably below the OECD/DAC and the Group 3 averages, while its lowest score was in Pillar 5. It should be noted that the scores for Portugal have not been taken into account in the calculation of the overall and average scores for Group 3.

Portugal did best compared to its OECD/DAC peers in the indicators on Un-earmarked funding, Timely funding to complex emergencies, Reducing climate-related vulnerability and Human rights law. It scores were relatively the lowest in the indicators on Timely funding to sudden onset disasters, Funding for accountability initiatives, Participation in accountability initiatives, Funding UN and Red Cross Red Crescent appeals and International humanitarian law.

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* Graph includes only quantitative pillar scores as sufficient survey responses were not obtained for Portugal.

Source: OCHA/FTS October 2010.
Portugal received low scores for providing a fair share of support to UN and Red Cross/Red Crescent appeals. Portugal provided only 3% of its fair share in support of UN appeals, while the OECD/DAC average is 135% and the Group 3 average is 42%. Portugal provided only 3% of its fair share to Red Cross/Red Crescent appeals, compared to the OECD/DAC average of 128% and the Group 3 average of 22%.

- Portugal should look into ways to increase its support of UN and Red Cross/Red Crescent appeals.

Portugal scored close to average in its support for forgotten crises. However, it received a very low score for its funding to crises with high levels of vulnerability. Portugal provided 9% of its aid to these emergencies, compared to the OECD/DAC average of 53% and the Group 3 average of 48%.

- Portugal should consider responding more generously to crises with high levels of vulnerability.

In Pillar 5, Portugal received low scores in Funding accountability initiatives and Participation in accountability initiatives. Of the seven accountability initiatives included in the indicator, it seems that Portugal has attended only one ALNAP meeting and did not financially support any of them. This is generally a weak point for Group 3 donors, who provide an average of 0.29%, while the OECD/DAC average is 0.46%.

- Portugal is encouraged to increase its participation in, and support of, humanitarian accountability initiatives.

Portugal has limited engagement with other donors and with the humanitarian system.

- Portugal should explore options for increasing its capacity to engage more actively with the international humanitarian system.

For more information, please see www.daraint.org.