



UNIVERSITY OF ALGARVE
**BRIDGING
INNOVATION**

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UAlg cria

UNIVERSIDADE DO ALGARVE
DIVISÃO DE EMPREENDEDORISMO
E TRANSFERÊNCIA DE TECNOLOGIA

The image features a satellite in the upper left corner, set against a background of Earth from space. A large, semi-transparent geometric overlay of various shades of blue and purple covers the right and bottom portions of the page. The satellite is a complex structure with a cylindrical body and various instruments and antennas. The Earth below shows cloud patterns and landmasses. The geometric overlay consists of many overlapping triangles and polygons, creating a faceted, crystalline appearance.

*This document aims to summarise the activity of the **Division of Entrepreneurship and Technology Transfer (CRIA)** within the University of Algarve (UAlg), mapping its main actions, and quantifying its results.*

PROMOTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY MECHANISMS



GAPI – The Office for the Promotion and Support of Industrial Property of the University of Algarve, aims to promote Intellectual Property Rights strengthening the competitiveness of companies, and the protection of innovation.

The activities of the Office for the Promotion and Support of Industrial Property of the University of Algarve (GAPI/Algarve) is developed under the scope of the Division of Entrepreneurship and Technology Transfer (CRIA). It aims to provide information on intellectual property rights and to stimulate actions to promote Industrial Property, designed to strengthen the competitiveness of companies and the protection of innovation. Its actions are part of the national network of GAPI, within the National Industrial Property Institute (INPI).

In a broad sense, the concept of intellectual property covers all the results of activity of the human spirit, protects the rights attached to these creations, and covers two distinct legal institutions, namely: industrial property and copyright and connected rights.

Industrial property protects the rights of intangible assets on the area of economic activity, which may group themselves in two major ways: Industrial Designs and Distinctive Signs. The rights to industrial creations include patents, utility models and topographies of semiconductor products, as well as designs and vegetal assortments. The distinctive signs of commerce cover the marks, logos, rewards and designations of origin and geographical indications.

The copyright and related rights protects the intellectual creations in the literary, scientific and artistic domain, whatever their kind or form of expression, including: literary works, audio-visual works, multimedia works, computer programs (software), applied art, designs and design works that constitute artistic creations, illustrations and geographical maps, designs, sketches and plastic works relating to architecture, urban planning, geography or other sciences.

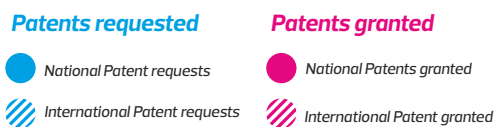
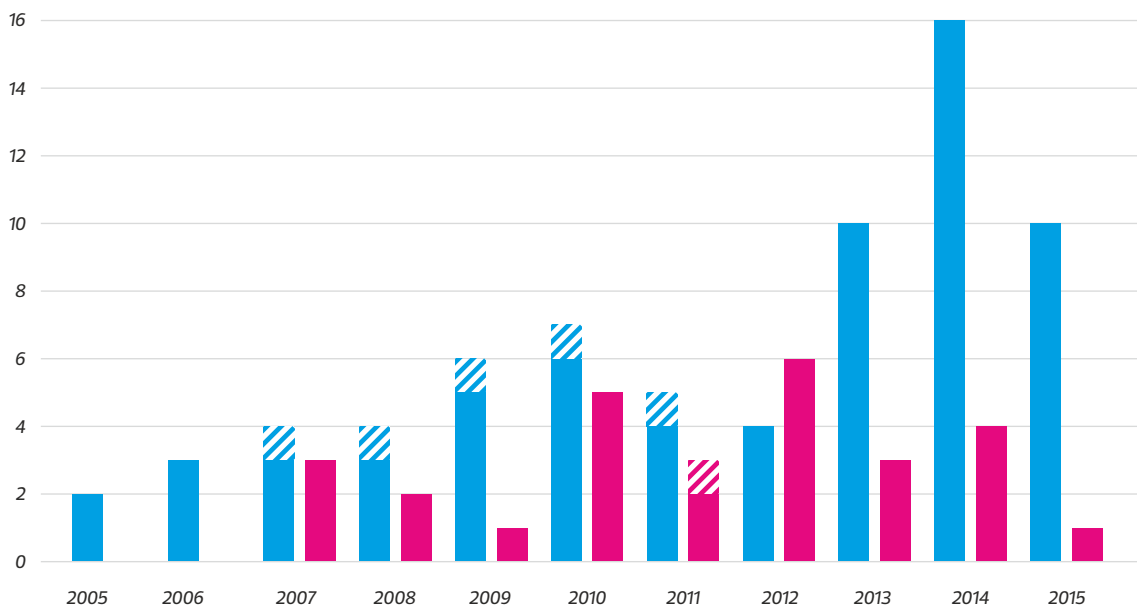
PATENT RECORDS

Patents and utility models are exclusive rights obtained from inventions (new solutions to specific technical problems), i.e., it is a contract between the state and the applicant through which a patent and a utility model are exclusive rights obtained over inventions (new solutions to specific technical problems).

Patent applications are accompanied by the Office for the Promotion and Support of Industrial Property Rights (GAPI), supporting the internal

processes of the institution – its researchers and overall academic community – as well as all public and private entities requests at regional level.

Therefore, with regard to patent records and protection of knowledge generated in the institution, GAPI continues to play an important role in supporting researchers in the formalization and monitoring of patent registration procedures, both at national and international levels.



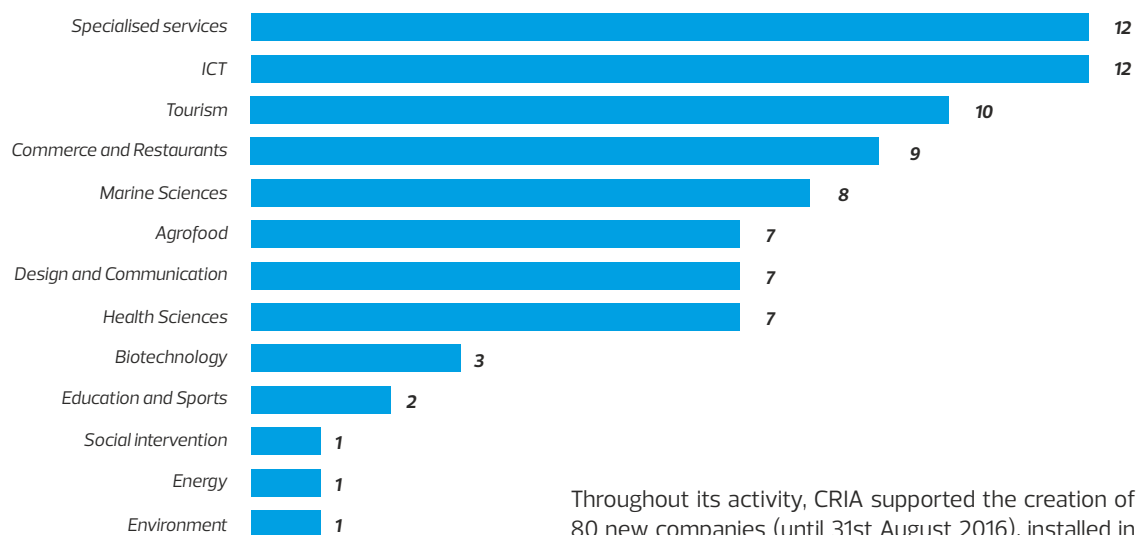
As the graph demonstrates, there has been a growing number of patent applications from the University of Algarve.

As shown in this dynamic, UAlg has assumed a relevant role in patent filing, maintaining a continuous growth position.

SUPPORT THE PROMOTION OF COMPANIES IN THE REGION

The strategy designed to encourage knowledge-based entrepreneurship is a cornerstone of social and economic knowledge generated at the University and in the region. Supporting the creation of knowledge-based companies is therefore a clear strategy of UAlg as a way of valuing and transferring knowledge.

By maintaining cooperation with other regional entities in the ecosystem, the University of Algarve has consolidated its role in the promotion of knowledge-based entrepreneurship, supporting the creation and development of new business ideas, anchored on knowledge and innovation, and potentiating greater regional competitiveness towards international markets.



Throughout its activity, CRIA supported the creation of 80 new companies (until 31st August 2016), installed in the Algarve region, with a survival rate of 72,5%.

This work comes out from performing a set of entrepreneurship promotion initiatives, leading to the identification of business ideas, and the subsequent support for its consolidation and development.

From the collective of relevant actions, the following stands out: Business Ideas Competition "Ideias em Caixa"; a network of regional, national and international partners; the development of workshops and seminars in the whole region; and the implementation of training programs in the regional school system at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. Currently, and resulting from these regional operations, a wide range of potential regional entrepreneurs who actively seek the collaboration and support of the institution on the assessment and development of their project annually seek the support of CRIA.



The strategy designed to encourage knowledge-based entrepreneurship is a cornerstone of social and economic knowledge generated at the University of Algarve and in the region.



ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION SUPPORT

Regarding the support to entrepreneurship and innovation, CRIA performed in 2015, a total of more than 240 new processes, including:

- New entrepreneurs with a business idea, wishing to assess its feasibility that require monitoring in the maturation and development process. The work provided by CRIA in this area includes the completion of a business pre-plan for the analysis of economic and financial viability, validation of the technology, framework at the level of funding opportunities, licensing process, registration of the company, incubation, and regional, national and international networking;
- Established companies with innovation and R&D requests, willing to intermediate with researchers and research centres, and to identify funding opportunities towards joint ventures in research and development;
- Researchers, enhancing knowledge holders to generate new products and services, potentially leading to the creation of new businesses, or transfer to existing companies;
- Business Associations, regarding the preparation and implementation of regional cooperation projects, national or international, of economic, social or cultural nature;
- Students, graduates and postgraduates, for the validation and maturation of new business ideas, which may potentiate qualified employment.

In addition to the work mentioned above, and resulting from the role of the University of Algarve at the regional level, during 2015, CRIA with a very small team gave positive feedback to a total of 50 external requests, particularly in terms of participation in classes (at university level and undergraduate level), workshops, seminars, conferences, and interviews.

This community liaison work and extension of the University of Algarve in the areas of entrepreneurship and knowledge transfer represents a total of 380 work hours, reaching more than 2,000 people (estimated in respect of people attendance in each of the initiatives), contributing to the increase impact of the institution.



In order to monitor the real potential of entrepreneurship as an element of value and skilled jobs creation, the University of Algarve seeks to map and systematically quantify the performance of the companies it supports.

PERFORMANCE OF CREATED COMPANIES

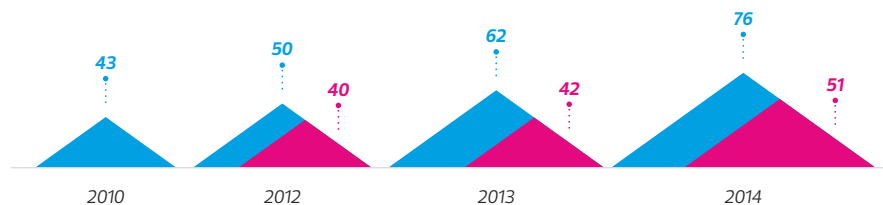
In order to monitor the real potential of entrepreneurship as an element of value and skilled jobs creation, the University of Algarve seeks to map and systematically quantify the performance of the companies it supports.

Therefore, CRIA annually surveys the companies created with its support. The results are presented below.

The map shows results from actual data presented by the companies to the Tax Authority (expressed in its Simplified Company Information).

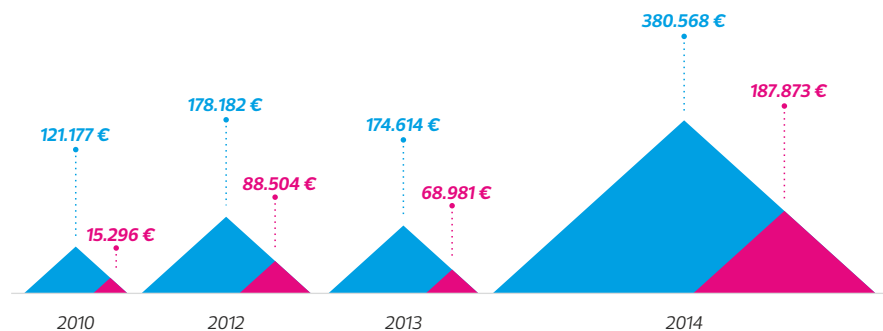
Jobs created >

- Total Jobs created
- Qualified Jobs created
2010 data not available



Investment >

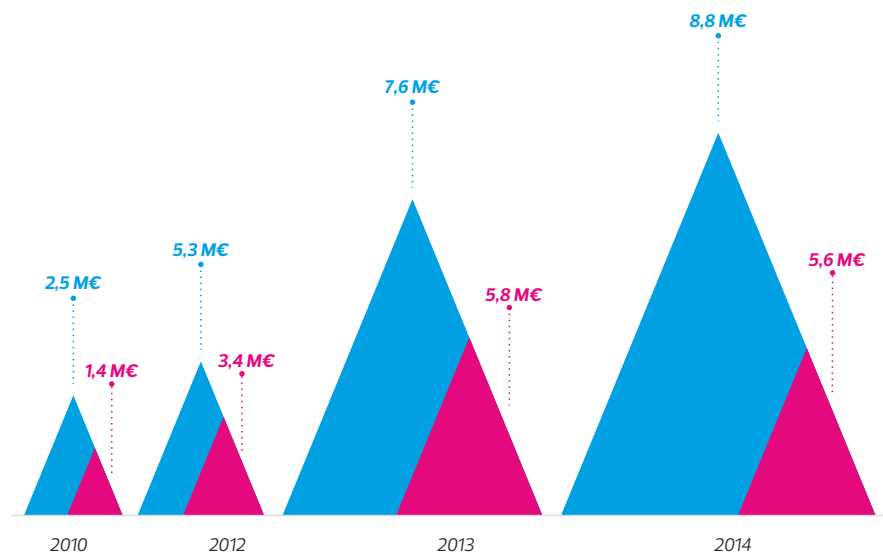
- Total Capital
- Own Capital



Sales >

(million euros)

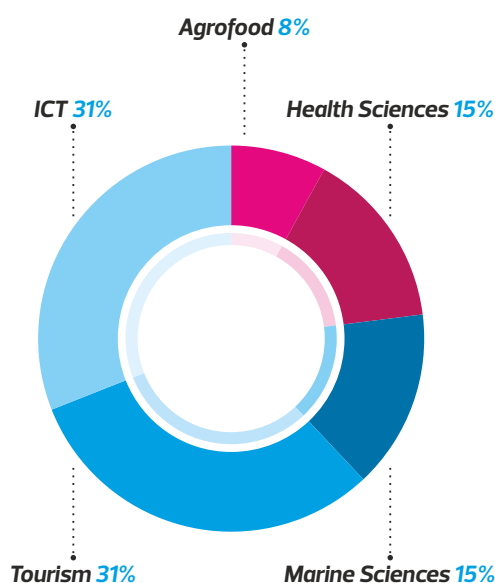
- Total Sales Volume
- Export Sales



NEW COMPANIES CREATED

During 2015, from the "Ideias em Caixa 2013" initiative and from regional dynamics, 13 new companies have been created with the support of the Division, working primarily in the areas of Agrofood, Health Sciences, Marine Sciences, ICT and Tourism.

[Companies Created in 2015 >](#)



UNIVERSITY-INDUSTRY COOPERATION

The expansion of scientific and technological knowledge generated in UAlg is a key factor for economic development and for increasing regional competitiveness.

Through the Division of Entrepreneurship and Technology Transfer, UAlg provides support to various private and public entities that aim to value the knowledge produced in the institution, resulting both from scientific work, and from the specific dynamics of the regional economic agents.

The University-Industry (U-I) cooperation has shown significant growth, resulting from a set of regional, national and international circumstances, directed to generate closer cooperation between

companies and research. The need for innovation and competitiveness by economic agents facing international competition, the existence of a greater recognition and perception on the part of economic actors and academia towards the potential of knowledge as an input for economic value, and the existence of policies and funding mechanisms for research and technological development (knowledge transfer), has led to an exponential growth of requests for cooperation between companies and research groups, influenced and mediated by CRIA.

Acting accordingly, CRIA has sought to streamline actions of aggregation of knowledge and collaboration, enhancing the transfer and valorisation of knowledge.

PORTUGAL 2020 AND EFDR/ESF ALGARVE PROJECTS

As a result of these actions, in the first calls of Algarve Regional Program, particularly in the Incentive Scheme for Research and Technological Development (R&D&I), a total of 31 business projects have been prepared and submitted (led by companies), with the support of the University of Algarve (as joint venture or subcontracted partner), with a total investment value in R&D&I of approxi-

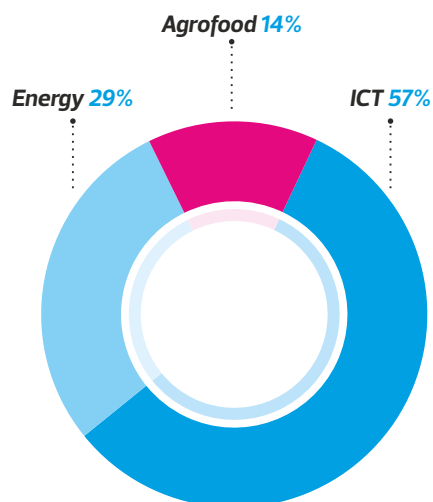
mately 5.8 million euros.

This effective cooperation among University and Industry continues to develop new joint ventures, leading to the implementation of research activities for companies, for the design of new products and innovative services that are marketable and exportable.

LICENSING CONTRACTS

During 2015 the University of Algarve negotiated the licensing of 7 new technologies, resulting from research and technological development activities carried out by UAlg's R&D groups, individually or in collaboration with companies, namely :

- UAlg/Inesting – project Footdata (ICT);
- UAlg/SPIC Solutions – project PRHolo (ICT);
- UAlg/VisualForma – project SRM (ICT);
- UAlg/ROLEAR – project CISCE (Energy);
- UAlg/X4DEV – project i3FR (ICT);
- UAlg/Certigarve – project MTI (Energy);
- UAlg/BEQ (Agrofood).



The expansion of scientific and technological knowledge generated in UAlg is a key factor for economic development and for increasing regional competitiveness.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The identification and sharing of best international practices is another cornerstone activity of CRIA, enabling technical personnel with tacit and coded knowledge, capable of transforming the regional reality.

In this context, the participation in international cooperation projects is set as an unalterable reality, as a means of funding the institution activities in the areas of IP, Entrepreneurship and Knowledge Transfer, and as a means of transferring good practices, and to expand the opportunities available to regional economic actors including economic, social, cultural and academic.

Thus, in order to prepare the 2016/2017 biennium, the Division of Entrepreneurship and Technology Transfer of the University of Algarve developed, in 2015, a significant number of strategic applications for international cooperation projects (ERASMUS+, MED Program, SUDOE, Interreg Europe, POCTEP, H2020, DG Industry), of which more than 30 applications were submitted.

Among the projects submitted, it's relevant to accentuate what partnerships entities are involved, to the extent that is an objective of the partnership to explore beyond the scope of the

project and clearly contribute to the competitiveness of regions.

Thus, the most representative of the partners is at the level of municipalities and local agencies, regulated agents management of public spaces and local policies, followed the Universities while generating entities and valuation knowledge, in accordance with the activity that UAlg creates. Also representative, and with particular emphasis on the level of entrepreneurship projects and transfer of knowledge, are the business associations and technology parks, representing the business agents to where knowledge must flow, with a view to economic recovery.

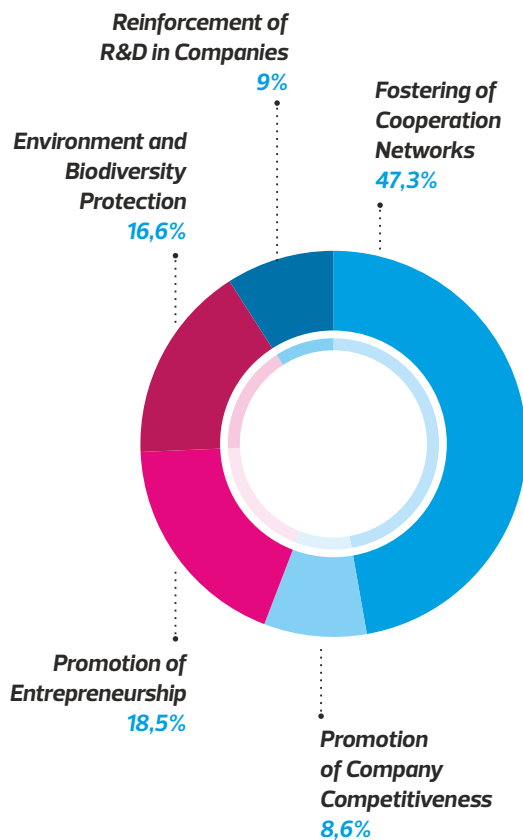
Equally important is the identification of project thematic areas of activity where CRIA is integrated as a partner, as indicated in the chart below.

As a key stakeholder in the region, the University of Algarve acts in accordance with the areas of Regional Strategies for Smart Specialisation - RIS3. Therefore, the actions of CRIA at the level of international cooperation projects aim to value the identified sectors of excellence of the University, as well as the sectors selected by the region as enhancers of growth and internationalisation.

Area	N°	Ualg Budget €	Co-financing €	Co-financing %
Agrofood	3	440.280,00	330.210,00	4,80
Environment	4	706.934,13	576.083,60	8,37
Energy	8	1.069.040,00	893.279,95	12,97
Sea	6	1.467.177,23	1.196.997,42	17,38
Arts and Heritage	2	427.280,00	363.188,00	5,27
Health and Well Being	2	430.000,00	322.500,00	4,68
ICT	1	120.000,00	90.000,00	1,31
Tourism	3	160.865,00	146.097,00	2,12
Transversal	22	3.689.057,36	2.967.987,38	43,10
TOTAL	51	8.510.633,72	6.886.343,35	100,00

Finally, it is also important to classify the goals for cooperation projects, recognizing that commonly this is a biased analysis, as it is for the program management entities (Technical Secretariats), the definition of strategies and macro objectives defined within the European area of acting.

Nevertheless, the objectives of the projects presented are perfectly aligned with the goals of the institution and the Division itself.



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The identification and sharing of best international practices is another cornerstone activity of CRIA, enabling technical personnel with tacit and coded knowledge, capable of transforming the regional reality.



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