



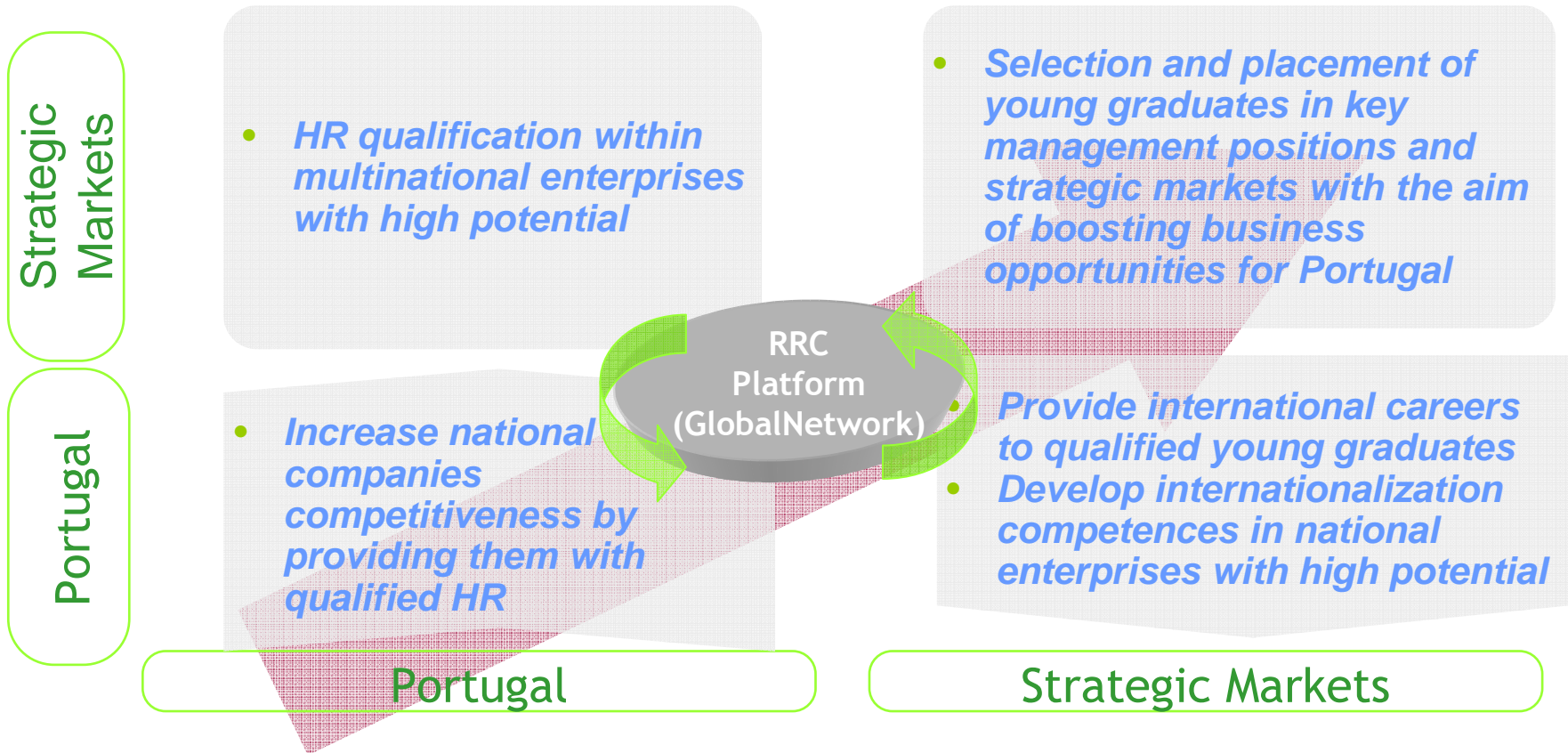
INOVA CONTACTO

INTERNATIONALIZING CAREERS



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INOV CONTACTO





INOV CONTACTO

- The 2008/09, 2nd edition is currently ongoing with more than 380 internships abroad till the end of July.
- The 2008/09, 1st edition was recently concluded and out of the 173 participants, almost half were offered a position at the host organization, accepted by about 70% which represents an employment rate of 25%.
- 93% of the participants of that edition considered their experience as being very positive.





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2005-2008:

- 906 internships (plus 380 currently ongoing)
- Total employment rate - 80% (60% within national companies)
- 49% remained in the foreign markets / 51% came back to Portugal
- Considered “Good Practice” by the European Commission/DG of Industry and Business in 2007
- Analyzed by the OECD as a case study in best practices for the Welsh Assembly Government.





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Best Practices

- DG Business and Industry (EC)
- OECD

Supporting the internationalisation of SMEs

“ Economic Structural measure aiming at the training of qualified human resources to help Portuguese companies compete in the global economy. Measure has a national scope.”

Good practice



Results expected or achieved

INOV Contact has inspired new ideas and suggested to provide a number of young graduates who had practical training in several countries in addition to their university degree to internationalised companies. Also to create and manage an informal knowledge network of national graduates (independently of the country of residence), that could consider their experience and skills got in internship, advise and disseminate the benchmark approach in SMEs internationalisation.



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- INOV Contacto – Since 1997 (Contacto@icep until 2005)
- 13 editions concluded, 1 ongoing, 1 to start in a short while
- 32.133 applications, 2.707 internships
- 64 countries with a special focus on the USA, Brazil, Spain, United Kingdom, China and Germany
- 50% offered a job position in the host companies / countries; 55% accepts;
- 70% of the participants (interns and companies):
 - Consider that the programme has a significant role in integrating the interns in the labor market
 - Consider that the acquired skills and competences are a strong benefit for the national business competitiveness in a global scale
 - Consider that the training provided and the resulting performance were valuable and appropriate.





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Supported by the European Union through QREN/POPH

Characteristics

- ✓ Internships from 6 to 9 months
- ✓ Markets of strategic interest to Portugal
- ✓ Organizations of renowned interest and merit

Beneficiaries

- Young graduates pursuing an international career
- Portuguese companies with a branch office abroad, multinational companies and international organizations



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Requirements (Candidates)

- ✓ Willingness to live abroad / start an international career
- ✓ European Union citizenship
- ✓ 30 years old (or younger)
- ✓ Level V Qualification (*Licenciatura*)
- ✓ Good command of 2 foreign languages and computer literate
- ✓ Unemployed by the time the internship begins

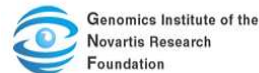




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Mercedes-Benz

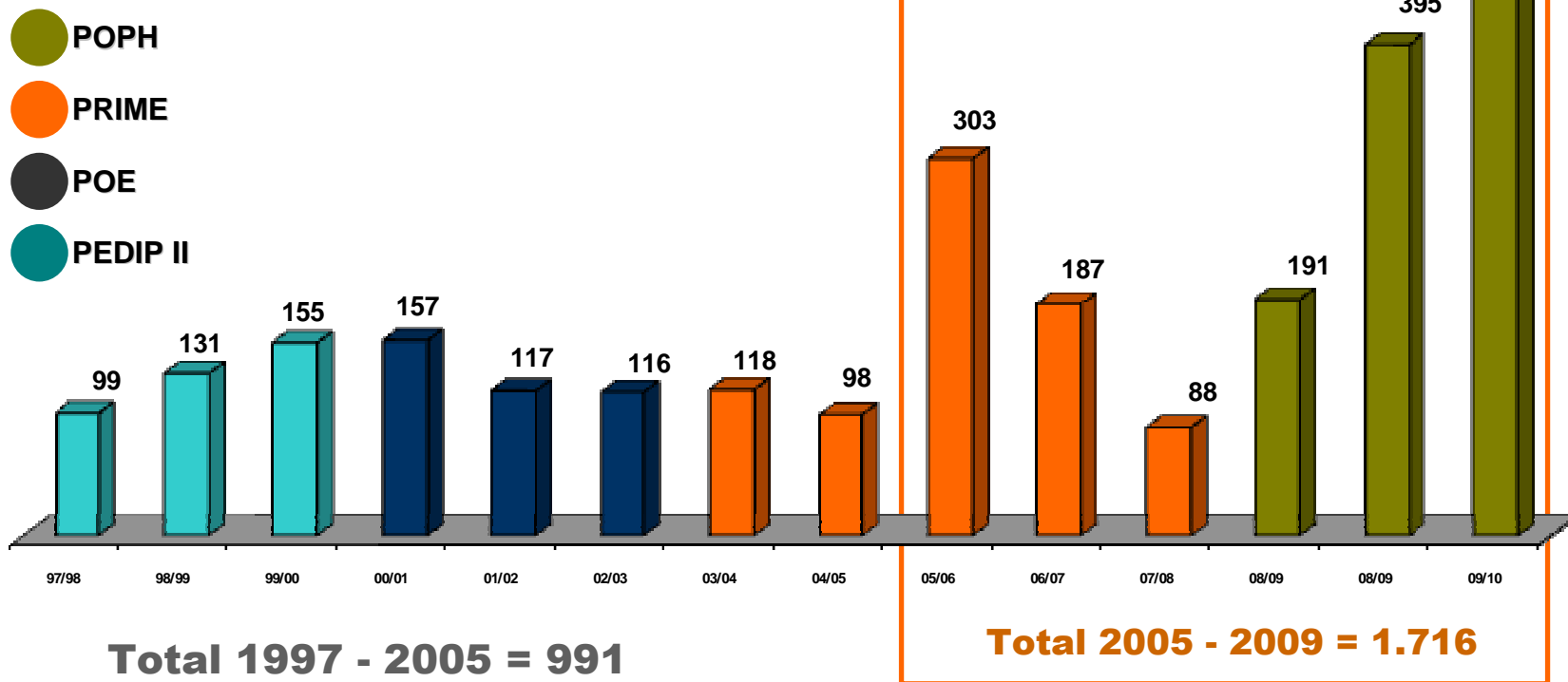


Some Successful Partnerships!



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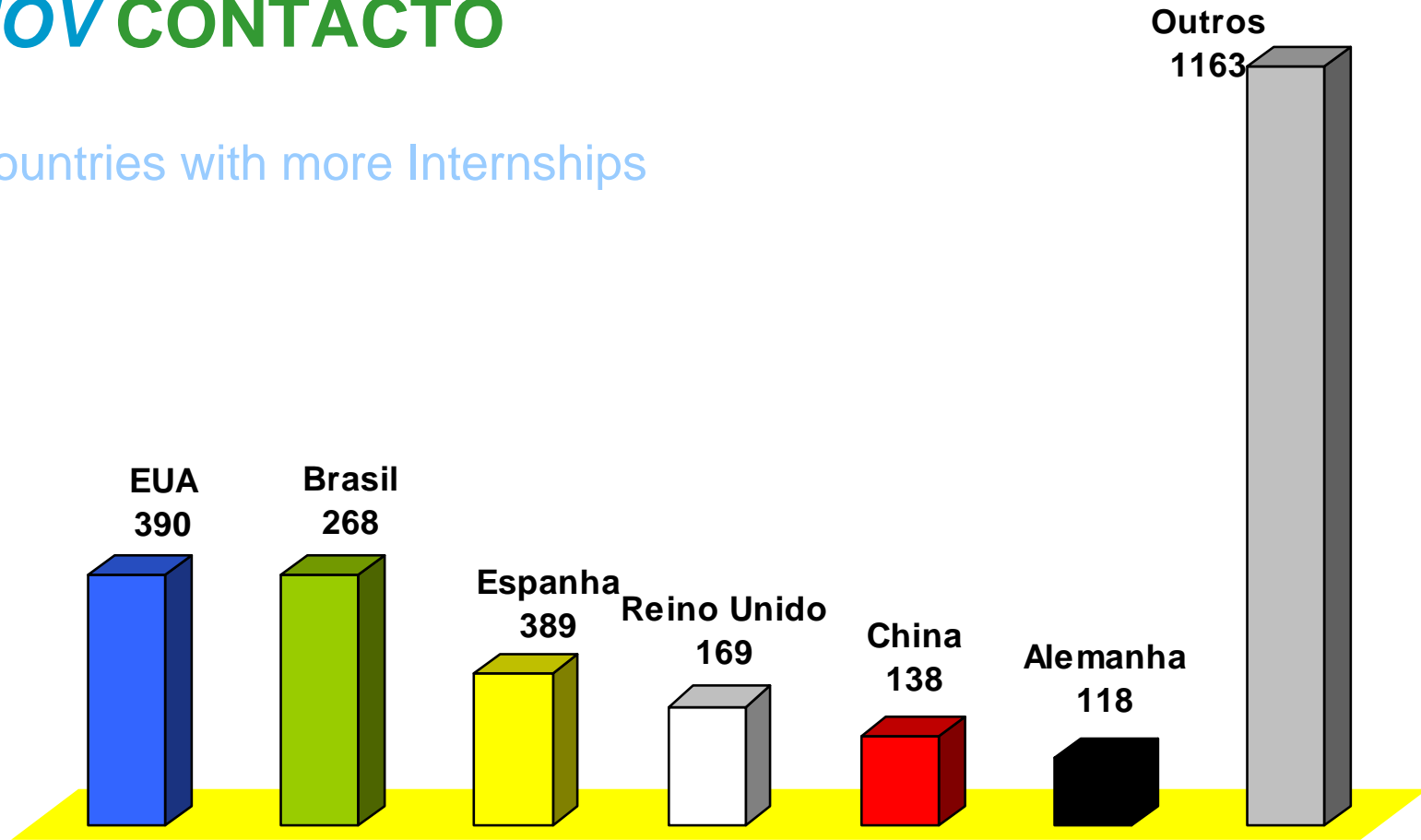
Internships nr. by edition





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Countries with more Internships



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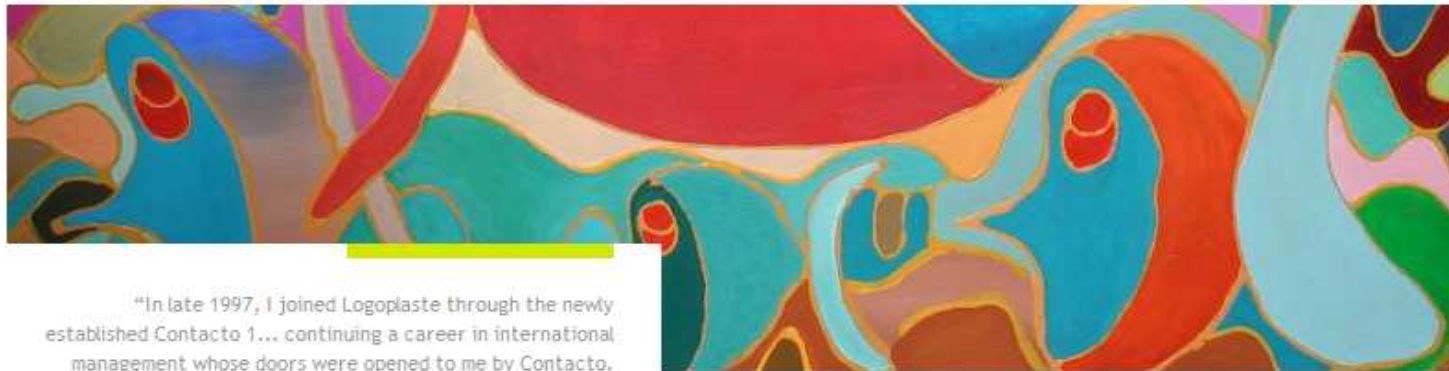


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Selection criteria for host companies

- ❖ Strategic companies for Portugal - productivity / competitiveness
 - ❖ Physical structure abroad
 - ❖ Relevant presence in Portugal
 - ❖ Strong focus in the internationalization areas
-
- Coherent internship plan and in line with the Programme's objectives
 - Full placement and integration of the intern in the company's facilities
 - Regular supervision and evaluation of the intern
-
- Participation in the overall costs of the internship (to be defined)





"In late 1997, I joined Logoplaste through the newly established Contacto 1... continuing a career in international management whose doors were opened to me by Contacto. Francisco Neto, International Financial Director of Logoplaste

[more](#)

«It's all about People

Virginia Trandafir | C12

When we joined this adventure, called INOV CONTACTO, most of us thought our international assignments were easy and that as "first-time" expatriates (why not, in fact that is what many of us wish for, an international career), our excited and optimistic attitude would be enough to make the professional and personal experience perfect."

NEWSLETTER

visão contacto

[more](#)

"...The INOV Contacto Programme is an excellent opportunity for us to strengthen our ongoing activities as it gives us the freedom to test additional scientific hypotheses. ... Altogether, we clearly have a win-win situation for both the company and the trainee."

Jochen Förster , Chief Operating Officer,
Fluxome Sciences





Network**Contacto**, innovating beyond frontiers

Social/digital network of internationalization:

- ❑ informal | creative | entrepreneur | interactive
- ❑ knowledge share and transference by and for companies / interns
- ❑ key areas of competitiveness
market, sector, trends, tests, contacts, competitors...

...a valuable intangible asset extremely promising!



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