The Commitment to Development Index (CDI) ranks 21 of the world’s richest countries based on their dedication to policies that benefit poor nations. Looking beyond standard comparisons of foreign aid flows, the CDI measures national effort in seven policy areas that are important to developing countries: aid, trade, investment, migration, environment, security and technology. This report reviews Portugal’s performance on the 2005 CDI.

Portugal’s 2005 CDI performance

- Overall score: 4.9
- Overall rank 2005: 13
- Change since 2003: +0.4

Portugal ranks 13th overall in 2005. Portugal’s environmental record from a developing country perspective is among the best in the CDI. The Portuguese government also supports technological innovation and diffusion to the developing world and has contributed a significant amount of personnel and finance to international security efforts. But Portugal appears least open to developing country immigrants of any country in the CDI and gives a very small share of its income in foreign aid.
Aid

Aid quality is just as important as aid quantity, so the CDI measures gross aid as a share of GDP adjusted for various quality factors: it subtracts debt service, penalizes “tied” aid that makes recipients spend aid only on donor goods and services, rewards aid to poor but relatively uncorrupt recipients, and penalizes overloading poor governments with many small projects.

- **Score: 2.8**
- **Rank: 14**

**STRENGTHS**
NA

**WEAKNESSES**
- Low net aid volume as a share of GDP (0.24%; rank: 14)
- Small amount of private charitable giving, attributable to tax policy (rank as a share of GDP: 19)
- Weak on project proliferation; funds many small aid projects (rank: 18)

Investment

Rich-country investment in poorer countries can transfer technologies, upgrade management and create jobs. The CDI includes a checklist of policies that support healthy investment in developing countries.

- **Score: 5.5**
- **Rank: 11**

**STRENGTHS**
- Provides official support for outflows of portfolio investment

**WEAKNESSES**
- Does not participate in the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) or other anti-corruption programs

Trade

International trade has been a force for economic development for centuries. The CDI measures trade barriers in rich countries against exports from developing countries.

- **Score: 5.9**
- **Rank: 8**

**STRENGTHS**
- Low barriers against textiles (rank: 3)
- Low barriers against apparel (rank: 3)

**WEAKNESSES**
NA

Migration

The movement of people from poor to rich countries provides unskilled immigrants with jobs, income and knowledge. This increases the flow of money sent home by migrants abroad and the transfer of skills when the migrants return.

- **Score: 1.4**
- **Rank: 21**

**STRENGTHS**
- Large share of foreign students from developing countries (77%; rank: 6)

**WEAKNESSES**
- Only a small increase during the 1990s in the number of unskilled immigrants from developing countries living in Portugal (rank as a share of population: 19)
- Small number of immigrants from developing countries entering Portugal in 2002 (rank as a share of population: 20)
- Bears small share of the burden of refugees during humanitarian crises (rank: 20)
Environment

Rich countries use a disproportionate amount of scarce resources and poor countries are most likely to be hurt by global warming and ecological deterioration, so the CDI measures the impact of environmental policies on the global climate, sustainable fisheries and biodiversity.

► **Score: 6.7**
► **Rank: 3**

**Strengths**
- Low greenhouse gas emission rate per capita (8 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent; rank: 2)
- High gas taxes (rank: 1)

**Weaknesses**
- No change in greenhouse gas emission rate between 1999-2003 (average annual growth rate/PPP GDP, 0%; rank: 20)

Technology

Rich countries contribute to development through the creation and dissemination of new technologies. The CDI captures this by measuring government support for R&D and penalizing strong intellectual property rights regimes that limit the dissemination of new technologies to poor countries.

► **Score: 5.3**
► **Rank: 6**

**Strengths**
- High tax subsidy rate to businesses for R&D (34%; rank: 2)
- Small share of government R&D expenditure on defense (1.3%; rank: 8)

**Weaknesses**
- Low business expenditure on R&D as a share of GDP (rank: 20)
- Offers patent-like proprietary rights to developers of data compilations, including those assembled from data in the public domain

Security

Since security is a prerequisite for development, the CDI rewards contributions to internationally sanctioned peacekeeping operations and forcible humanitarian interventions, rewards military protection of global sea lanes, and penalizes arms exports to poor and undemocratic governments.

► **Score: 6.4**
► **Rank: 7**

**Strengths**
- Significant financial and personnel contributions during interventions in Bosnia and Kosovo (overall contribution rank over last 10 years as share of GDP: 8)
- No arms exports to poor and undemocratic governments

**Weaknesses**
- No protection of global sea lanes

For more information

For details of the 2005 CGD/FP Commitment to Development Index, see “The Commitment to Development Index: 2005 Edition” by David Roodman, available at [www.cgdev.org/cdi](http://www.cgdev.org/cdi). The CGD website contains reports on each of the 21 countries in the index, as well as background papers organized by policy area: David Roodman on foreign aid, William R. Cline on trade, Theodore H. Moran on investment, Elizabeth Grieco and Kimberly A. Hamilton on migration, Amy Cassara and Daniel Prager on environment, Michael E. O’Hanlon and Adriana Lins de Albuquerque on security, and Keith Maskus on technology.