

## **C3G - A PORTUGUESE COLLABORATORIUM FOR GEOLOGY, GEODESY AND GEOPHYSICS**

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Portugal joined the effort to create the EPOS infrastructure in 2008, and it became immediately apparent that a national network of Earth Sciences infrastructures was required to participate in the initiative. At that time, FCT was promoting the creation of a national infrastructure called RNG - *Rede Nacional de Geofísica* (National Geophysics Network). A memorandum of understanding had been agreed upon, and it seemed therefore straightforward to use RNG (enlarged to include relevant participants that were not RNG members) as the Portuguese partner to EPOS-PP. However, at the time of signature of the EPOS-PP contract with the European Commission (November 2010), RNG had not gained formal identity yet, and IST (one of the participants) signed the grant agreement on behalf of the Portuguese consortium.

During 2011 no progress was made towards the formal creation of RNG, and the composition of the network – based on proposals submitted to a call issued in 2002 – had by then become obsolete. On February 2012, the EPOS national contact point was mandated by the representatives of the participating national infrastructures to request from FCT the recognition of a new consortium - C3G, Collaboratory for Geology, Geodesy and Geophysics - as the Portuguese partner to EPOS-PP. This request was supported by formal letters from the following institutions:

- LNEG. Laboratório Nacional de Energia e Geologia (National Geological Survey);
- IGP - Instituto Geográfico Português (National Geographic Institute);
- IDL, Instituto Dom Luiz – Laboratório Associado
- CGE, Centro de Geofísica de Évora;
- FCTUC, Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia da Universidade de Coimbra;
- Instituto Superior de Engenharia de Lisboa;
- Instituto Superior Técnico;
- Universidade da Beira Interior.

While Instituto de Meteorologia (Meteorological Institute, in charge of the national seismographic network) actively supports the national participation in EPOS, a letter of support was not feasible in view of the organic changes underway at the time.

C3G aims at the integration and coordination, at national level, of existing Earth Sciences infrastructures, namely:

- seismic and geodetic networks (IM, IST, IDL, CGE);
- rock physics laboratories;
- geophysical laboratories dedicated to natural resources and environmental studies;
- geological and geophysical data repositories;
- facilities for data storage and computing resources.

The C3G - Collaboratory for Geology, Geodesy and Geophysics will be coordinated by Universidade da Beira Interior, whose Department of Informatics will host the C3G e-infrastructure.