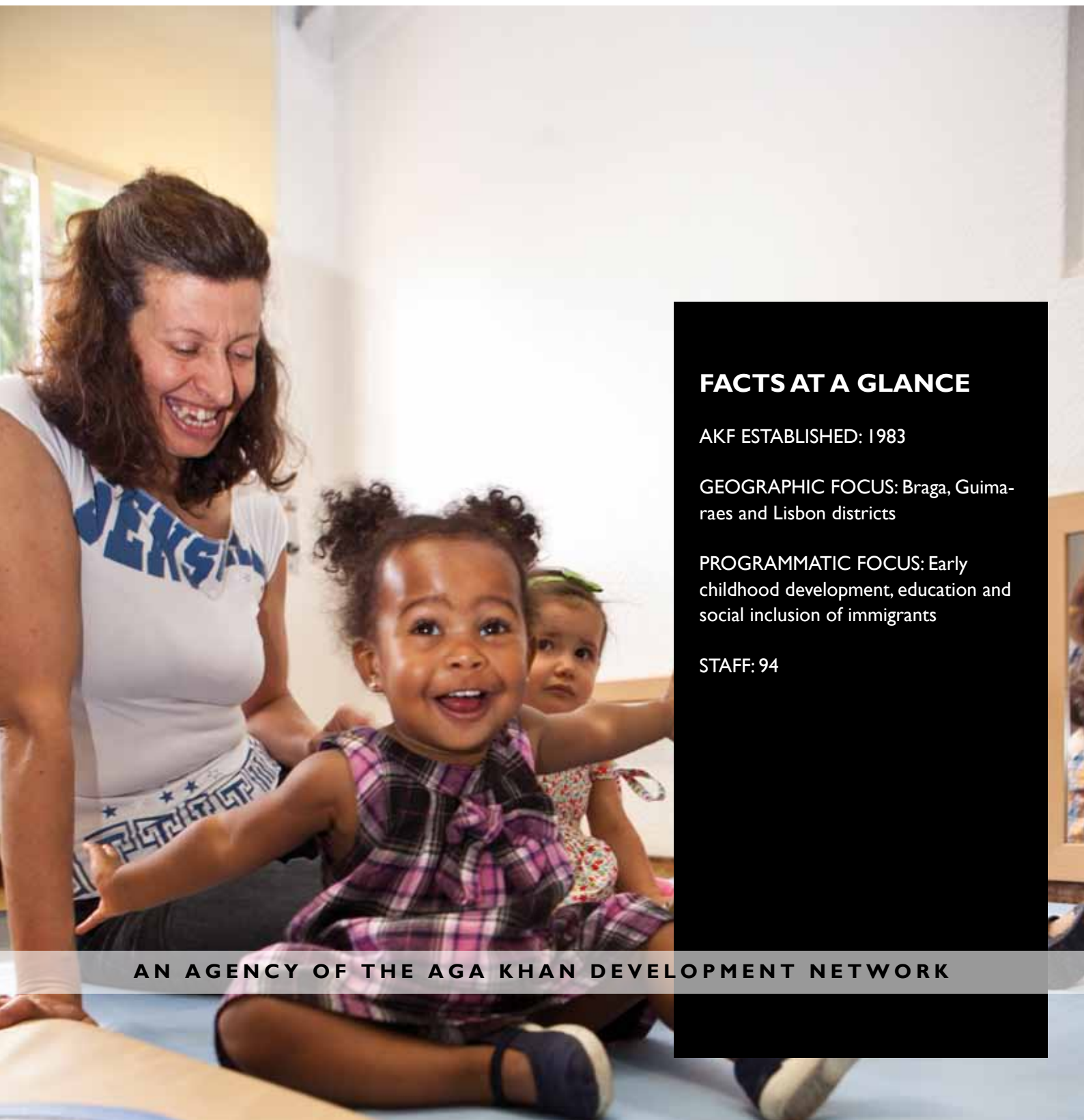




AGA KHAN FOUNDATION

Portugal



FACTS AT A GLANCE

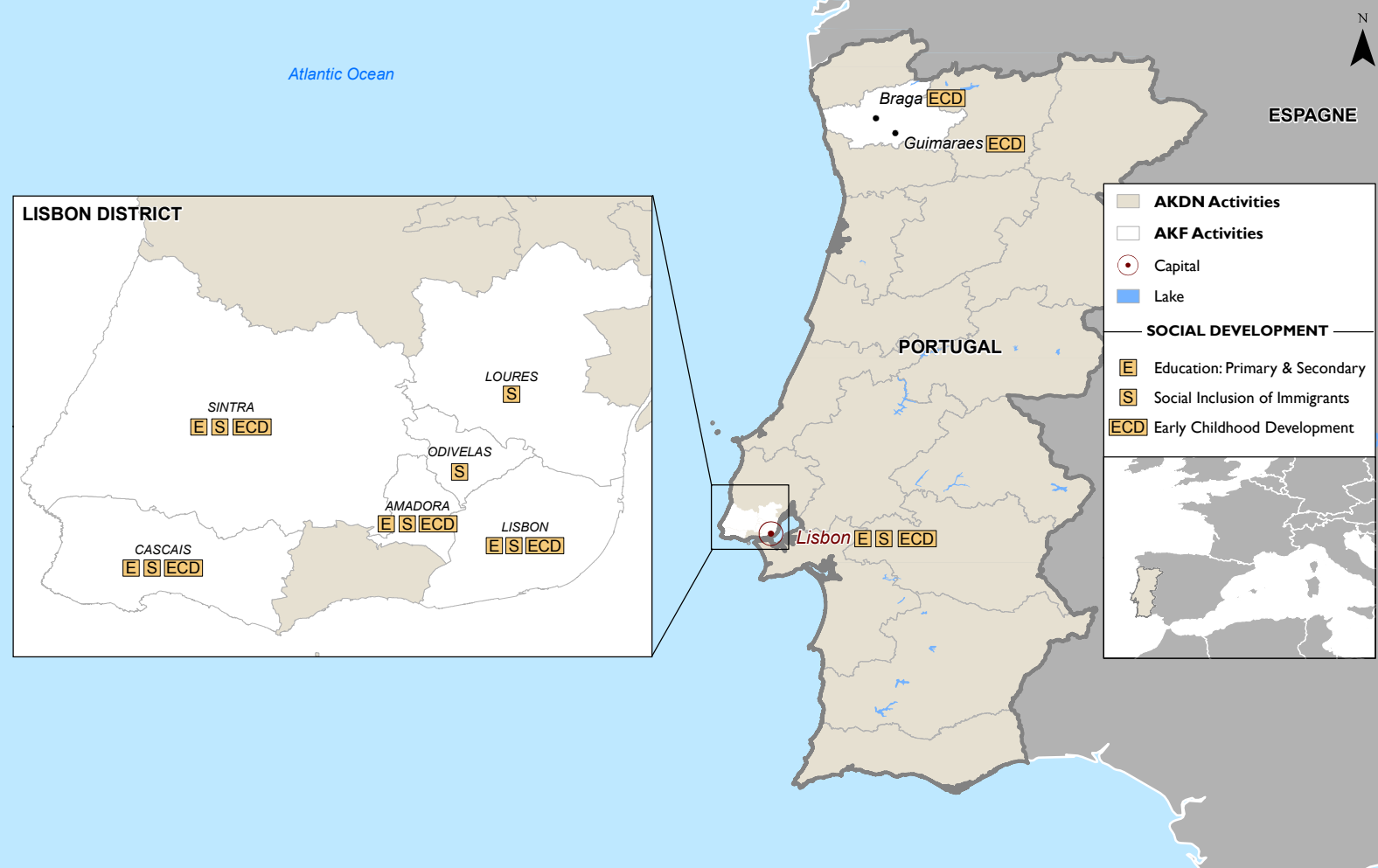
AKF ESTABLISHED: 1983

GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS: Braga, Guimaraes and Lisbon districts

PROGRAMMATIC FOCUS: Early childhood development, education and social inclusion of immigrants

STAFF: 94

AN AGENCY OF THE AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK



THE AGA KHAN FOUNDATION (AKF) in Portugal has worked since 2004 in neighbourhoods with high numbers of immigrants, working with people to identify their needs and solutions and supporting the development of self-reliance and leadership. Working in partnership with public sector and civil society organisations, AKF links community views with agencies responsible for services and strengthens systems and processes. In 2013, 40,000 people were supported in nine neighbourhoods. Since 2010, AKF has supported teachers to create an inclusive environment that embraces diversity and pluralism. Teacher training curricula and resources for teachers are being developed. AKF operates an Early Years Centre, which developed and tested a participatory pedagogy in partnership with the Childhood Association. By working with affiliate early years centres and supporting a Masters course, the methodology is being used elsewhere. In 2013, the Foundation worked with 24 Catholic Church institutions, providing professional training, family budget management and support for job applications to over 800 people. Two church institutions adapted child and family-centred early childhood development pedagogy. The AKF office in Lisbon also undertakes interventions in early years to improve the quality of life for immigrant communities in Norway and Germany.

THE AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

(AKDN)'s activities in Portugal include a number of education related activities. The Portuguese Catholic University and the Aga Khan University signed an agreement of academic collaboration as part of their efforts to foster international understanding and scholarly cooperation between diverse cultures and faiths. Areas of collaboration will include culture, law, religion, ethics, health sciences, education and human development through joint research, training initiatives, and exchange programmes for faculty and students. In addition, it is hoped that Lisbon will soon be added as a location for the prestigious network of Aga Khan Academies.

COVER PHOTO: In Lisbon, through partnerships with the Ministry of Education and church-based organisations, AKF is testing, measuring and demonstrating high-quality early childhood development provision that can be replicated more widely in diverse settings.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

Associação Criança (Childhood Association); Government of Portugal; Portuguese Catholic University; House of Mercy (Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Lisboa); Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation; JB Fernandes Memorial Trust; Johnson & Johnson; and European Commission

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