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Aquapor, a subsidiary of the Saur Group, and GS Inima have signed a contract for the design, construction, and operation of the first desalination plant in mainland Portugal.

- A GS Inima led-consortium, formed by Aquapor and Luságua has signed a €107 million agreement with Águas do Algarve.
- The signing ceremony was attended by the Prime Minister, Luís Montenegro, the Minister for the Environment, Maria Graça Carvalho, and the Deputy Minister for Territorial Cohesion, Manuel Castro Almeida, among many other personalities.
- Commissioning of the new plant will help to create an alternative capable of guaranteeing the resilience of public water supply to the Algarve's population.

A contract was signed today between Águas do Algarve and the consortium made up of GS Inima, Aquapor and Luságua for the **design, construction and operation of the Algarve desalination plant in the district of Faro, in Albufeira**. This project, of great strategic importance, will guarantee the supply of drinking water for thousands of inhabitants and will **allow crucial economic activities to continue, fostering the sustainable development of the area**.

The project, scheduled for completion by the end of 2026, will use innovative technologies with the aim of reducing the infrastructure's energy consumption, making it more environmentally sustainable. In this sense, the use of renewable energy sources will be favored, through the **installation of a self-consumption plant equipped with photovoltaic panels that will occupy around 4.5 hectares**. With these measures, the consortium aims to reduce operating costs while minimizing environmental impacts, in line with global goals to combat climate change.

With a production capacity of 16 million m3 of drinking water in the first phase, the infrastructure is being designed to reach 24 million m3 per year. This project, which uses a reverse osmosis system, the most sustainable, advanced and widely desalination technique, will guarantee the supply of drinking water to thousands of inhabitants and its positive impact will be felt in agricultural activities, industry and tourism - key sectors for the local economy that depend directly on a stable water supply.

"With more than six decades of proven international experience in the field of desalination, we are very proud to be involved in this project and fully committed to providing sustainable and efficient water solutions that guarantee a safe and reliable supply of drinking water to almost one hundred thousand people," highlighted Marta Verde, CEO of GS Inima.

"This project will be an example of how technological innovation and environmental responsibility can go hand in hand, promoting sustainable growth and guaranteeing essential resources for future generations," **says António Cunha, CEO of the Aquapor Group.**

The commitment to implementing these innovative and environmentally sustainable technological solutions reflects the consortium's commitment to ecological transition and water efficiency.

About GS Inima

GS Inima, Group belonging to the Korean multinational GS E&C (<http://www.gsenc.com/en/>), specializes in Environmental activities associated with the integrated water cycle and renewable energy. The GS Inima Group is active in all phases of the projects in which it participates: Design, Engineering, Procurement, Construction, Financing, Operation and Maintenance, and is active in both the public and private markets. With a presence in more than 10 countries and in four of the five continents, its project portfolio exceeded 8.873 million euros in 2023, with a turnover of 349 million euros and an EBITDA of more than 100 million euros. For more information: www.inima.com

About Aquapor

In business since 1987, Aquapor is one of the main players in the management of municipal concessions and the provision of water supply, wastewater sanitation, urban solid waste collection and treatment and urban cleaning services. In Portugal, Aquapor is responsible for 11 water and sanitation service concessions, where the service is provided directly to the population. In providing services to municipalities and industries, Aquapor owns Luságua - Serviços Ambientais, which carries out activities ranging from consultancy and specialized engineering services to the management, operation and maintenance of urban water systems and treatment facilities.

Its recent acquisition by the French SAUR Group, which is considered to be the third largest group operating in the water sector in France, has strengthened the group's competencies in the various segments in which it operates on a national and international scale.

More information: www.aquaporservicos.pt