



## MARIA JOÃO DOMINGUES

I. Associated Partner,  
**HighPlan Portugal** | Experts in  
Land-use Planning and Urban  
Development

### CONTACTS

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## PROFESSIONAL BIOGRAPHY

### Educational background

Maria João Domingues is an experienced urban planner with a solid professional background in urban planning and design. She began her academic career with a degree in Architecture from **Lusíada University of Lisbon** in 1996. During her studies, she collaborated with various professors and, in 2000, joined the **Arquimania team (Ruiz Barbarin Arquitectos)** in Madrid, Spain. In 2001, she became an integral part of the **Parque EXPO'98 team**, contributing to the post-Expo planning of *Parque das Nações*. In 2004, she joined the **regional and urban planning** studies and projects team within the company's international operations, where she had the opportunity to work in different countries and cultures, including Algeria, Angola, Brazil, Croatia, Egypt, Spain, Equatorial Guinea, Kazakhstan, Mozambique, Paraguay, and Portugal.

### Career to date

Maria João's career has been marked by a solid progression from urban planning practice to leadership positions. Over the years, she has strengthened the development of joint coordination activities, preparation and management of proposals/projects, and strategic planning for urban and environmental renewal. She has managed technical teams, engaged in dialogue with clients and other entities, ensuring the technical quality of the work and compliance with deadlines and commercial restrictions. From 2008 to 2011, she was a member of the project managers' team in the **Prospecting and Design Department at Parque EXPO'98**. Since 2012, she has been a **founding partner, general manager, and senior architect and urban planner at HighPlan Portugal**, specialising in the development of urban planning and land-use proposals for applications to the **World Bank for Development Programmes** for Consultancy Services for the Preparation of Urban Plans.

### Professional Experiences

She has extensive experience in significant projects, such as the urban development and architectural concept that cities face increasingly her work involves complex challenges, new trends in urban development and good practices offer a promising way forward. Promoting sustainable development, integrated mobility, community participation, resilience, the use of smart technologies and social inclusion are key to building more liveable, future-proof cities. Investing in these practices not only improves citizens' quality of life but also contributes to a healthier and more sustainable planet. Some of the projects she took on that left a deep impression on her were: **Aveiras EcoValley the Master Plan** for a new city as a logistics platform in Azambuja, where the new functions complement and reinforce the existing urban system, designing a new organisation of the territory. The project creates all the new infrastructures and equipment to meet labour needs, with a vision of the future; **Asunción Historic Centre CHA**, defining a strategy for regeneration and sustainable development. She is also notable for her study of strategic and operational objectives for the **Urban Renewal Strategy (ERU) in Coimbra**, and as a consultant for the development of the urban plan for the area surrounding the **Oriente Station**, in collaboration with BAU B. Arquitectura e Urbanismo from Barcelona. Additionally, she contributed to the **Review of the Urban Planning Master Plan for the Wilaya of Algiers** and the **Project Recife | Olinda**, aiming at the renewal of historic centres and the creation of local added value to the historical and heritage legacy.

