

SPAIN



0.19% GENUINE AID/GNI

0.23% TOTAL AID/GNI



The International Cooperation Law gives legal status to the commitment made in the UN and the EU to reach 0.7% of GNI in Official Development Assistance by 2030.”

Jose Manuel Albares, Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation, 11 January 2022

MAIN CHANGES IN 2021

In 2021, Spanish ODA grew by 12.5% in real terms, reaching EUR 2.6 billion (0.25% GNI/ODA). While this is definitely good news, almost half of this increase corresponds to the donation of in-excess vaccine doses, a practice that La Coordinadora, the national NGDO platform, has asked the government not to engage with, as it adversely affects the quality of ODA.

The General State Budget for 2022 has marked a change in trend with an increase in funding to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. ODA channelled through the Ministry has increased by 15% in 2022, reaching EUR 909 million. EUR 378 million will be channelled through the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), representing a 55% increase. Good news, indeed, although insufficient to provide AECID with the necessary capacities or to ensure compliance with the 0.5% GNI/ODA commitment by the end of 2023.

TRENDS AND PROJECTIONS FOR 2022 AND BEYOND

By the end 2022 the government should approve both the budget for 2023 and the new International Cooperation Law. The forecast for 2022 is to reach 0.27% ODA/GNI, which means that compliance with the 0.5% commitment by 2023 is unlikely. Despite the political will to increase ODA levels by 2023, it still falls short of what is needed to recover from the lost decade.

On the positive side, the new law is expected to be approved before the end of 2022, with consensus among the different political parties, except for the far right. The law will include the commitment to achieve 0.7% by 2030, and 10% of ODA for humanitarian action. It is also an opportunity to improve the quality, efficiency and coherence of



CASE STUDY

In March 2022, La Coordinadora and the Government of Spain signed a memorandum of understanding (GoS-CSOs MoU), which aims to promote and improve the quality of joint work between the parties, with the ultimate goal of increasing the impact and effectiveness through two main objectives: developing an enabling environment for NGDOs in Spain, and supporting CSOs work in partner countries. The MoU recognises the different roles played by NGDOs, and it also includes commitments towards more predictable and durable funding.

THE GOVERNMENT'S RELATIONSHIP WITH CSOs

There is generally good dialogue between the government and CSOs, both bilaterally and through the Development Cooperation Council. The government seems to be open to including CSOs in a future advisory committee for the reimbursable aid fund and referencing it in the new cooperation law.

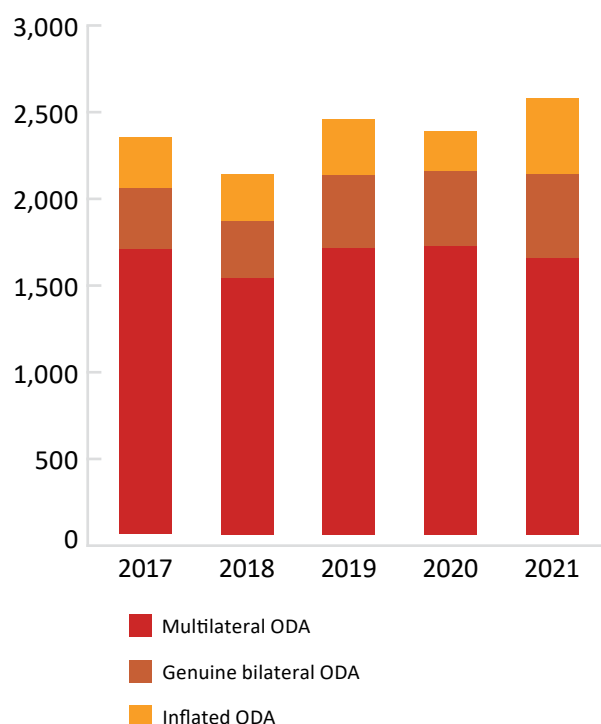
The signature of the GoS-CSOs MoU should mark a turning point in the relationships with the government. On the one hand, to recover the NGDO budget, which has been significantly impacted over the last decade due to the effects of the financial crisis. On the other hand, to ensure an enabling environment for civil society both in Spain and in partner countries to support human rights, environmental protection and strengthen democracy.

Spanish ODA, as it explicitly includes the fight against poverty and inequalities, the feminist and ecological agenda, human rights, and the promotion of civic and democratic space as its central objectives.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT

- Ensure that the parliamentary process of the law enhances the feminist and environmentalist approach, the promotion of civic and democratic space, the culture of peace and the promotion of citizenship committed to local neighbourhoods and the planet.
- Develop the regulations derived from the new cooperation law in close dialogue with all stakeholders.
- Include intermediate objectives in the law to ensure compliance with the 0.7% ODA/GNI target, prioritising effective instruments for sustainable development and the reinforcement of AECID capacities.
- Ensure that the fight against poverty and inequalities and the defence of human rights are the main focus of financial cooperation, that the principles of development effectiveness are taken into account and that CSOs have a specific role throughout the ODA cycle.
- Put in place an action plan for the implementation of the GoS-CSOs MoU, including increasing support to CSOs in partner countries and reducing excessive bureaucracy.
- Advance the PCSD mechanism within the framework of the Agenda 2030 and through the adoption of specific measures on global challenges. The new cooperation law should provide an effective forum to monitor this.

SPAIN – GENUINE AND INFLATED ODA (€ million, constant 2020)



ODA TO LDCS (€ million, constant 2020)

	ODA to LDCs	%GNI	% ODA
2017	488.	0.04	20.5
2018	597.3	0.05	27.5
2019	518.2	0.04	20.8
2020	522.6	0.05	21.7

AID MODALITY (€ million, constant 2020)

	Bilateral (gross)	Grants	Loans	Loans (% of gross bilateral)
2017	1010.2	979.4	30.7	3.04
2018	917.8	890	17.8	1.9
2019	993.4	965.2	28.2	2.84
2020	909.2	883	26.3	2.9

ODA TO CLIMATE FINANCE (€ million, constant 2020)

	ODA for mitigation	ODA for adaptation	Total climate finance	Adaptation finance as % of climate finance	Climate finance as % of ODA
2017	27.3	39.6	66.9	59.2	2.8
2018	26.7	43	69.7	61.7	3.2
2019	32.6	50.4	83	60.7	3.3
2020	22.3	35.3	57.7	61.3	2.4

ODA TO SUPPORT GENDER EQUALITY (€ million, constant 2020)

	Bilateral allocable	Total screened	Not screened	None	Significant	Principal	Significant (% of screened)	Principal (% of screened)
2017	563.3	563.3	0	289.5	176.9	96.9	31.4	17.2
2018	553.8	552.5	1.3	258	165.6	128.9	30	23.3
2019	573.1	573.1	0	295.6	137.6	139.8	24	24.4
2020	598.2	598	0.2	280	182.9	135	30.6	22.6

ODA TO SUPPORT CSOs (€ million, constant 2020)

	Non-CSO	CSO Earmarked	CSO Core funding	Total bilateral CSO support (% bilateral)	Total bilateral CSO support (% ODA)	Core bilateral CSO support (% bilateral)	Core bilateral CSO support (% ODA)
2017	173.7509	461.3198	0.716166	72.67172	19.40505	0.112643	0.030078
2018	94.7309	497.3021	0.651374	84.01687	22.94737	0.109903	0.030017
2019	186.521	550.1734	0.954421	74.71452	22.1297	0.129388	0.038323
2020	140.8515	504.5265	0.388445	78.18808	21.00566	0.060152	0.01616