



# SPAIN

**“ Promising institutional reform underway, with a worrying drop in ODA. ”**

La Coordinadora

## Main trends

Progress has been made in the reform of the cooperation system, based on the Development Cooperation Law approved in February 2023, mainly related to the normative development of the Law and the Spanish Cooperation Master Plan. Nonetheless, the same is not the case for budgetary matters.

As of September 2024, only the Aid Workers Regulation (by Royal Decree) and the **2024–2027 Master Plan** have been approved by the Ministerial Cabinet, after the positive assessment of the Cooperation Council and civil society stakeholders. The Royal Decrees regulating the grants, the financial cooperation (the Spanish Fund for Sustainable Development) and the High Cooperation for Sustainable Development and Global Justice Council, as well as the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) regulation are in the advanced stage of drafting.

No progress was made in increasing ODA to reach the Development Law commitment of 0.7% GNI by 2030. Instead, 2023 has been a year of setbacks, losing the ODA growth momentum of recent years and returning to a very worrying 0.24%, despite a lower inflated aid component than in 2022. ODA prospects of a significant increase for 2024 are not very bright, as the 2023 state general budget has had to be extended for 2024.

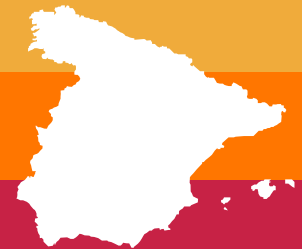
## Government's relationship with civil society

A positive relationship and regular and constructive dialogue to develop the Cooperation Law, the cooperation system reform and the formal DNGO-government agreement

Reported ODA: EUR 3355.6 million  
**0.24% GNI** (↓ from 0.30% in 2022)

Non-inflated ODA: EUR 3078.9 million  
**0.22% GNI** (↓ from 0.24% in 2022)

Total inflated ODA: EUR 276.6 million  
**8% of total**



are maintained between La Coordinadora, as representative of the DNGOs, and the government, mainly with the International Cooperation Secretariat and AECID.

As mentioned, an effective dialogue to build a credible budgetary path to reach 0.7% ODA in 2030 is still pending. The works that will be carried out for this purpose and the preparation of the IV Financing for Development Conference by the recently established working group in the Cooperation Council<sup>1</sup>, offer an opportunity to address these crucial issues.

On the other hand, fluid dialogue and coordination have been maintained with the main parliamentary groups to contribute to the improvement of the Sixth Cooperation Master Plan and to reach a broad consensus on its main elements.

Finally, it is worth mentioning the dialogue established with the Government and the parliamentary groups on the latest hostilities in the occupied Palestinian territory and Israel, around five main demands: 1. Urgent and permanent cease-fire; 2. Humanitarian access; 3. Respect for International Humanitarian Law and International Law; 4. Stop arms trade; and 5. A negotiated solution.

## The Spanish government should:

- **Implement the Sixth Master Plan for Spanish Cooperation and complete the reform of the cooperation system, with the development and approval of the**

<sup>1</sup> The Cooperation Council is a consultative body for cooperation policy composed of CSOs and government representatives.



necessary regulations and sectoral–geographical strategies which address transformative cooperation and guarantee the participation of civil society in the process.

- Reach ODA of 0.4/GNI by 2025, at least 0.55% by 2027 and 0.7% by 2030. This growth should not be achieved through inflated aid mechanisms.
- Strengthen the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation with a significant increase in its technical, human and budgetary capacities.
- Strengthen the GCE pillar and the feminist, environmental, peacebuilding, decolonial and policy coherence approaches as an essential part of cooperation policy.
- Play an ambitious and bridge role in the negotiations of the IV International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD) to be held in Seville in 2025.